

Librarian's Shelf by Rachelle McPhillips

Library Resources Ease Transition Out of High School

Planning for what happens after graduation can be daunting, but Columbus Public Library has resources that can make the process make sense, if not easier. We have books for graduates heading into the workforce, students heading off to college, and for parents adjusting to children's initial steps into adulthood.

Whether looking for a job or enrolling in college, "Make Your Own Lunch: How to Live an Epic Life through Work, Travel, Wonder, and (Maybe) College" by Ryan Porter is a fun and inspiring collection of experiences and ideas from the author. The publisher's summary says,

"You're not sure what you want to do this weekend, let alone for the rest of your life. The beaten path leading to college or career can be hard to bypass if you don't know where to start or when to get off to blaze your own trail. "Make Your Own Lunch" lays out the key ingredients you need to set your course toward an epic life...with or without college."

For those who know that work is for them, "Successful Interview Skills: How to Prepare, Answer Tough Questions and Get Your Ideal Job" by Rebecca Corfield gives helpful tips for the job seeker. The author talks about making a good impression, what employers are looking for, and includes sample interview questions with suggestions for answering them well.

Andrea Kay offers more advice in "This Is How to Get Your Next Job: An Inside Look at What Employers Really Want." Kay has organized her suggestions into lists with chapters titled, "15 Things You Should Never Talk About or Say" and "10 Things You Should Never Wear." In "15 Things You Should Never Do," Kay lists being humble and fixating "on things you lack" as pitfalls for jobseekers.

Students heading to college in late 2016 might like to pick up Gabbriel Simone's "I Wish I Knew It Before Going to College." This is a collection of very short essays that begin with sentences like, "I wish I knew how to study," and "I wish I knew that one test failed wasn't going to be the end of my college career." My personal favorite is on page 102: "I wish I knew how much time I'd be spending in the library; I'd probably have paid more attention to it on tour."

Helen E. Johnson and Christine Schelhas-Miller offer some helpful tips for parents of college-aged children. "Don't Tell Me What to Do, Just Send Money: The Essential Parenting Guide to the College Years" can help parents take on a new role of consultant rather than a supervisor. There is a chapter dedicated to understanding "When to Worry, When to Act." The authors discuss discerning between normal issues like dealing with breakups and more serious troubles like depression.

This is just a small sample of resources for new job seekers, college students, and their parents. In addition to more books on these topics, CPL also has a scholarship search in the Digital Library's Testing & Education Reference Center at <http://cplconnect.us>.

Congratulations to all area graduates. For help accessing these resources and more, visit the library or call 402-564-7116 option 2.