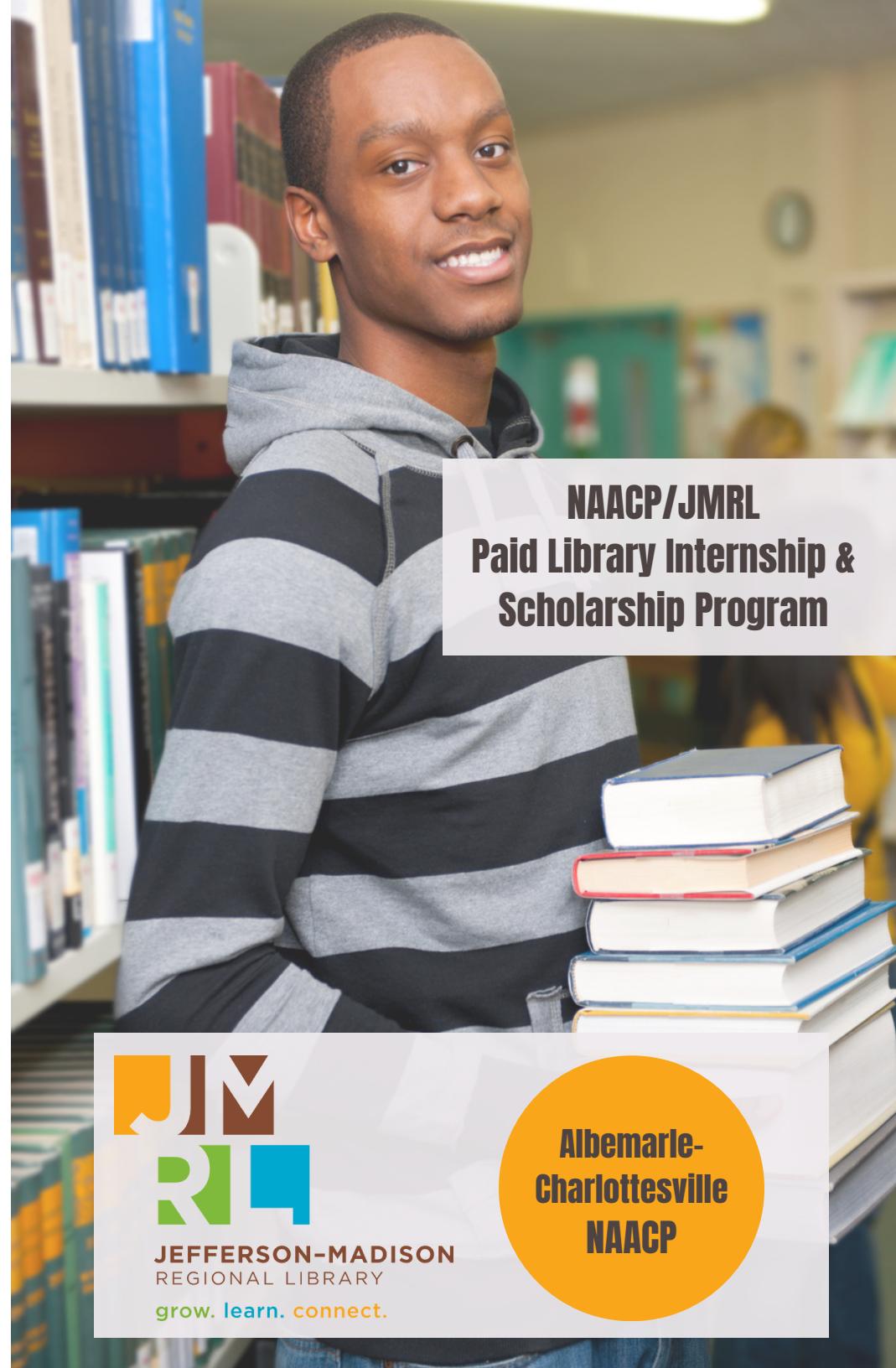


Short History of JMRL

Public library service in Central Virginia has roots from a public subscription library established in 1823. Charlottesville Public Library became the community's first public municipal library in 1921. In 1934, the first branch library was funded by the City – the Colored Branch Library at Jefferson School. This library operated until 1948, when the libraries were integrated. Albemarle County joined the City in funding Bookmobile service in 1946, and opened branches in Scottsville in 1960 and Crozet in 1964. Gordon Avenue Library was built jointly by the City and Albemarle County, opening in 1966. In 1972 the City and Albemarle County joined with the counties of Greene, Louisa, and Nelson to form Jefferson-Madison Regional Library. Northside Library opened in 1991. Today, JMRL is one of the most heavily used public libraries for its size in the United States. JMRL welcomes more than 800,000 visitors each year and annually circulates over 1.6 million items.

Short History of Albemarle-Charlottesville NAACP

Founded Feb. 12. 1909, the NAACP is the nation's oldest, largest and most widely recognized grassroots-based civil rights organizations. Its more than half-million members and supporters throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities, campaigning for equal opportunity and conducting voter mobilization. The NAACP's mission is to ensure the political, educational, social and economic equality of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination. The NAACP Albemarle–Charlottesville Branch was formed July 12, 2001 upon approval of a merger request from the Albemarle and Charlottesville branches. This merger has allowed the two localities to be more effective in working to meet the Mission and Values of the NAACP.



**NAACP/JMRL
Paid Library Internship &
Scholarship Program**

Purpose of Program

This NAACP/JMRL partnership is designed to encourage a diverse group of local students to consider professional library work as a career. To further that goal, NAACP/JMRL has established a library internship and scholarship program for students in Albemarle, Charlottesville, Greene, Louisa, and Nelson. This internship honors the mission statements of both organizations, and seeks to ensure a diverse public library work force that mirrors this community.

Program Details

This program offers 200 hours of library work experience and a stipend of \$3,000. In addition, Interns are eligible for an annual scholarship of \$2,000 to be used toward completion of an Associate's, Bachelor's, or Master's degree. Total possible annual value of this program: \$5,000. Applicants cannot receive this program award more than twice.

Applicants must be at least 17 years of age or entering the 12th grade to apply, and must be residents of Albemarle, Charlottesville, Greene, Louisa, or Nelson.

Application

Applications may be submitted on paper or in electronic form to Jefferson-Madison Regional Library. Successful applications must include the following:

- A completed application form: <https://jmrl.org/intership-application-2026>
- An essay of at least 300 words describing the applicant's commitment to education and literacy, commenting on why the NAACP is needed today, and expressing the applicant's interest in public library work.
- Transcripts showing all high school courses completed and GPA.
- A resume listing work, volunteer, and extracurricular experience.
- High school students must submit a letter of college admittance or a letter from a high school counselor verifying the applicant's intention to attend college.
- Letters of reference from two non-family members familiar with the applicant's academic and/or work background.

Application Deadline

Applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m., March 27, 2026. Electronic copies must include the subject "NAACP/JMRL Program" and be submitted to director@jmrl.org. Paper copies may be submitted to Library Director, Jefferson-Madison Regional Library, 201 East Market Street, Charlottesville, VA 22902

Application Review Procedure

Applications will be reviewed by a committee representing the Albemarle-Charlottesville NAACP and JMRL.

The Internship/Scholarship Award will be announced on or before April 30, 2026.

For Further Information, Please Contact:

Library Director David Plunkett
201 E. Market St. Charlottesville, VA 22902
director@jmrl.org

-or-

Albemarle-Charlottesville NAACP President
P.O. Box 1522 Charlottesville, VA 22903

The NAACP/JMRL Internship and Scholarship Program is supported by a generous grant from the Friends of Jefferson-Madison Regional Library Endowment Fund. <https://jmrlfriends.org>

grow. learn. connect.