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**Georgia's public libraries to launch Niche Academy service to enhance patron training, access to electronic resources**

ATLANTA, Ga. — Niche Academy, the nation's only company that provides patron training for the many electronic resources provided by public libraries, will be providing its online instructional tool for use in all of Georgia's public libraries beginning August 1.

Georgia Public Library Service (GPLS), through funding provided by the Library Services and Technology Act of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, will work with each public library system in Georgia to launch Niche Academy's suite of services, which includes online courses for patrons, video introductions, staff training resources, and social media tools.

"Niche Academy's mission of providing tutorials for our valuable electronic resources is just one reason that we're looking forward to working with them," says Julia Huprich, director of Training and Continuing Education for GPLS. "We know that their services will highlight and positively impact the great work that's being done in Georgia's libraries. We anticipate that our public libraries will see an increased growth in the usage of their resources as a result of patrons and employees having access to these professional, in-depth training modules."

Jeromy Wilson, Niche Academy Founder and CEO, will demonstrate the full suite of tools and services being provided in Georgia for attendees at this week's American Library Association's Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida. This session will be at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 25, in the Mobile Pavilion.

For more information about Niche Academy, please visit [www.nicheacademy.com](http://www.nicheacademy.com).

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*Niche Academy was founded in 2014 as an online learning platform designed to assist libraries in patron education, with the goal of increased usage and engagement. The service is being used in public and academic libraries throughout the United States and Canada. The company is headquartered in Orem, Utah.*

*The mission of Georgia Public Library Service, the state's administrative agency for public libraries, is to empower libraries to enhance the lives of all Georgians. GPLS is a unit of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.*