

# Welcome!

Welcome to the  
**29<sup>th</sup> Annual Charleston Conference –  
Necessity is the Mother of Invention**

Thank you so much for coming!  
Just a few words before we get started...

We have a great mix of librarians, publishers, vendors, aggregators, consultants, students and more. Our goal is to have free, frank and open discussion about the many issues that confront us all. We have as few rules as possible.

Again this year, Plenary Sessions will be held in two main venues in the Francis Marion Hotel – speakers will be in the Carolina Ballroom with a simulcast in the Gold Ballroom. For the Lively Lunches and the Concurrent Sessions, we will have sessions in the Francis Marion Hotel, the Embassy Suites Hotel across Marion Square Park, and the Addlestone Library on the College of Charleston campus a block away. Maps are provided in your Conference program.

Again by popular demand, we've organized our Lively Lunch and Concurrent Sessions into nine threads this year. The aim is to provide a means of easily finding sessions on topics close to your heart. We've tried to place as many of the sessions in each thread in the same venue, but in a program this size that is mighty hard to do so bear with us!

We're going to the Charleston Visitors Center, a beautifully restored 1856 railroad warehouse at 375 Meeting Street, on Thursday night for our annual Gala Reception! Hope you and your guest will join us for some great food and for great company.

For the second year in a row, we're offering our Friday Night Dine Arounds. We have selected seven different restaurants within walking distance of the Francis Marion. Discuss conference topics that intrigued you, get together with old friends, form new friendships with other librarians, or just relax and enjoy a great meal after a thought provoking conference week.

Last, but not least – PLEASE don't be shy. Don't be formal! Say what you think! Think outside the box! Ask questions!

And by the way, Charleston is a beautiful city. Enjoy yourselves while you are here.

All our very best to you all,

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