This presentation was designed to share how JCSU is transforming its academic library. The programs the library has implemented brought recognition to the library among administrators, and the entire JCSU campus and community. We are Remixing traditional library services in an innovative and creative way. We are doing this to establish the library value at JCSU and in the greater Charlotte community. The exhibits and programming shared has opened doors for partnerships with cultural organizations and universities in Charlotte, NC.
One of the ways in which the library was able to Remix our services and program and bring attention to the library was through writing grants. We have been fortunate to have received a grant from the IMLS to launch the Giving Back: the Soul of Philanthropy Reframed and Exhibited. This Giving Back project has allowed JCSU and its partners (IMLS, Foundation for Midsouth, NGAAP, Tougaloo College and other Colleges and Universities) to share another perspective on African American culture and heritage. The project provided an opportunity to shape the visualization, and the imagery of who are the Givers. Part of the James B. Duke Memorial Library’s mission is to preserve the cultural experiences and heritage of African Americans through our archival program.
Grandma’s hands was the inspiration that connected Monika Rhue and Valaida Fullwood.

The Beginning of our Partnership

I had to be a part of spreading those hands throughout the Southeast, reaching communities, colleges, universities and museums. Why? because those hands represent the spirit of our ancestors; they represent the untold stories of African Americans.

--Monika Rhue
The James B. Duke Memorial Library at Johnson C. Smith University has aggressively taken the lead in bringing exhibits and programming to the JCSU campus and the community. Johnson C. Smith University received the Institute of Museum and Library Services African American History and Culture grant in July 2014. The grant allowed the Library to manage a two-year project to develop a traveling exhibit titled *Giving Back: The Soul of Philanthropy Reframed and Exhibited*. The exhibition illustrated the history of Black philanthropy through images and narratives from the award-winning book *Giving Back: A Tribute to Generations of African American Philanthropists* by Valaida Fullwood and Charles W. Thomas.
The major milestone in implementing *Giving Back: The Soul of Philanthropy Reframed and Exhibited* exhibition and programming was having A’Lelia Bundles, the great-great daughter of Madame C. J. Walker as the featured guest speaker for the evening event. Never before in the history of programming outside of graduation did JCSU witness an attendance of 400+ people to an event for the community. The opening event included a reception, poetry and an overview of the project before the guest speaker A’Lelia Bundles provided a very informative presentation on her family’s legacy of philanthropy. This was the groundbreaking program for the library that caught the attention of the President and administration.
Another grant funded project through the Lyrasis and HBCU Library Alliance was the digitization and exhibit of the Peeler collection. Several of the James Gibson Peeler’s photographs captured Charlotte’s oldest surviving African American community, known as Biddleville. Johnson C. Smith University is in the heart of the Biddleville neighborhood. It was only befitting that JCSU launched an exhibit to preserve the works of Charlotte’s African American photographers. Sharing this exhibit and launching Charlotte’s Historic Photo Preservation Day opened the way for JCSU to have more of a leadership role in documenting and preserving the works of African American photographers in Charlotte, North Carolina.
Snapshots from the opening exhibit and Charlotte’s Historic Photo Preservation Day. **Charlotte, NC, April 16, 2016.** Charlotte’s Historic Photo Preservation Day, sponsored by the James B. Duke Memorial Library at Johnson C. Smith University was a celebration of African American photographers, as well as promoting awareness on the important of preserving photographs and other artifacts. The celebration includes an exhibit of original photographs from the James Gibson Peeler collection. The celebration featured West African Djembe drumming with Allen Boyd, African dancing with West Side Cultural Arts, performance by Surya Swilley, JCSU Dance Major, and Haji Basim, International Folk Artist. The community also participated in two preservation workshops.
This generation does not know life without some type of technology to help them communicate. Whether it is a cellphone, iPad or a tablet, their world is in a technology-information driven highway. So as educators, how do we transcend the social media junkies, bloggers, texters, and selfie generation to understand how information is to be used, and shared morally and with standards of practice. At JCSU we are mixing things up using technology. I will share two types of technology platform used to share library resources with students at JCSU.
This presentation was created using GoAnimate.

Paste link into browser to view video

http://library.jcsu.edu/library-services-tutorials/
This presentation was created using whiteboard technology.

Paste link into browser to view video

http://library.jcsu.edu/library-services-tutorials/
The library is leveraging opportunities to partner with other departments across campus. One of our growing relationship is with the IT department. This partnership opened the doors for one of the librarian to serve as the Instructional Technology Coordinate for the Tittle III SAFRA grant. Through this partnership, the library was able to reimage its space; one example is the Faculty Sandbox in the library. This same partnership is allowing us to launch a Makerspace in the library. The key to claiming your value, is finding opportunities that already exist on your campus; then start networking and building relationships. Once you have created those relationships, it is time to sale your library as the place for engagement, creativity, and foot traffic for innovative projects.
Many times the library is left out of major initiatives at their Universities. Because I signed-up to be a reviewer for SACSCOC, I was invited by the Vice President for Academic and Student Support to be a part of the planning committee for the QEP at JCSU. My participation on the QEP committee has lead to some great partnerships. The librarians are now included in the professional develop component of the QEP. The library has an active role in sharing library resources to students on a larger scale because of the new QEP initiative that will be reviewed March 2017 as part of our re-affirmation.
If you’re always trying to be normal, you will never know how amazing you can be.

Maya Angelou

I refused to allow Faculty, Staff, Students and Administrators to keep our library locked in a box with old ideas of what a library has to offer and a narrow viewpoint on what a librarian can do? Start with demonstrating the unexpected things that your library performs but no-one knows about it; or create the unexpected.
It is important to always highlight the talents and skills of your librarians. I have successfully done this by encouraging my librarians to step outside of their comfort zone and be more active...proactive in demonstrating their value, especially when it comes to using technology and social media. This approach lead to librarians serving as Faculty Technology Assistant to train Faculty on apps and other technology to infuse into their classroom.
When the library started receiving grants and creating an exhibit that reached 400+ people from the community, this got the attention of the President and Administrators. When we launched the Peeler collection, this collection also brought attention to the library and praises from the community appreciating JCSU’s library taking the lead to preserve this collection. You have something that is amazing and worth sharing digitally or creating an exhibit at your University. Be Bold and Do It!
But Darling, in the end, you've got to be your own hero. Because everybody's busy trying to save themselves.

It is no secret that the library has to become its own hero. If you do not become your own hero, then you become vulnerable and little-by-little your budget shrinks, and you become a place of little value.
The wings of transformation are born of patience and struggle.

— Jonea L. Orisaguna

Boldness: seeing and seizing the opportunistic moments in life — timidity has never produced a proud moment, only a could-have-been.

“Without change there is no innovation, creativity, or incentive for improvement. Those who initiate change will have a better opportunity to manage the change that is inevitable.”

— William Pollard

What I shared with you was a gradual progress of demonstrating the value of the James B. Duke Memorial Library at JCSU. This progression is wrap in patience, struggle, grace and a REMIX in building something bold for our students and faculty.
This presentation was created by Nooma Monika Rhue Director of the James B. Duke Memorial Library. This presentation is not endorsed by Johnson C. Smith University. It is based on the Director’s experiences and voice.

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