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People Profile: Nedelina Tchangalova

Editor

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My Love of Books ...
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my heart. Eureka! I contemplated my first encounter with printed materials. I always knew that “good books are friends who are always ready to talk to [me].” No matter how limited and unappealing my experience with books was in the times of communist Bulgaria, even then, I saw clearly my love of books as the distinctive thread linking my past, present, and future.

Editor’s Note: Published here is the winning essay of the Rachel K. Schenk Memorial Scholarship, August 2007. The Schenk Scholarship was funded for five years. 2007 was the final year. Thanks to Jack Walsdorf for his support. — KS

Endnotes

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Nedelina Tchangalova

BORN & LIVED: Sofia, Bulgaria. I currently live in Germantown, MD.
EARLY LIFE: I had a wonderful childhood switching back and forth from the large city and the rural village where my grand-parents lived. First, I read books surrounded by farm animals and later by... computers.
EDUCATION: Two Masters degree earned: Chemical Engineering from Bulgaria and Library & Information Sciences from University of Maryland, College Park, MD, USA.
FIRST JOB: The National Polytechnic Museum in Bulgaria served as my initial source of inspiration to pursue a library degree later in the United States while working as a circulation technician at the Howard County Public Library, Columbia, MD.
PROFESSIONAL CAREER AND ACTIVITIES: Collection development in science, technology and engineering with emphasize on reference materials. At the national level, I’m involved with the work of Science & Technology Section (STS). Current research area is focused on library staff with hidden disabilities.
IN MY SPARE TIME I LIKE TO: I love to escape from the digital environment by riding a bike in the nature with the kids, and of course... reading books.
FAVORITE BOOKS: All books written by Shirley MacLaine, American film and theatre actress.
PET PEEVES/WHAT MAKES ME MAD: A person who doesn’t say a word and forces me to figure out what he/she wants to tell me. So, please speak, don’t stand mute!
PHILOSOPHY: Think positively and smile often. When you see a high mountain, climb it; don’t run back! Once on the top, enjoy the view!