

LIBRARY ACADEMY
GPLS TECHNOLOGY BOOT CAMP
APRIL 25-27, 2017

Dear Technology Boot Camp Attendee,

Welcome to Library Academy! We are so glad you are here. Our boot camp attendees are somewhat unique in libraries. They live at the intersection of the past and the future as they try to maintain the best of library service while introducing new services, programs and technology in response to the needs of our patrons.

Here at Library Academy, our goal is to help you bridge that gap and, more importantly, to learn from you as we do the same.

In order to have the best experience possible, we operate according to the following guidelines:

- There's no stupid question. Really. The tech community is quicker than most to ridicule those who are still learning. Not here. This leads us to:
- No shame, no blame. We really can't learn openly without an environment of support. We will never make fun of someone for not knowing something. In fact, if someone does purport to know it all, you know they're lying. So.
- We will, however, hold you accountable if you do not win at least Round 1 of Nerd Trivia. (We have *some* standards after all.)
- Show off. Really. We all want to see what you've done, what you've tried to do or what you've learned. You can humblebrag or just brag. It's all good.
- It's okay to fail. This is *chez trendy* right now, but it's true. As a community, we learn lots from our attempts at something new.. whether it ultimately succeeded or failed to launch isn't nearly as important as what we learned.

If you are a freshman here and this is your first time at boot camp, we encourage you to seek out your senior attendees. We will identify them at kickoff. This is truly a community of practice. Don't hesitate to ask for help. Next year, you'll be helping a newbie yourself.

Our goal is that you go back to your library emboldened with good ideas and feel empowered to put them into practice.

Again, welcome. We hope you have an amazing time – learn a lot, have fun, and walk away with ideas, inspiration and fellow techies you can call for backup.

Yours,

Emily, Daniel, Tamika, Sue, Myers + all Library Academy Administration