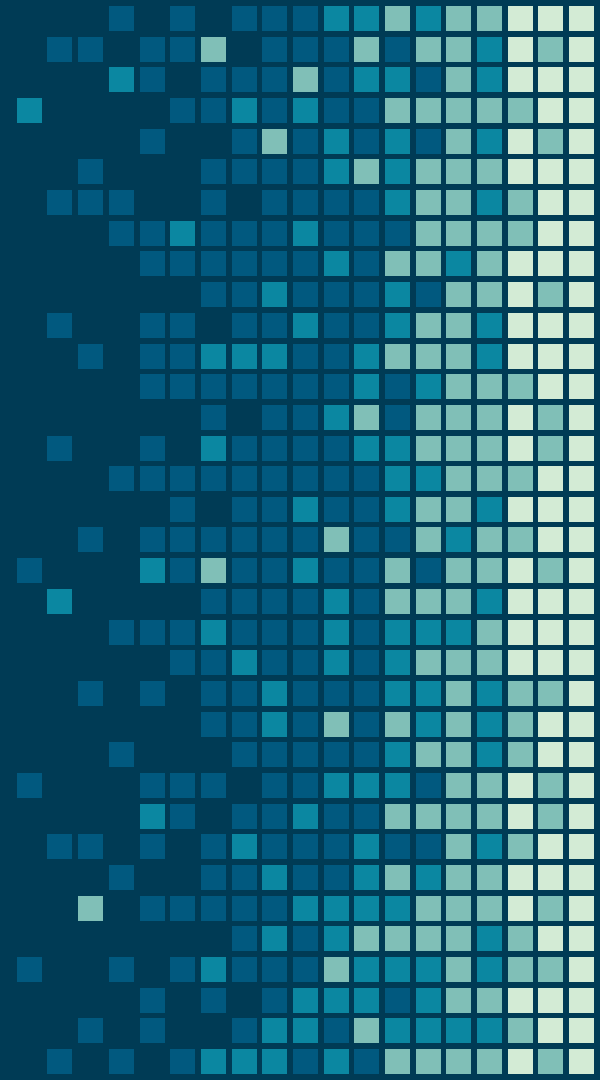


# From Technology Enthusiast to Expert

Ella Alonso  
Library Associate, PGCMLS



# Who am I?

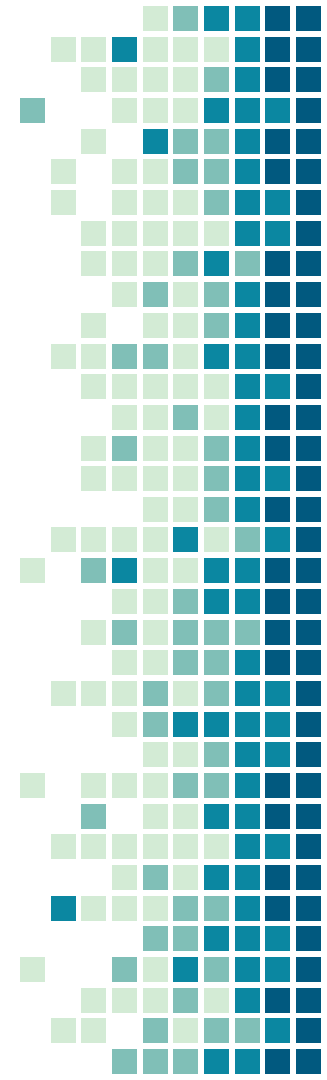
- Youth Services Library Associate
- previously worked as a school secretary
- undergraduate degree in English
  - with a concentration in Literary Analysis
- no technical background





# Goals

1. Discover resources to develop technology proficiency.
2. Learn which partnerships are critical for successful project collaboration.
3. Formulate a strategy to implement your technology goals with confidence.



# Where to start?

## What is innovative technology?

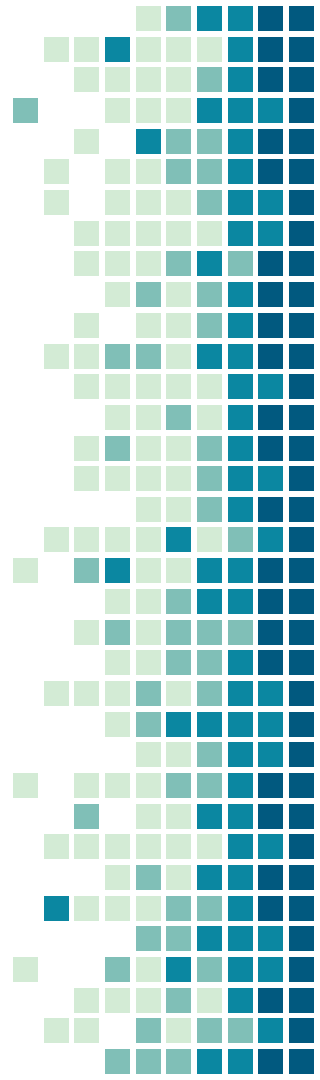
- no single, consistent definition
- varies by industry, by organization, by individual

## Innovative technology usually involves:

- technology
- new process/equipment
- pushing the definition of a “traditional library”

## Examples:

- artificial intelligence (AI)
- blockchain
- virtual reality (VR)
- augmented reality (AR)
- 3D printing
- programmable/coding devices
- cloud based services (ex: cloud printing)



# Resources

## Webinars:

### Webjunction

- [The Future is Now: Virtual, Augmented, and Mixed Reality in Public Libraries](#)

### Library Journal

- [The Library's New Place in a Digital World](#)

### Public Library Association

- [DigitalLead: Hotspot Lending at Your Library \(PLA\)](#)

## Magazines and Books:

### American Libraries

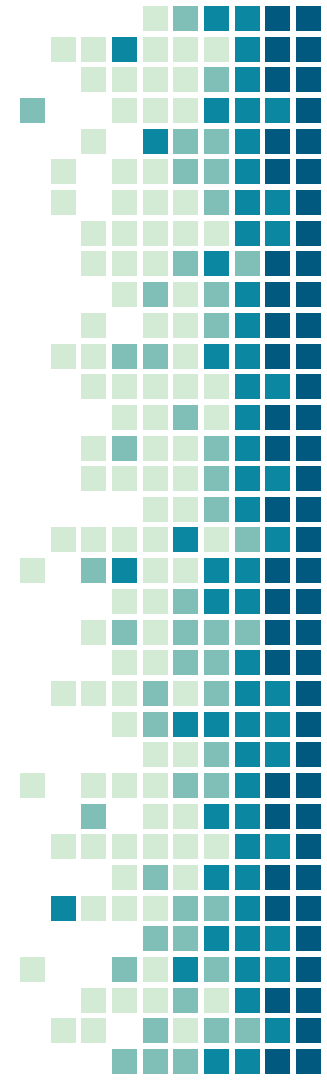
- [Blockchain Reaction](#)

### HackSpace

- [3D Printing: Design, Refine, and Fabricate Jewellery using Fusion 360](#)

### "...for dummies" Series

- [Artificial Intelligence for Dummies](#)



# Resources

## Groups:

[American Library Association's Center for the Future of Libraries](#)

- How It's Developing / Why It Matters

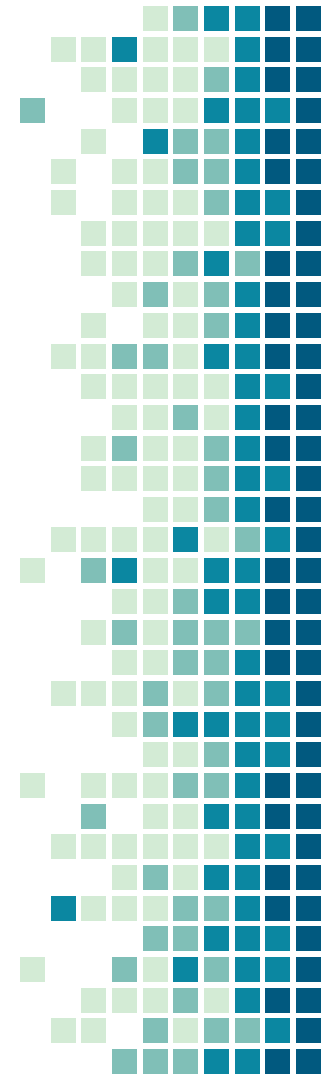
[Maryland Library Association's Future of Libraries Interest Group](#)

In-House Committees/Teams

- Innovative Technology Team (Adult/Childrens)
- Programming Team

## Social Media:

- groups and organizations
- companies, products, equipment
  - [Oculus](#)
  - [Makerbot](#)
  - [Holotats](#)
  - [Balti Virtual](#)
- conference hashtags
  - #alaac19
- Twitter and Youtube



# Partners

## Disclaimer:

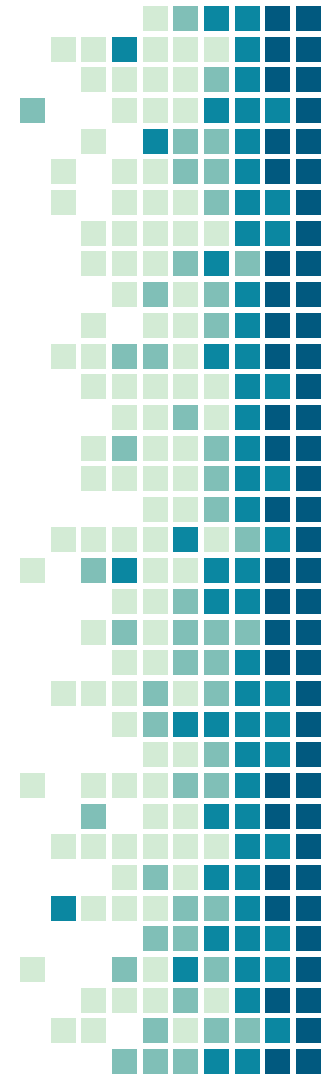
- public librarian

## Internal Partners

- direct supervisor
- coworkers interested in innovative technology
- committees/teams
- administrative office departments:  
Programming, IT, Digital Services

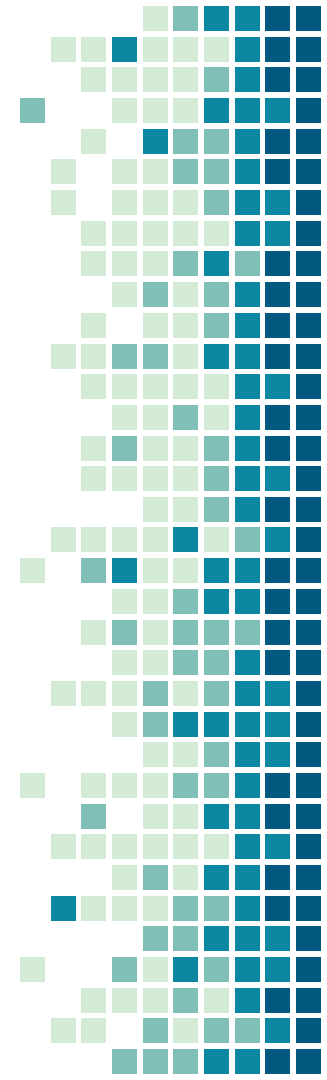
## External

- librarians at other organizations
- local technology enthusiast groups
  - Meet Up
- schools



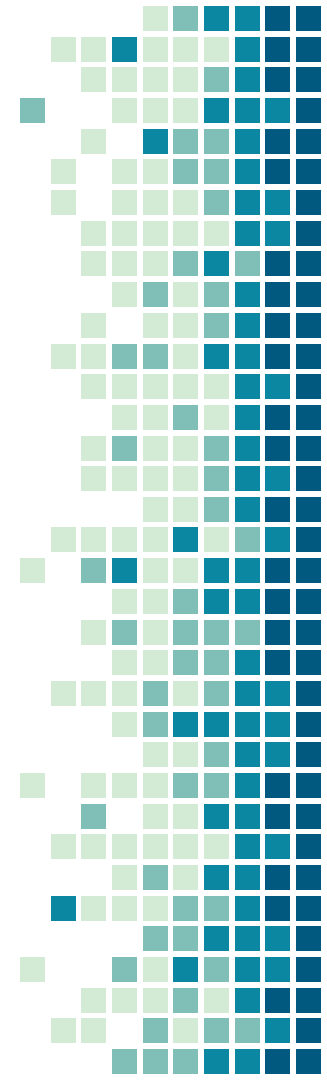


# Strategy



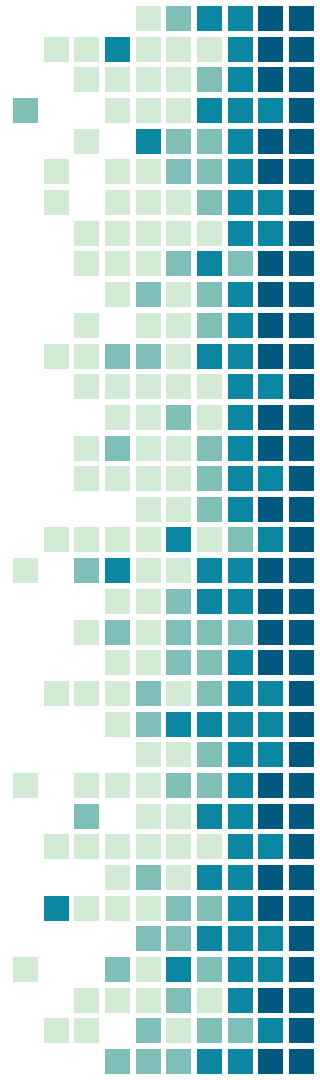
# Pre-Work

1. Decide on the innovative technology that you would like to focus on.
2. Conduct generalized research about the subject. Become familiar with the basics.
  - a. What is it? How does it work? What materials does it use? What kind of skills are involved?
3. Find out if your organization is already involved.
  - a. Does your organization offer this technology? If so, in what formats (in-branch use, programming, circulating collection, etc)?
  - b. Who is involved with the technology? Is it available at your location?



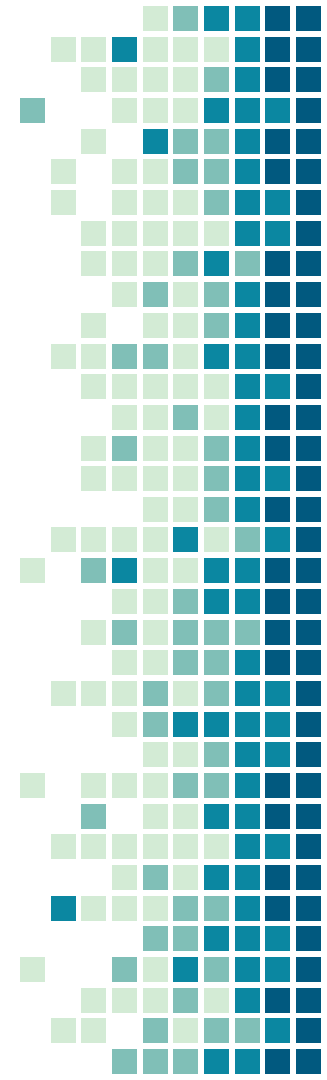
# Work

1. Search for training opportunities.
  - a. Does your location offer staff training opportunities with the technology? Is there another location or organization that offers training?
2. Schedule time to work with the technology.
  - a. Hands on training is best.
3. Decide long term goals with the innovative technology.
  - a. Do you want to be able to simply explain what it is and how it works, or is your goal to use it (ex: in programming)?



# Post-Work

1. Continue seeking out information.
  - a. How does the technology change over 3 months? 6 months? A year? What advancements have been made?
  - b. Are there new ways that you could be interacting with the technology?
2. Share what you've learned with others.



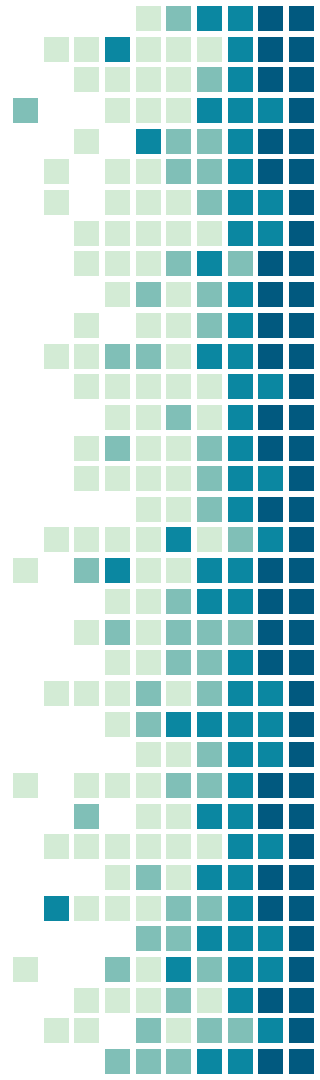
# Additional Resources

## Imposter Syndrome

- [What is imposter syndrome and how can you combat it?](#) (video)
- [Why Do I Feel Like an Imposter?: How to Understand and Cope with Imposter Syndrome](#) by Sandi Mann (book)

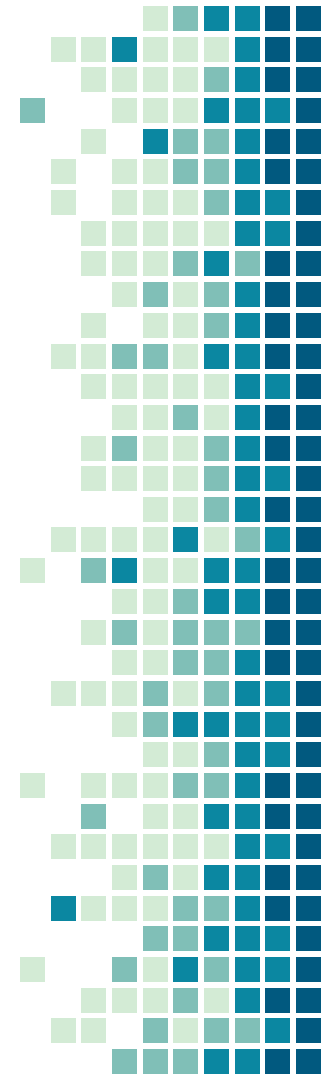
## Writing

- [What Is an Example of an Informal Written Proposal?](#) (website)
- [Introduction to Proposal Writing](#) (webinar)
- [How to Stay on Top of Emerging Technology Trends for Libraries](#) by David Lee King (book)

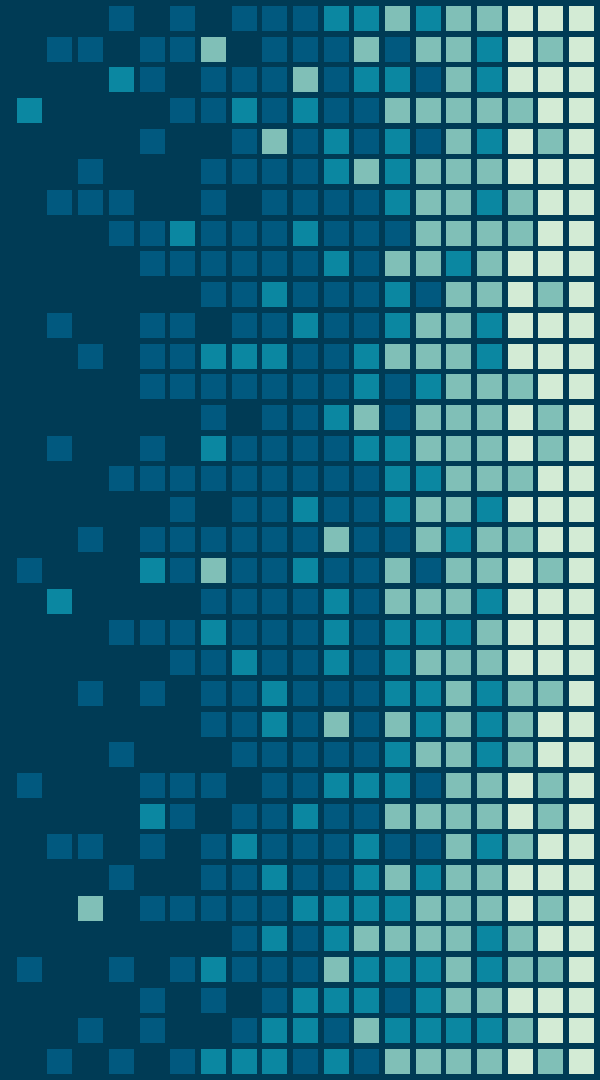


# Bottom Line

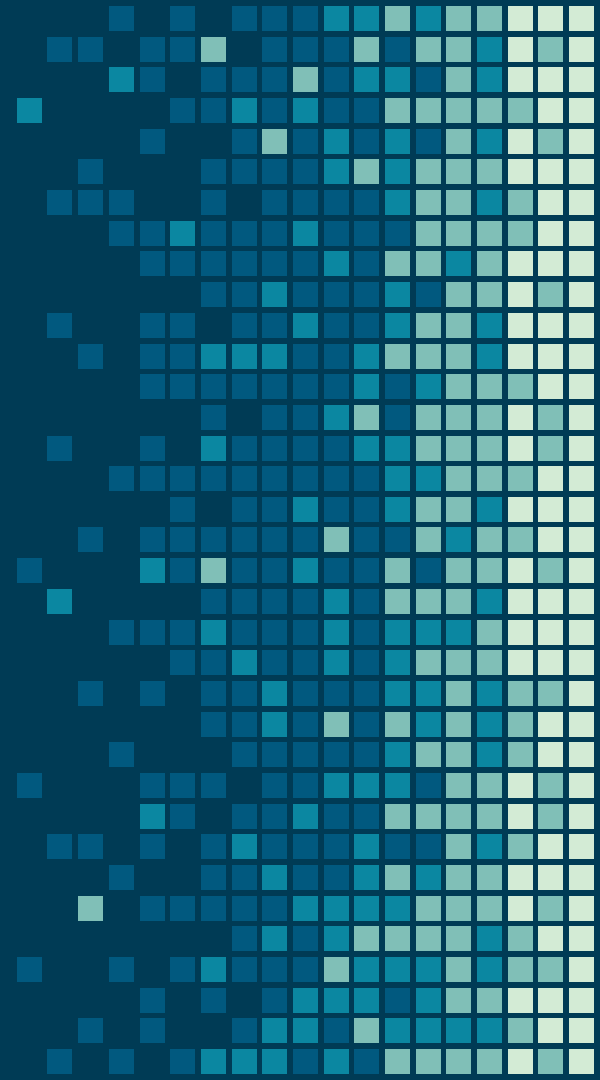
- You have taken the first step and that is important.
- Technology, especially innovative technology, is intimidating.
- You cannot break anything.
  - Ask for assistance.
  - Make a plan to become independent.
- Learning is not a single event, but a commitment to grow.



Questions?



What innovative  
technology is your  
library working with?





# Thank you for coming!

You can find me at:

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[@fourellaments](#)

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