

Tips for Conference Success

Before the conference:

- 1. Make sure you register to attend the event in advance so you have handy access to session URLs and informational materials.
- 2. Check out the schedule and agenda in advance, and identify your conference goals (*available in September*).
- 3. Check out the slides and handouts that are uploaded in advance to familiarize yourself with which sessions you want to attend (*available in early October*).
- 4. Try logging in to the conference site ahead of time to ensure you can connect smoothly and aren't experiencing access issues (*available in early October*).
- 5. Draft a list of questions that you would like to address. There will be time for Q&A and networking with GPO staff, the DLC, and the FDLP community.
- 6. Get ready for conference bingo by downloading and printing your card ahead of time (*available in September*). There are prizes!
- 7. If you haven't already, treat yourself! Enhance your listening experience by obtaining a comfortable headset or earphones. (*Go on. You deserve it.*)
- 8. Register to attend the FDLP Preconference, taking place October 16, 2024. In this 90minute session, each division in GPO's Library Services & Content Management will provide updates on GPO projects and initiatives.
- 9. Nominate deserving libraries for the Library of the Year and Library Website of the Year awards. Winners will be announced at the conference kickoff session.

During the conference:

- 1. Minimize distractions as much as possible.
 - a. Consider updating your email reply or online status to reflect your participation in the conference.
 - b. And if you have one (or more), give the children/significant others/cat/dog treats before a program.
- 2. Take advantage of "Snacks with Council," to talk with the members of the DLC, your fellow attendees, and GPO staff.
 - a. Make sure to get the contact information for the connections you've made.

- 3. Let's make this event interactive and collaborative! Share your thoughts, questions, and comments in the chat box.
- 4. Jot down ideas to explore after the event. Don't forget to note any questions that come to mind.
- 5. Use and follow the hashtag, **#FDLConference**. Share your photos, insights, and tidbits you learn from the presenters.
- 6. Browse the poster and exhibitor galleries to learn more about innovative projects, services, and resources.

<u>After the conference</u>:

- 1. Review the thoughts you captured. Decide what items you can act on at your library.
- 2. Follow up with contacts you've made.
- 3. If you missed a session you wanted to attend, be sure to check the <u>conference archive</u> for recordings of all sessions.
- 4. View the conference event page to access all archived conference materials.
- 5. Complete the conference survey to help us improve future events.
- Check your email for follow-up information from GPO.
 Contact us using <u>askGPO</u>, and select the appropriate category for your question. GPO staff are available to answer your questions and committed to supporting you.