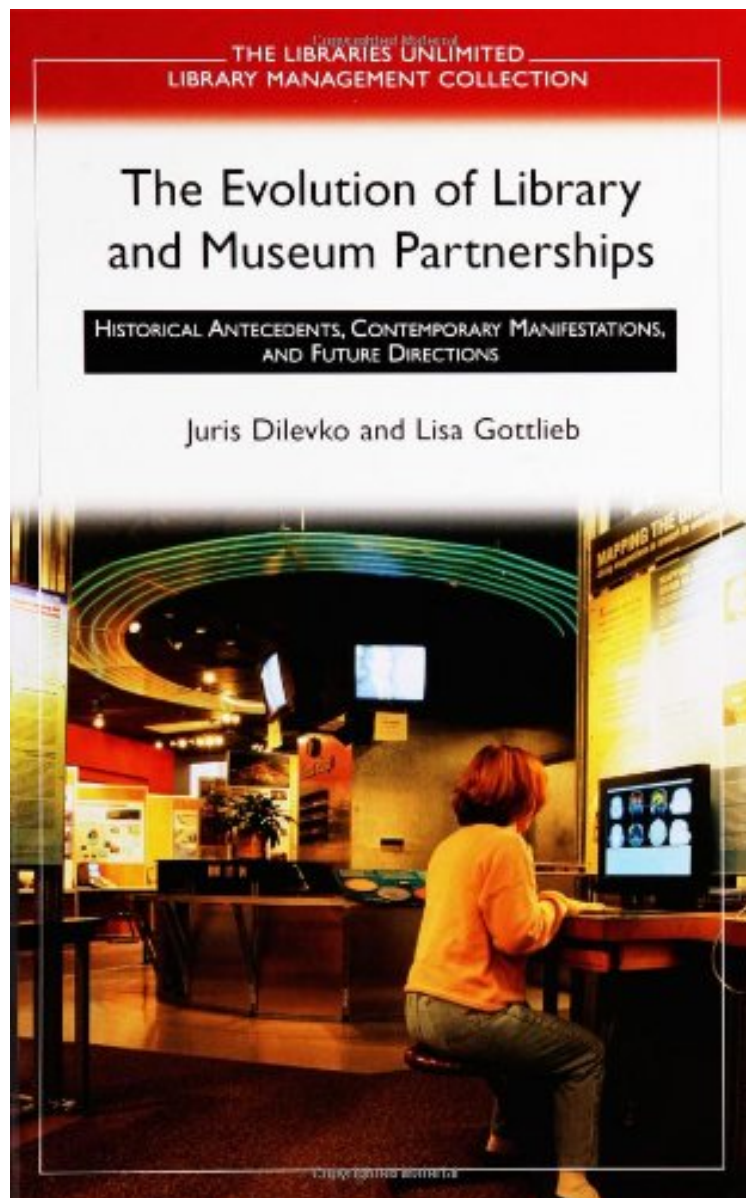


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The Evolution of Library and Museum Partnerships: Historical Antecedents, Contemporary Manifestations, and Future Directions (Libraries Unlimited Library Management Collection)

Lisa Gottlieb

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before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *The Evolution of Library and Museum Partnerships: Historical Antecedents, Contemporary Manifestations, and Future Directions* (Libraries Unlimited Library Management Collection):

These authors examine the unique social roles of libraries and museums, review historical precedents as well as library-museum partnerships funded in recent years through IMLS grants, and forge an exciting vision of a new library-museum hybrid. The juxtaposition of library collections and museum artifacts, they assert, has the potential to create authentic, interactive experiences for community members, and it can help establish a distinct, meaningful, and sustainable role for libraries. In the authors' words, libraries can then reassert themselves as places devoted to contemplation, wonder, knowledge acquisition, and critical inquiry. Commercialization, edutainment, and the library as a learning community are just some of the fascinating topics addressed as the authors explore the future's terrain, and suggest how libraries might situate themselves upon it. Libraries, museums, and the ways in which they are used by patrons have drastically changed in past decades. Digitization projects, infotainment, and the Internet are redefining the library's and the museum's roles in the community. What are the implications for the future of these institutions? These authors examine the unique social roles of libraries and museums, review historical precedents as well as library-museum partnerships funded in recent years through IMLS grants, and forge an exciting vision of a new library-museum hybrid. The juxtaposition of library collections and museum artifacts, they assert, has the potential to create authentic, interactive experiences for community members, and it can help establish a distinct, meaningful, and sustainable role for libraries. In the authors' words, libraries can then reassert themselves as places devoted to contemplation, wonder, knowledge acquisition, and critical inquiry. Commercialization, edutainment, and the library as a learning community are just some of the fascinating topics addressed as the authors explore the future's terrain, and suggest how libraries might situate themselves upon it.

"*The Evolution of Library and Museum Partnerships* is a welcome addition to the literature of this field, and reflects many of the changes that have occurred over the past several years....*The Evolution of Library and Museum Partnerships* is well organized and includes an excellent bibliography for this topic. The editing, printing and binding are of excellent quality. Though some of the chapters are lengthy, those willing to invest the time in this publication are rewarded with an excellent understanding of the latest trends within both cultural heritage communities."- Technicalities?*The Evolution of Library and Museum Partnerships* is a welcome addition to the literature of this field, and reflects many of the changes that have occurred over the past several years....*The Evolution of Library and Museum Partnerships* is well organized and includes an excellent bibliography for this topic. The editing, printing and binding are of excellent quality. Though some of the chapters are lengthy, those willing to invest the time in this publication are rewarded with an excellent understanding of the latest trends within both cultural heritage communities.?-TechnicalitiesAbout the AuthorJURIS DILEVKO is Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Information Studies of the University of Toronto.LISA GOTTLIEB is a writer living in Toronto, Canada. Together, Dilevko and Gottlieb have published articles about a wide variety of library and information science topics in scholarly journals such as *American Studies*, *Government Information Quarterly*, *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*, *Library Information Science Research*, and *Library Quarterly*. They are co-authors of the book *Reading and the Reference Librarian: The Importance to Library Service of Staff Reading Habits* (McFarland, 2004).