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The Secret to Successful School Library Advocacy

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AND PHILADELPHIA DINING GUIDE

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Welcome to the special January/February special double issue of American Libraries. If you are picking this issue up from one of the bins during ALA’s Midwinter Meeting, welcome to Philadelphia. You’ll find our quick roundup of Midwinter highlights on page 62 and a restaurant guide to the City of Brotherly Love by a group of authors led by the inimitable Elliot Shelkrot, recently retired director of the Free Library of Philadelphia, on page 70.

The Reader Forum pages this month (p. 8) are still brimming with letters from readers taking sides in the November point/counterpoint articles about building or not building Spanish-language collections. Not surprisingly, about 90% of the letters have been in favor of building the collections, and the vehemence of the opposition to Julia Stephens’s English-only point of view was stunning.

Not long after the November issue came out, I received a call from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in Washington, D.C., letting me know that, contrary to what Stephens claimed, the White House Task Force on New Americans does not require any government agencies to teach English to legal immigrants. Alfonso Aguilar, chief of the Office of Citizenship, further explains the CIS position and offers librarians access to training and a toolkit designed to help them deal effectively with non-English speakers (p. 38).

It’s been a little disheartening to hear from readers who felt that AL did a disservice by publishing Stephens’s point of view. One letter writer charged that we deliberately published the article to provoke controversy. Close—but not cigar. Of course we knew that her position would irk a lot of people, but we are also fairly certain that the controversy started long before AL got to it. What we hoped to do is bring this national discussion to the top of the library agenda by providing readers with an unflinching version of both sides. We hope the dialogue can continue and expand in the Online Reader Forum we opened last month at ala.org/forum/.

In addition to the Midwinter preview, this issue offers a think piece, by Steven J. Bell of Temple University, that asks us all to plan and design services by understanding the problem before we prescribe a solution.

This issue also introduces a new product showcase (p. 83), and the “American Libraries Online” box on page 4 showcases new material on the AL website, especially AL Focus videos and the events calendar, which moves entirely online this month. Also be sure your membership information is up-to-date so that you stay current through American Libraries Direct, AL’s e-newsletter.

And let us know if we are delivering what you need in order to take Steven Bell’s “design approach” in responding to the ever varied and growing information needs of your library patrons and advocates.

by Leonard Kniffel

Visit AL’s new Online Reader Forum and join the dialogue at ala.org/forum/.

Steven J. Bell (“Design Thinking,” p. 44) is associate university librarian for research and instructional services at Temple University in Pennsylvania. He writes and speaks frequently on topics such as information retrieval, library and learning technologies, and academic librarianship. An adjunct professor at the Drexel University College of Information Science and Technology, he teaches courses in academic librarianship and information retrieval. He maintains “Steven Bell’s Keeping Up Web Site” and “The Kept-Up Academic Librarian” blog, which promote current awareness skills and resources. He is a co-founder of the Blended Librarian’s Online Learning Community on the Learning Times Network and has participated in numerous virtual presentations. He blogs for ACRLog, ACRL’s official Weblog and Designing Better Libraries. Learn more at http://stevenbell.info.

Nancy Kalikow Maxwell (“Librarians in the Jury Box,” p. 50) is the author of Sacred Stacks: The Higher Purpose of Libraries and Librarianship (ALA Editions, 2006), which explores the deeper meaning and spiritual purpose of libraries within a secular context (see AL cover story, May 2006). An award-winning writer, Maxwell is a frequent contributor to American Libraries; her work has also appeared in National Catholic Reporter, Tikkun, Lilith, and Reform Judaism, among others. Currently library director at Miami Dade College North Campus, Maxwell lives in the Fort Lauderdale area. If not called to jury duty, she can be reached at nancymaxwell@bellsouth.net.

After receiving her MLS from the University of Arizona, Debra Kay Logan (“Putting Students First,” p. 56) started working in public libraries. For the past twenty years, Logan’s work in school libraries has ranged from kindergarten through 12th grade. Deb is currently the Chair of the AASL Advocacy Committee and was the Ohio Educational Library Media Association Advocacy Chair for five years. Logan is one of Ohio Educational Library Media Association’s evidence-based practice trainers and was a member of Ohio’s Technology Standards Writing Team and the Effective School Library Guidelines Writing Team. Deb is a speaker, author, and a fellow of both The National Writing Project and The Institute for Library and Information Literacy Education.

Evelyn Minnick (“From Cozy to Funky,” p. 70) is university librarian at St. Joseph’s University in Philadelphia, Sara Moran is chief of staff at the Free Library of Philadelphia, Elliot Shelkrot is soon to be emeritus president and director of the Free Library of Philadelphia, and Kevin Vaughan is former associate director of the Free Library of Philadelphia and currently Philadelphia’s deputy health commissioner.
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What’s new on AL Online

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  - Kareem Abdul-Jabbar interview.
  - Booklist Editors Choice.
  - School librarians in Vegas.
- News stories posted as they break.
- NEW! Reader Forum online:
  - Comment on issues and controversies
- AL Direct: Find out how, if you’re not receiving ALA’s weekly electronic newsletter.

Calendar: National listings of continuing education opportunities and services.

- American Libraries Buyers Guide.
- Latest public library expense stats.
- ALA MEMBERS! Access American Libraries full text and searchable.
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Welcome to those who are attending the 2008 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia. I am delighted to announce that NBA legend, researcher, and author Kareem Abdul-Jabbar will join us January 13 at the President’s Program (see preview, p. 62–69). He will introduce us to the life lessons of leaders from the Harlem Renaissance, jazz, and early professional basketball. Abdul-Jabbar has a wonderful message that also supports my strong connections to children, reading, and basketball. Congratulations Dr. Abdul-Jabbar on your wonderful work!

This month, we celebrate the staff that support our libraries along with the diversity of patrons and the services libraries provide. Several special projects are being explored that recognize the career lifespan of the library worker—from prospective librarians to current master’s and doctoral students, and, finally, to the life histories of experienced library workers.

Discussions are underway about the possibility of a national library camp. Contributors to this early conversation include Emerging Leaders cohorts Christy Donaldson, Florante Ibanez, Jolie Ogg Graubill, and Mario Ascensio, as well as Sharon Saulmon, project director for Information Matrix Camp, an information science/library camp for Oklahoma middle school students. Funded through a three-year Institute of Museum and Library Services grant, the Information Matrix Camp is supported by the Oklahoma Library Association and Rose State College in Midwest City. The second camp will take place in July. Lessons learned from this experience will help us understand the feasibility of expanding this model to other states. Results of the analysis will be posted at lorieneroy.com.

Joe Sanchez, a doctoral student in the University of Texas at Austin’s School of Information, chairs a subcommittee charged with planning this year’s education forums. The next forum will be held during January’s Midwinter Meeting and will focus on the doctoral students’ experience in our schools of library and information studies. A dozen doctoral students will each provide 90-second summaries of their research, which will be further detailed in poster sessions. Forum attendees will review the work, provide feedback, and identify questions that they would like to see studied.

The 2008 ALA Annual Conference forum in Anaheim will focus on the involvement of master’s degree students in service learning and citizen engagement. Members of ALA’s Committee on Education, chaired by Kenley Neufeld, have provided invaluable assistance in the planning for the forums. Sanchez will restage the forums in Second Life to provide an opportunity for ALA members to view the posters and engage in a continuing discussion.

As for those librarians who are toward the end of their careers, a national advisory board is starting to discuss the possibility of our own version of National Public Radio’s StoryCorps. The goal is to gather life histories of experienced librarians as they exit their careers and make their oral histories easily accessible to colleagues, students, and less-experienced library workers.

We are also taking our first steps toward realizing our workplace wellness initiative. Watch for our developing website—a place where you can find selected wellness journeys taken by notable library workers, examples of how libraries are promoting workplace wellness, links to key resources, and space to contribute your own content.

The Lance Armstrong Foundation is providing additional resources, including the shipment of two Livestrong Survivorship Notebooks, designed to organize and guide individual cancer experiences, to all U.S. public libraries.

I am now past the halfway mark of service as your 2007–2008 ALA president. I have worked diligently as your spokesperson and have valued your support. I look forward to the gift of serving you over the remaining six months.
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Letters and Comments

English-Only Views Varied

I want to thank you for dedicating the November cover stories (p. 40–44) to the topic of immigration—I think.

Julia Stephens’s screed against any language other than English demonstrates her lack of knowledge about the U.S. political process, geography, and history. Our elected representatives are not in agreement about making English the official language of our nation. It is also a shame that people who would like to pass a law to make English the official language are not aware of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, 1848, which gave the U.S. acquisition of California, Nevada, Utah, and parts of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Wyoming. It also gave its new citizens the right to maintain their culture, of which language is a part.

Given our profession’s commitment to pluralism and diversity, Stephens’s suggestion that we are changing “our American pluralistic philosophy to an ethnocentric one” is simply racist.

Stephens’s vision of library collections would exclude operas, foreign films, and materials that help library patrons learn world languages. She is mistaken if she thinks that children and grandchildren of Latino immigrants will not learn English. History tends to repeat itself and, like all preceding non-English speaking immigrants that arrived in the U.S., first-, second-, and third-generation Latino children will certainly be educated in English and, with time, will most likely not speak Spanish. ALA’s Reforma understands this concept and emphasizes it in its name: The National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking.

We have to accept that Spanish is part of our lives. It is in the names of our states, cities, streets, and mountain ranges—this is especially true of Puerto Rico, Florida, and parts of the Southwest. I would have a hard time purchasing a flight ticket to go back to my hometown, El Pueblo de Nuestra Señora la Reina de los Ángeles de Porciúncula in California if I could not use Spanish. My pueblo consists of approximately 13 million people. You might know it as Los Angeles and they are two of the most beautiful Spanish words that I have ever heard.

Reforma President Mario A. Ascencio
George Mason University
Fairfax, Virginia

Libraries have a universally acknowledged professional obligation to provide equitable access to information to all members of our communities. Any argument against collection development and programming in the desired languages of our users acts as a simple assault upon that obligation.

When I started studying Spanish in junior high, I began to seek out every drop of information I could find about Latin American cultures, and I still wanted more. I went through high school watching films in Spanish, studying literature and culture in my Spanish classes, preparing to go on and learn more about the Spanish-language world in college.

Offering materials in Spanish benefited our community. Within my relatively monocultural situation, I wanted to be aware of the realities of the world outside my own small reality. The irrefutable reality here is this: Spanish exists as one of the major facets in the character of our country. As U.S. citizens, whether we speak Spanish or not, we are a part of the Spanish-speaking world. To ignore or deny this simply leads to ignorance and denial.

Libraries have just as much obligation to those citizens of our country who wish to expand their horizons, instead of dangerously barricading ourselves within them by only being aware of and fluent in our own languages and cultures.

As every first-year library student knows (or should know), failure to provide foreign language materials in communities with substantial foreign language-speaking residents flies in the face of our professional ethics. Although it may have been next to impossible to find someone with sufficient library education and experience to compose a counterpoint piece to Todd Douglas Quesada, I can’t help thinking you should have tried harder.

Julia Stephens’s jejune, Coulter-esque attempt provides little more than a straw man. Wildly inaccurate claims do not stand when your readership is composed of trained fact-finders. Some of her claims are insulting, require huge leaps in logic to draw perverse, preposterous conclusions, and others are simply laughable.

The editors welcome letters of 300 words or less about recent contents or professional issues: americanlibraries@ala.org; fax 312-440-0901; American Libraries, Reader Forum, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611-2795. Continue the discussion online at ala.org/forum/.
Come on American Libraries. Julia Stephens may not be able to do better than this, but you can.

Sharon McQueen
School of Library and Information Studies
University of Wisconsin at Madison

I vote with Todd Douglas Quesada, but he overlooked one constituency that hopes to find Spanish-language books, magazines, and tapes at the library: English speakers (like me) trying to learn Spanish, improve their Spanish, or just learn about their Spanish-speaking friends and neighbors.

Christopher H. Walker
Pennsylvania State University
University Park

I’m shocked at the Neanderthal letter written by Julia Stephens. She doesn’t belong in public service. What’s most absurd about Stephens’s remarks is her need to simplify a vastly diverse group of people into one category and exclude them to protect the “oneness” of the United States.

Infected fellow citizens with fear of the “other” is fascist. The cultural purity allusion is also an illusion; diversity is our strength. The United States was never nor should be monolithic. It was founded not on the principle of one language, but one united people and many of us still strive toward that.

I’ve been welcomed into so many homes, workplaces, and organizations, such as Reforma—an ALA affiliate that Stephens dismisses—that to describe these experiences would fill volumes. Yet, she’ll only include this population, whose cultural nature is to make everyone family, on the condition that they “assimilate.” They already do so by living here.

How does she get away with such garbage? All means all, not just certain ones who then turn around and accuse others of “ethnocentrism” while parroting that there’s only one “American way of life.”

I’m stunned that AL, published by the socially, ethically conscious ALA, printed this article. Was it some reverse political correctness or sensationalism that allowed equal time to unadulterated ignorance and hatred clothed in educated vocabulary?

Rachel Schneiderman
Gainesville, Florida

Neither of the two articles take into account the large number of Hispanic citizens who are not recent immigrants.

My family has lived in the same area of South Texas since the 1760s. When the area became part of the United States, they opted to become U.S. citizens. Most of us speak and read both English and Spanish fluently. I read English materials most of the time, but I enjoy reading books in Spanish because it is a beautiful, almost melodic language.

Libraries need to have books in languages other than English in their collections for those of us who are bilingual or multilingual. We are not unpatriotic; we are reaping the cognitive benefits of bilingualism.

Maria Elena Anzaldua-Ovalle
Edinburg, Texas

Julia Stephens’s xenophobia makes me hope that she is not intending to make
public libraries her career, since she knows very little about the history of the public library’s service to immigrants nor is she much on responding to the needs of one’s customers. She’s mixing up Draconian social policy with good collection development policy.

Blue Island is a community that is perhaps 40% Hispanic, 30% black, and 30% white. Ninety percent of our Hispanic population is Mexican, many residing here for generations to work on the railroad.

As library director, the status of their documentation is irrelevant to me. If they have proof of a Blue Island address, they can get a library card. They pay rent or property taxes, from which most of our support comes. Although 35% of the population speaks Spanish in their homes, only about 10% of our materials are in Spanish although they circulate more than our English materials.

The library is the place that immigrants can come and find materials in their own language and become assimilated into the American culture and the English language. Libraries should not be monolingual; they should be in as many languages as they need to be to serve their diverse communities.

Patty Dwyer Wanninger
Blue Island (Ill.) Public Library

Julia Stephens incorrectly states “there is no evidence from test scores that bilingual programs increase English proficiency.” In fact, the success of bilingual education is one of the most consistent results in educational research.

Study after study has shown that children in bilingual programs typically outperform similar children in all-English classes on tests of English reading. Developing literacy in the child’s first language helps tremendously in English-language development. Literacy transfers across languages. Those who develop a pleasure reading habit in their first language are more likely to become readers in their second language.

Supporters of bilingual education are not interested in having a divided country. We all agree that English is our goal. Bilingual education and libraries well stocked with interesting reading in other languages are potent means of achieving this goal.

Patty Dwyer Wanninger
Blue Island (Ill.) Public Library

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Stephen Krashen
University of Southern California
Los Angeles

Better research might cause Julia Stephens to reconsider her position that library bilingual collections pose a threat to our American way of life. It is hard to imagine the library that will be well-served by her Chicken Little-like demagoguery.

Latinos who live and work among us are acquiring English at about the

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same rate as the prior waves of Italian, Polish, and German immigrants. The first generation struggles with the new language; the second generation is fluent in both; and the third generation will probably abandon the mother tongue with alacrity and end up speaking only English.

Presumably, in Stephens’s world, this is a desirable outcome, which calls to mind the old joke about what to call someone who speaks only one language: an American.

In 2007, the Pew Hispanic Center reported that Latinos overwhelmingly believe that it is “very important” that English be taught to the children of immigrant families. In fact, only 2% of Latinos surveyed felt that this issue was not important, as compared to 27% of non-Latinos.

Why should school libraries offer Latin American fiction in English to ESL students? I would also be interested to know if someone is stationed at the front door, checking for green cards, in these libraries that are “empowering legal immigrant patrons” by offering English classes.

I would like to remind Stephens, who sprinkled the words “legal” and “illegal” throughout her profoundly ungenerous article, that ¡Ningún ser humano es ilegal! For all of you monolingual sorts out there—No human being is illegal.

Marie Creste
School of Communication, Information, and Library Studies
Rutgers University
New Brunswick, New Jersey

I read the opposing articles with a mixture of amusement and annoyance. I live in Orange County, an affluent Los Angeles suburb. Our libraries are heavily used by the Latino community and form a vital link to the twin goals of citizenship and successful assimilation. But our libraries are also suffering from a prolonged hiring freeze, restrictions on building funds, and reductions in acquisitions budgets.

In the home of Spanglish culture, we are seeing the very real decline in our libraries’ ability to serve readers of all languages. So, the real question, dear readers, is not what languages to maintain in our libraries, but whether public libraries will be maintained at all.

Julia Stephens’ commentary has done a great disservice to the readership, library profession, and immigration debate in this country. The claims made have about as much basis in hard evidence as anything coming from the O’Reilly Factor.

Such xenophobic nativist rhetoric impovershies any immigration dialogue. It’s worrisome that Stephens fails to see value and richness in the complex, postmodern world that we live in. Her language echoes racist notions that deem cultural and linguistic differences as a fundamental threat to the country’s stability and unity. An English-only approach only further intensifies the anti-immigrant debate and illusion of cohesion and parity.

Equally troubling is the fact that American Libraries would serve as a platform to advance this growing anti-immigrant sentiment fueled by moral panic. The topic of culture and linguistic rights calls for critical inquiry rather than a fair and balanced Fox News approach to better understand today’s multilingual and interdependent world.

Pedro Reynoso
San Joaquin Delta College
Stockton, California

Julia Stephens is spot-on in her defense of predominately English-language collections in U.S. libraries. Before our current diversity cult and infatuation with multicultural mush, libraries played critical instructional roles in helping immigrants adapt to American cultural mores and assimilate into the mainstream of American life by offering English-language classes. By promoting English-language use and instruction, libraries helped immigrants from all over the world, whose native languages were often more distinct from English than Spanish.

Encouraging Spanish-language targeted collections only promotes societal Balkanization and encourages Hispanic immigrants to remain isolated in a linguistic and cultural cul-de-sac. Through promoting English-language collections and instruction, libraries encourage immigrants to become part of the American mainstream and the broader global community whose de facto international language is English.

Learn English and you will be able to take full advantage of all of America’s economic, social, and intellectual opportunities available in our libraries and other institutions. Libraries should be at the forefront in promoting English-language reading and instruction to immigrant communities.

Bert Chapman
Lafayette, Indiana

Correction: The Idaea Media employee project at the District of Columbia Public Library’s Martin Luther King Central Library, as depicted in the photograph (Dec., p. 12), was over a two-day, not two-year period.
Public TV, ALA Launch Consumer Education Effort

The Association of Public Television Stations (APTS) and ALA are joining forces to launch a grassroots outreach effort to educate consumers about the approaching mandatory Digital Television (DTV) Transition, the switch from analog to digital broadcast television (AL, Dec., p. 38). In 1996, Congress authorized the distribution of an additional channel to every broadcast TV station so they could start a digital broadcast channel while simultaneously continuing their analog channel. Congress subsequently mandated that February 17, 2009, would be the last day for full-power television stations to broadcast in analog. Broadcast stations in all U.S. markets are currently broadcasting in both analog and digital. After February 17, 2009, full-power television stations will broadcast in digital only.

“We need to ensure that the approximately 20 million households that rely solely on over-the-air broadcast television transmissions are not only aware of the transition, but that they successfully make the transition,” said APTS President and CEO John Lawson.

“Libraries and public television stations are uniquely positioned to lead a grassroots education campaign about the switch and will undertake joint grassroots education efforts that may include activities at public libraries and cooperative programming on local public television stations,” ALA President Loriene Roy observed.

Libraries will be asked to work with local public television stations to demonstrate the DTV converter boxes many households will need in order to continue watching television. The joint effort is designed to complement public television’s ongoing consumer education campaign efforts that include on-air segments, printed program guides, websites, and special mailings.

For more on information, visit www.ala.org/dtv.

SPECTRUM SCHOLARS AT AASL

Four ALA Spectrum scholars pause before attending a program at ALA’s American Association of School Librarians national conference in Reno, Nevada (AL, Dec., p. 60–61). Capstone Publishers, along with AASL, paid for the flight and registration for the four MLIS students, who are (from left): Teresa Mares, San Jose (Calif.) State University; Kelvin Watson, North Carolina Central University in Durham; Alma Ramos-McDermott, Simmons College in Boston; and Lori Rosales Curry, University of North Texas in Denton.
PBS Cancer Education Partnership Announced

ALA’s Reference and User Services Association is working with WGBH Boston on the national outreach campaign for the 90-minute documentary The Truth About Cancer, set to air in April on PBS. The program, to be followed by a 30-minute expert panel, is the launching pad for events and projects across the country focused on creating community conversation around cancer survivorship.

In conjunction with the film, WGBH is offering 15 grants to public television stations across the country to support creative projects incorporating the use of media, art, and the Web in portraying the idea of survivorship. Stations will be encouraged to pair with the local branches of the national partners for the campaign—ALA, the National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship, Susan G. Komen for the Cure, the John Wayne Cancer Foundation, the Lance Armstrong Foundation, the Coalition of Cancer Cooperative Groups, and the YMCA of the USA.

Libraries are asked to collaborate with their local PBS stations on grant proposals. For more information, send an e-mail message to elizabeth_cohen@wgbh.org.

AASL Longitudinal Survey Released

ALA’s American Association of School Librarians (AASL) has released the results of its first longitudinal survey, School Libraries Count!, available online at www.ala.org/ala/aasl/alscsurvey.cfm.

Conducted from January to March 2007, the survey gathered data in a number of areas, including library staff, collections, technology, class visits, and budgets. AASL will use the data to develop tools to help library media specialists advocate at the local, state, and national level.

The survey will be conducted annually and will result in a longitudinal series that will provide data on the health of the nation’s school library media programs. The second survey is scheduled to open during ALA’s Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia.

New Emerging Leaders to Begin Work

The second class of ALA Emerging Leaders will begin its work with a daylong session during ALA’s Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia.

ALA Immediate Past President Leslie Burger announced that 124 librarians from across the country will participate in problem-solving work groups, network with peers, gain an inside look into ALA structure, and have an opportunity to serve the profession in a leadership capacity.

After Midwinter, the 2008 class-work will continue in an online environment for six months and culminate in June at ALA’s Annual Conference in Anaheim.

Participants will also receive two days of training with Maureen Sullivan, an organizational consultant, and Connie Paul, executive director of the Central Jersey Regional Library Cooperative.

Approximately one-third of this year’s participants have received sponsorships from ALA and its divisions and round tables, as well as from state chapters, ALA affiliates, and other organizations.

For more information about the project, visit wikis.ala.org and

CALENDAR

ALA EVENTS
Mar. 2–8: Teen Tech Week. “Tune In @ your library.” www.ala.org/teentechweek/.
Apr. 13–19: National Library Week. “Join the circle of knowledge @ your library.” www.ala.org/nlw/.
Sept. 18–20: ALSC Institute, Salt Lake City. www.ala.org/alsc/.

Visit www.ala.org/ala/alonline/calendar/calendar.cfm for American Libraries’ full calendar of library conferences, institutes, and other events.
search for Emerging Leaders for a complete list of selected participants and sponsoring organizations.

**New CPLA Course, Candidates Approved**

Twelve new candidates and an additional program course have been approved by the Certification Review Committee of the ALA—Allied Professional Association’s Certified Public Library Administrator (CPLA) program. The program now has 87 candidates representing public libraries of all sizes across the nation.

Candidates in the voluntary post-MLS certification program for public librarians with three years or more of supervisory experience and an ALA-accredited master’s degree in library and information studies hail from 30 states as well as from the Bahamas.

There are now 35 courses that cover nine management topics offered online, face-to-face, and during ALA conferences.

The North Suburban (Ill.) Library System, the University of North Texas in Denton, the Southeastern Massachusetts Library System in Lakeville, and the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign also renewed their commitments to offer courses.

For more information, visit www.ala-apa.org/certification/cpla/courses.html.

**New Moon Rises in 2007 Top Teen Titles**

More than 6,000 teen readers across the country chose *New Moon* (Little, Brown) by Stephenie Meyer—the second entry in the popular vampire romance series—as their favorite book in the annual Young Adult Library Services Association’s Teens’ Top Ten. The online voting took place during Teen Read Week 2007.

The remaining TTT titles are: *Just Listen* (Viking) by Sarah Dessen; *How to Ruin a Summer Vacation* (Flux) by Simone Elkeles; *Maximum Ride: School’s Out—Forever* (Little, Brown) by James Patterson; *Firegirl* (Little, Brown) by Tony Abbott; *All Hallows Eve (13 Stories)* (Harcourt) by Vivian Vande Velde; *Life As We Knew It* (Harcourt) by Susan Beth Pfeffer; *River Secrets* (Bloomsbury) by Shannon Hale; *Bad Kitty* (HarperCollins) by Michele Jaffe; and *Road of the Dead* (Chicken House) by Kevin Brooks.

Teens’ Top Ten is a teen-choice booklist, developed as part of the ALA division’s Young Adult Galley project, in which publishers of young adult books provide copies of recent titles to teen book discussion groups in libraries. Read more at www.ala.org/teenstopnten/.

**Best Kids Interactive Software Announced**

ALA’s Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) Great Interactive Software for Kids Committee has released its listing of recommended computer programs and digital media for children 14 years of age and younger.
A 741.5 travel through time...

...with a happy ending. Made possible by Dewey numbers.

Updated regularly, the Dewey Decimal Classification scheme is ready for research journeys far and wide, to magical lands—in multiple languages, online and in print. Get Dewey today and generate more happy endings for your library.

Order now at www.oclc.org/dewey/story/

It’s a big world. We’ve organized it.

The Dewey Decimal Classification is published by OCLC Online Computer Library Center.
Selected productions include: Nancy Drew: The Creature of Kapu Cave; Sid Meier’s Railroads; Big Brain Academy; and Snapshot Adventures: Secret of Bird Island.

The committee is chaired by Ann Crewdson of the Issaquah branch of the King County (Wash.) Library System. For the complete annotated list, visit www.ala.org/ala/alsc/.

LAMA Leadership Contest Underway
ALA’s Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA) has announced the “50 Ways to LEAD Your LAMA” contest with a $500 cash prize to promote awareness of LAMA President Bede Mitchell’s yearlong theme. The deadline is April 1.

The prize will be awarded to the LAMA member who proposes the best strategic initiative selected for inclusion in LAMA’s FY09 action plans. Entries will be judged by the division’s Executive Committee.

The winner will be announced at the LAMA President’s Program during ALA’s Annual Conference in Anaheim.

For more information, visit www.ala.org/lama/.

Fetzer Institute Funds “Let’s Talk About It”
The Fetzer Institute’s Campaign for Love and Forgiveness is providing $277,440 for “Let’s Talk About It,” the ALA Public Programs Office’s 25-year-old national reading and discussion program.

Thirty public libraries will be selected to receive $2,500 in program grants each through a competitive application process for “Let’s Talk About It: Love and Forgiveness.” Project themes and books for the new series will be chosen by national project scholar Betty Sue Flowers, director of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum and a distinguished literature professor and humanist.

A new white paper, “Establishing a Research Agenda for Scholarly Communication: A Call for Community Engagement,” was released as a wiki (www.acrl.ala.org/scresearchagenda/) to encourage public comment and discussion. ACRLog (www.acrlblog.org), features frequent provocative commentary and discussion on hot topics in academic librarianship.

Each month the Association’s Associations spotlights the activities and agenda of ALA’s divisions. In March:

Association for Library Service to Children

An application, full guidelines, and selected book information are available at www.ala.org/publicprograms.

—David Free, editor-in-chief, C&RL News
9th Annual
Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture

This year’s lecture is underwritten by ALA’s Public Information Office, the Campaign for America’s Libraries, ALA Champions, Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science and individual donors. The series is arranged by the Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture Subcommittee of ALA’s Public Awareness Committee.

Jazz Violinist
REGINA CARTER

A MacArthur Foundation grant recipient, Regina Carter’s performances highlight the often overlooked potential of the jazz violin for its lyric, melodic, and percussive potential...Carter is pioneering new possibilities for the violin and for jazz.

"Regina Carter creates music that is wonderfully listenable, proudly intelligent and, at times, breathtakingly daring...taking the listener into the future of jazz."

Time Magazine

ALA Midwinter Meeting
Pennsylvania Convention Center
Philadelphia, PA

Saturday, January 12
1:30 p.m. (New Time)
PLA Conference Speakers Added

Arthur and Pauline Frommer and Louise Erdrich will speak at two separate adult author luncheon events during the Public Library Association’s 12th national conference, March 25–29, in Minneapolis.

The Frommers, who will speak March 27, are authors of travel guides and co-hosts of the The Travel Show, which is heard on more than 100 radio stations nationwide. Erdrich, the author of 12 novels as well as volumes of poetry, children’s books, and a memoir of early motherhood, will speak March 28.

Visit www.placonference.org for conference registration. PLA is an ALA division.

Prime Time Expansion Continues

The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities affiliate Prime Time Inc., in cooperation with ALA’s Public Programs Office, has selected public libraries in Florida, Michigan, New Jersey, Oklahoma and New York to participate in a national expansion that targets Spanish-speaking families. The project is funded by a National Endowment for the Humanities grant.

The three states and two library systems—representing 18 community libraries—were selected to host the program out of 11 states and library systems that applied. Based on illustrated children’s books, Prime Time is designed to help low-income, low-literate families, including English-language learners, bond around the act of reading and talking about books.

Selected states will receive grant funding and support materials to present the series at four sites, and selected library systems will receive support to present the program at three branch locations. For more information visit www.ala.org/publicprograms/.

Teens Pick Books With Bite

More than 1,000 teens across the country chose “Books with Bite @ your library” as this year’s theme for the Young Adult Library Services Association’s (YALSA) Teen Read Week, to take place October 12–18.

A national literacy initiative aimed at teens, their parents, librarians, educators, and booksellers, Teen Read Week was created in 1998 as a means to increase the number of teens who are regular readers and library users. For more information, visit www.ala.org/teenread/.

Additionally, Dungeons and Dragons will sponsor YALSA’s Teen Tech Week, to be held March 2–8.
Make Your ALA Mark
Vote in the 2008 Election

All paid ALA members as of January 31, 2008, are eligible to vote.

Important Dates:

Through March 3, 2008
Deadline for member request for paper ballot

January 30
Nominating petition deadline

March 17-19
Web polls open

March 17-24
Paper ballots mailed

April 24 at 11:59 p.m. CST
Polls close

May 2
Certification of election

To update your email address:
visit www.ala.org/profile or
email: membership@ala.org
Please state on subject line:
Update my email

To request a paper ballot, call
1-800-545-2433, press 5, or
email: membership@ala.org
by March 3, 2008
Please state on subject line:
Paper ballot request
Golden Compass Accused of Anti-Catholic Bias

Several Catholic school boards in Canada have removed Philip Pullman’s fantasy novel *The Golden Compass* from library shelves for review following a complaint in the municipality of Halton, Ontario, in late November. The novel and its two companions in the “His Dark Materials” trilogy received heightened scrutiny for their allegedly anti-Catholic content prior to the December U.S. release of *The Golden Compass* movie starring Nicole Kidman and Daniel Craig.

The Catholic school board in Halton set up a committee to review the books, and Catholic officials in Durham and Peterborough followed suit. The concern quickly spread to other school boards in Ontario and Calgary, Alberta, and crossed the border to Lexington, Kentucky, and Lubbock, Texas.

Canada’s Catholic Civil Rights League issued a warning November to Catholic parents not to take their children to the movie because of the “strong antireligious content” in the books. In October, the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights in the United States issued a 26-page pamphlet, *The Golden Compass: Agenda Unmasked,* that cites Pullman’s outspoken atheistic views and claims the books were “written to promote atheism and denigrate Christianity” by featuring a “Calvinized version of the Catholic Church” called the “Magisterium.”

However, the protest lost some of its punch in early December after two reviewers for the U.S. Conference of Bishops gave the film a thumbs-up for content, saying that the antireligious elements in the book had been toned down in the movie.

Mormon groups in Utah urged members to stay away from the movie, according to the November Salt Lake Tribune, but the Presbyterian Church of Scotland came out in support of the film, which premiered in London November 27. The Rev. Andrew Campbell, a church development officer, said in the November *Scotsman,* “We are asking people to watch the film for themselves and ask questions which are relevant to their own lives, in particular about spirituality.”

Pullman told CBS News correspondent Richard Roth November 28 that “Religion is at its best when it is furthest away from power.” Ellen Johnson, president of American Atheists, said the movie is about questioning authority, and “there’s nothing fundamentally wrong with that.” Australian actress Nicole Kidman, who plays the villainous Mrs. Coulter in the film, said in the November London *Daily Telegraph* that critics were far off the mark: “I’m a Catholic and I didn’t feel it was antireligious when I read the screenplay.”

—G.M.E.
The board of Lenawee County (Mich.) Library voted 4–1 November 20 to dispose of the entire collection of 8,760 books and 2,054 magazines in the Ridgeway branch because they have been contaminated by mold.

Teresa Calderone, director of the system since August 1, told American Libraries she discovered the problem on her first visit to the branch shortly after she was hired. She found the building in such poor condition that books had become moist and were molding. The building had been left open to the elements over a five-year period with no heat, air conditioning, or running water. “There was a hole in the roof where a chimney had been,” she said. “Squirrels and mice had gotten in, and the books were covered with two and three different colors of mold.”

Calderone and a work crew pulled the entire collection from the building September 29 and spent 45 hours checking each book and magazine to see what was salvageable. They came up with 128 books, and even those were ultimately deemed unworthy of preservation by the board. “There were some older books,” she said, “novels and such, but none were valuable. The encyclopedias were from the 1950s and ’60s.” A recycling company emptied the boxes of books from the garage at the library headquarters in Adrian on November 21 and hauled them off for processing into new paper.

Despite the obvious problems at the Ridgeway branch, objections have been raised to the board’s decision, most notably by Rose Dejonghe, a 34-year county employee who has been involved in running the branch for 48 years. “I’m pretty discouraged. I’m 84 years old. I’d like to keep this for the rest of the community,” she said in the November 24 Adrian Daily Telegraph. “What good is a library without any books?”

In response to a number of op-ed pieces claiming that important local materials were destroyed along with the rest of the collection, Calderone emphasized that “there was no family history and no local history in what was taken from the library.”

“They’re just throwing it all down the tube,” Dejonghe countered. “Most people do not have any respect for anything old.” She told the newspaper that when she saw from her home next door that the books were being removed, she retrieved “a book containing local historical documents including records on the founding and operation of [the library].”

At this point, said Calderone, the future of the Ridgeway library is uncertain at best. Built in the 1880s, the building is, by contract, the responsibility of the township, not the county. “But no one used the library except [Dejonghe] and her family,” Calderone observed, “about 15 people.” No money has been offered to repair the historic building and little or none of the collection was in circulation.

The vote to dispose of the books came after a lengthy debate on options for returning the books to Ridgeway residents who had offered to take them. The molded books could cause health problems or infect homes with damaging mold, Calderone warned, and the board agreed. She noted that not one person from Ridgeway came to the board meeting.

—L.K.
BELLEVUE (CALIF.) UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT TONY ROEHRRICK TERMINATED THE LIBRARY CONSULTANT CONTRACT OF RICHIE PARTINGTON NOVEMBER 21, TWO DAYS AFTER PARTINGTON DECLINED TO DISCUSS WITH KAWANA SCHOOL PRINCIPAL JESSE ESCOBERO THE MERITS OF THE LAST BOOK IN THE UNIVERSE UNTIL AFTER ESCOBERO READ THE BOOK.

The termination came six weeks after Partington, a member of the 2008–09 Caldecott Committee of the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, became the first professional librarian to serve the 58-year-old K–6 district in at least a decade. He announced the action on several library discussion lists, triggering a flood of protest letters to the district as well as the Santa Rosa Press-Democrat. Among them was a December 4 op-ed from the novel’s author, Rodman Philbrick, who asked rhetorically, “If [Partington] wasn’t qualified to choose appropriate books, then who is?”

Partington told American Libraries that his one-year, $21,000 contract was funded out of a $250,000 grant from the Improving Literacy through School Libraries program to update the district’s four library collections, software, and policies; hone the skills of the paraprofessionals running the libraries; and provide programming to students. Accordingly, he gave a number of book talks, most recently to Kawana 6th-graders in mid-November, during which he read chapter one of Last Book. Because several dozen students “clamored” to read it, Partington said he returned November 19 with four copies to catalog into the collection—only to be told by the Kawana library technician that the principal had forbidden the book’s acquisition.

Leaving the campus immediately, he e-mailed Escobedo and Roehrick about what Partington characterized as the book’s banning, and declined Roehrick’s request for him to meet with Escobedo until the latter had read Last Book. “I couldn’t go back into that school and look those kids in the eye if I’d turned around and said, ‘Oh well, the principal didn’t read it, but he said it’s a bad book so I can’t put it in here,’” Partington explained, noting the irony of defending a book whose first sentence is: “If you’re reading this, it must be 1,000 years from now because nobody around here reads anymore.”

“There is no removal of the book from use in our district,” countered Roehrick, who told AL that “teachers are free to use the book [in the classroom]” without consulting higher-ups.

The Last Book incident was “one small piece of my decision to terminate [Partington’s] contract,” he said, emphasizing that he acted because “I didn’t believe we were getting what we were contracting for”—collection development “through a collaborative process of working with our library techs, teachers, and our site principals.” Explaining that he became school superintendent in July, Roehrick added, “We’re 100% supportive of effective, quality, rich libraries and library experiences for our students” and that he favored hiring credentialed librarians “if it’s something that would serve the district.”

In the meantime, Partington’s role is being filled by Michael Powell, manager for library services at the Sonoma County Office of Education’s Instructional Resources Center and the librarian of record for the Bellevue school district. Noting that he has acquired Last Book for the IRC, which makes it available to every school district in the county including Bellevue, Powell told AL that he believed Partington “passed up an opportunity to create a dialogue” with the school principal. “If I’ve heard something from a third party, I’m going to want to go to the originating party and find out what exactly is the problem,” he said, citing the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom’s online document Coping with Challenges: “A few simple communication techniques can go a long way toward defusing emotion and clearing up misunderstanding.”

—B.C.
SCHLESINGER TO NYPL
New York Public Library has acquired the papers of historian and social critic Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr. (1917–2007), who served as special assistant to President John F. Kennedy.

His correspondence includes letters from nearly every significant figure in American politics, as well as many prominent scholars and writers. Copies of nearly all of his writings and speeches, including a draft of George McGovern’s 1972 presidential nomination acceptance speech, are part of the collection.

Schlesinger’s unique access to influential individuals and restricted documents gives the notes and letters in his files—especially those for his 1978 book on Robert Kennedy—exceptional research value.

BENJAMIN LEES TO YALE
Yale University’s Irving S. Gilmore Music Library has acquired the entire archive of American composer Benjamin Lees (b. 1924). A gift from the composer, the comprehensive archive includes manuscript sketches and scores for all his compositions, as well as correspondence, concert programs, reviews, photos, and biographical materials.

As a composer, Lees is renowned for his orchestral works, including five symphonies and numerous concertante works.

PINTER PURCHASE
The British Library has purchased more than 150 boxes of manuscripts, letters, and private papers belonging to playwright Harold Pinter (b. 1930) for £1.1 million ($2.2 million U.S.). The collection includes the 77-year-old Nobel laureate’s correspondence with such literary figures as Samuel Beckett, Tom Stoppard, and John Osborne; photographs and scrapbooks; and an unpublished biographical memoir of Pinter’s youth, “The Queen of All the Fairies.”

“This is a wonderful collection that sheds new light on each stage of Harold Pinter’s unparalleled career over the past 50 years,” said Curator of Modern Literary Manuscripts Jamie Andrews.
Ottawa’s Outrage May Save 10 Branches

The board of Ottawa (Ont.) Public Library reversed course November 26, opting not to support a plan trustees floated just a few weeks earlier to close 10 branches, cut hours from the remaining branches, and freeze the collection budget to meet a proposed $3.2-million budget cut.

The board had originally proposed the plan to meet the library’s share of $152 million in citywide cuts proposed by Mayor Larry O’Brien to keep his campaign pledge of freezing property taxes for four years, the Ottawa Business Journal reported November 15. After consideration, however, the board rejected the plan unanimously, basing its conclusion in part on a May survey commissioned by the city that found 63% of residents opposed any cuts in library services, the Ottawa Sun reported November 27.

City Librarian Barbara Clubb told American Libraries that the budget would ultimately be decided in city council debates December 10–17. “Because there’s been so much controversy and anguish, the mayor has said the city isn’t going to cut frontline services,” including the libraries, Clubb said.

Clubb added that the board tentatively agreed to nearly $2 million in cuts. Under this plan, the library would save $1 million by lengthening the building process for a new branch and opening it in 2011 instead of 2010, and save $860,000 over three years through a citywide productivity enhancement program.

Arizona Library Faces Four Challenges

The board of Chandler (Ariz.) Public Library unanimously decided November 15 to retain two items in the face of patron complaints, and is declining to move two others to different parts of the library collection.

The board had received a request from complainant Patricia Wira to remove comedian George Carlin’s audio book When Will Jesus Bring the Pork Chops? systemwide due to what Wira termed Carlin’s anti-Christian tone as well as his “sewer mouth and degrad- mindset,” the Phoenix Arizona Republic reported October 3. Trustees also declined to pull the Phoenix New Times from the Hamilton branch as requested by area resident Larry Edwards, who had contended that the alternative weekly’s advertising and editorial content was inappropriate for students at Hamilton High School, which shares the joint-use library.

Two other titles will remain in the same sections in which complainants first encountered them. Kathleen Subia had asked that Where Willy Went by Nicholas Allan be moved from the children’s shelves to a restricted parenting collection, explaining in the September 21 Republic that her 7-year-old brought the book to her during a library visit and “I don’t like being forced into having a discussion about sex.” Also challenged was an episode of Faerie Tale Theatre on DVD narrated by Robin Williams, which patron Sandy Ashbaugh wanted moved from the children’s to the adult section.

Librarians Object to Archivist’s Firing

Librarians and archives patrons across West Virginia began speaking out forcefully immediately after the sudden November 1 termination of Fred Armstrong after 22 years as state archivist and 30 years at the archives. An at-will employee, he was given no reason for his dismissal, which was effective immediately.

“It just seems that overall, in everybody’s perspective that I’ve talked to, he’s done a wonderful job,” Betty Gunn of the Martinsburg Public Library said in the November 14 Charleston Gazette. “If someone’s done a good job for 30 years, it makes you wonder,” Cabell County Public Library Director Judy Rule told American Libraries. Characterizing the nature of Armstrong’s departure as "appalling and a major catastrophe," 1997–98 West Virginia Library Association President Judith A. Duncan called for “this travesty [to] be thoroughly investigated and corrected” in a November 15 letter to the Gazette.

Armstrong, who was filing a grievance and considering a lawsuit, according to the November 27 Gazette,
speculated to the newspaper that the underlying reason why Culture and History Commissioner Randall Reid-Smith fired him was his opposition to a plan to close the reading room of the state archives and merge it with that of the state library across the Great Hall of the Cultural Center in Charleston to make way for a cafeteria and gift shop, but that, until his termination, “I’ve never discussed that with the media.”

“With Fred’s firing, historians and genealogists realize now they better step to the plate and do something,” Mining Your History Foundation board member Kellis Gillespie said in the November 15 Gazette. By early December, the local history group had held two anti-merger rallies outside the Cultural Center.

Sexy Stirs Mixed Feelings in Montana

A materials reconsideration committee at Jefferson High School in Boulder, Montana, voted 4–1 November 27 to retain Joyce Carol Oates’s Sexy in the school-library collection, declining a request by an English teacher on the faculty there to have the book removed.

“I can see both sides of the issue,” complainant Victoria Foster said after the meeting, according to the November 29 Helena Independent Record. She went on to explain that a student had brought the book to her attention, directing her to chapter seven, “and that the f-word came up quite a bit.” Foster also complained about sexually explicit passages in the novel, which tells the story of a handsome 16-year-old adjusting to his sexuality and his effect on other people’s behavior.

Oates offered her own perspective in an e-mail response to junior Nathan Eury, who contacted the novelist as part of his journalism class. “My young adult novels are meant for mature adolescents,” Oates wrote, and therefore “would not be appropriate” for teens who have been “largely shielded from contemporary culture,” speculating that the town must be “unusually remote and sequestered amid contemporary American society.”

JHS librarian Diane Thompson said that the school district’s recon-

BY THE NUMBERS

726 Number of people who have reserved one of 119 copies of Barbara Kingsolver’s Animal, Vegetable, Miracle at Seattle Public Library. The city council has increased the library’s 2008 materials budget by $2 million in hopes of reducing wait times.—Seattle Times, November 8; Book Patrol blog, November 21.

350 Number of items in “Hell at the Library, Eros in Secret,” a new exhibition at France’s National Library of materials from “L’Enfer” — the section where pornographic materials were held and kept off-limits to the public from the 1830s to the 1960s. —Associated Press, December 5.

11 Rank of United States students on the 2006 Progress in International Reading test, administered to 4th-graders in 45 nations or jurisdictions. The U.S. ranked eighth of 35 countries in 2001, the last time the test was given. —National Center for Education Statistics, November 28.

161 Amount of data, in exabytes, that will be created by internet users this year. One exabyte is about 1.1 billion gigabytes.—PC World, November 24.
consideration and selection policy were instrumental in facing the challenge, since they are based on the American Library Association’s Library Bill of Rights and the School Library Bill of Rights approved by ALA’s American Association of School Librarians in 1969. “With what those state, there really was no way to say a novel like Sexy didn’t fit in a high school library,” she told American Libraries.

**Bush, Cheney Images Reelected to Exhibit**

After several rounds of debate and reconsideration and formal complaints from two patrons, the board of Kennebunk (Maine) Free Library voted November 8 to host as originally planned an exhibit of collages made from either discarded American flags or artwork that symbolizes the flag—including depictions of the faces of President Bush and Vice President Cheney.

“American Portraits in a Time of War” features 22 pieces by G. Bud Swenson. Two patrons protested the use of flags and the fact that the exhibit was planned for an area used by children and teens, the Portsmouth (N.H.) Herald reported November 8. Director Janet Cate cancelled the exhibit, but reversed her decision November 5 after Swenson met with members of the library board. She did, however, remove the images of Bush and Cheney, saying in the November 7 Portland Press Herald that the depictions did not meet “normative community standards.”

Both complainants appealed to the board, which voted to retain the entire exhibit—and to reinstate the Bush and Cheney images. “The board trusts that our library and our community can handle this controversial exhibit and that, ultimately, we will be better off for embracing intellectual freedom,” board President Kate Manahan said in a November 9 library press release.

Manahan told American Libraries that she was proud of the board and the library’s handling of the controversy, which required extensive discussions among many parties. “It’s easy to give pat answers, but finding that area in the middle requires courage,” she said.

**Shell Lady’s Daughter Retained in Wyoming**

A reconsideration committee for the Campbell County (Wyo.) School District voted 11–2 December 3 to keep C. S. Adler’s The Shell Lady’s Daughter districtwide.

Parent Sarah Foster challenged the book after her daughter read it in 2006 when she was a 4th-grader at Wagonwheel Elementary School, the Gillette News-Record reported December 4 (AL, Nov. 2007, p. 19). Foster argued that the book’s discussion of sexual thoughts and actions, lying to parents, and suicide were inappropriate for elementary-school students. “Young women need to be cautious, but The Shell Lady’s Daughter teaches girls to throw caution to the wind,” she said.

The four people who spoke at the reconsideration committee meeting disagreed. “Young girls experience many of the challenges the protagonist faced, such as protecting themselves against unwanted physical contact, warning and wondering about their bodies, and dealing with depression,” observed Mary Wegher, Wagonwheel library media specialist.

Wegher also shared an e-mail she received from the author in support of the book. “I personally can’t see how [the book] would harm a child,” Adler wrote. “When an author tries to deal with a serious subject, re-searches it, bases it on experience, and handles it to the best of his or
her ability, it seems a shame that such a book should be banned.” Foster, who was lauded by committee members for expressing her concerns, said she would not challenge the decision, but would explore alternate education options for her children.

King and King Still Reigns in Pennsylvania

After several rounds of consideration, the board of Lower Macungie (Pa.) Library decided November 29 to keep King and King by Linda de Haan and Stern Nijland in the children’s section.

Parents Eileen and Jeff Issa asked the library to remove the book from circulation due to its homosexual content, and collected about 40 signatures from like-minded residents, the Allentown Morning Call reported November 30. “I just want kids to enjoy their innocence and their time of growing up,” Jeff Issa said. “Let them be kids and not worry about homosexuality, race, [or] religion.”

The library had previously considered and denied the Issas’ request in September. The couple then appealed to the township supervisors, who considered the matter at their November 15 meeting, but upheld the library’s decision by a 2–1 vote. Supervisor Chairman Kenneth DeAngelis, who is also president of the library board, said the supervisors did not want to micromanage the library.

Library Director Kathie Rhode said that the library provides material with a variety of views but leaves
the responsibility for preventing a child from reading objectionable material to that child’s parents. “We certainly want parents to make that decision for their children—not one parent making that decision for all children,” she said.

Ironically, the controversy may result in making the book more available in the area. The Morning Call reported December 6 that the Lower Macungie Library’s decision has inspired the Pennsylvania Diversity Network in Allentown to donate copies of *King and King* to the public libraries in Allentown, Easton, Bethlehem, and Reading, which don’t currently carry it. The libraries have said they would wait until they receive and review the book to decide whether or not to shelve it.

### GLOBAL REACH

**FRANCE**

Aronists struck the Louis Jouvet municipal library and a neighboring nursery school in the Paris suburb of Villiers-le-Bel during widespread rioting the night of November 26, completely destroying both buildings. Youths, many of them children of immigrants, lashed out at police and other targets seen to represent a French establishment they feel has left them behind.—Associated Press, Agence France Presse, Nov. 27.

**UNITED KINGDOM**

The Programs and Research division of OCLC is opening an office at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland and has appointed John MacColl as the representative of RLG Programs to better serve the needs of research libraries and other cultural heritage institutions in Europe.—OCLC press release, Nov. 15.

**GERMANY**

The International Tracing Service has opened its vast warehouse of Nazi documents to Holocaust researchers. Located in Bad Arolsen, the archive has been closed to all but staff since the Second World War and is expected to open new avenues of study for historians.—Associated Press, Nov. 28.

**SWEDEN**

Renaissance Library calendars have been produced since 2001 by Information Strategy and Information Management, a consulting and publishing firm based in Sollentuna, a suburb of Stockholm. Each month features a photo of a historic library, selected from nominations submitted by librarians and information professionals in nearly 40 countries. The cover of the 2008 calendar shows the Melk Abbey Library in Melk, Austria, founded in 1089. All eight editions can be ordered at www.renaissancelibrary.com.

**SOUTH AFRICA**

Nearly 80% of South African students do not develop basic reading skills by grade 5, according to a study released November 29 by the University of Pretoria’s Centre for Evaluation and Assessment. Progress in International Reading Literacy shows that South African pupils had the dubious distinction of scoring lowest when compared with children in 39 other countries. Students in Russia, Hong Kong, Singapore, and Italy ranked highest.—Johannesburg Mail and Guardian, Nov. 29.

**SCANDINAVIA**

The role of technology in improving teaching and learning in Scandinavian education systems was the focus of a week-long delegation of senior U.S. educators and policymakers, November 9–17. Organized by the Consortium for School Networking, the delegation held talks with members of the Finnish, Danish, and Swedish ministries of education.—Consortium for School Networking, Nov. 13.

**ISRAEL**

The Knesset passed a law November 26 creating Israel’s first national library, effective January 1. The Jewish National and University Library on the Hebrew University of Jerusalem’s Givat Ram campus has acted as the de facto national library since 1925. In three years, its governance will be split between the university, the state, and other public entities.—Jerusalem Post, Nov. 27.

**IRELAND**

According to Ali Akbar Ash’ari, director of the National Library and Archive of Iran, a memorandum of understanding is being ratified between Iran and the National Library of France. Announcing the start of joint cooperation, the director and consultant to Iran’s president said initial talks had been made between the directors of the national libraries of both countries.—Cultural Heritage News Agency, Nov. 17.

**CANADA**

Library and Archives Canada launched the LAC Government of Canada Web Archive on November 20. The Library and Archives of Canada Act received Royal Assent on April 22, 2004, allowing the LAC to collect and preserve a representative sample of Canadian websites. To meet its new mandate, LAC began to harvest the web domain of the Federal Government of Canada starting in December 2005.—Libraries and Archives Canada, Nov. 19.

**UNITED STATES**

The OCLC WorldMap is a prototype system that provides an interactive visual tool for selecting and displaying library holdings represented in WorldCat, and publishing, library, cultural heritage, and collection data. It allows users to select countries of interest, compare various international library and cultural heritage data, and create graphs displaying data for up to four countries at a time.—OCLC.org.
This vast mine of biographical coverage helps users find information on people from antiquity through 1983. Search a single, easy-to-use database for coverage of writers, artists, statesmen, sports figures, politicians, religious leaders, scientists, educators, military leaders, teachers, actors, business people, and more – notables across all disciplines and subject areas.

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Amazon Releases Kindle

Amid much hype, Amazon launched the $399 Kindle e-book reader in November, and reactions in the library community have been laced with concern. Amazon claims that Kindle’s “electronic paper” screen eliminates the glare and eyestrain caused by reading on a computer screen. The 10.3-ounce reader downloads e-books within a minute of purchase wirelessly via EVDO networks used by cell phones, eliminating the need to find a WiFi hotspot. More than 90,000 books are available, with most new releases and New York Times bestsellers retailing for $9.99. It also delivers several U.S. and international papers and magazines, more than 250 popular blogs, free access to Wikipedia, and the ability to view pictures and Word documents.

Despite some high-profile raves, including a Newsweek cover story, popular reaction has been decidedly mixed. By mid-December, more than 900 reviews at Amazon gave Kindle an average rating of three stars out of five. Librarians, meanwhile, have expressed concern over its proprietary format, digital rights policies that restrict each e-book to the reader it is downloaded to, and cost.

“I’m not going to criticize its look and feel because $400 is above my technical curiosity threshold,” said American Libraries columnist Andrew Pace on his blog, noting that “the perfect device, the perfect software, still eludes us.”

Jenny Levine, internet development specialist for ALA, told AL that, while Kindle’s electronic ink paper is a step forward in technology, “its proprietary format and restrictions on other usable formats make it a very 20th-century device in a 21st-century world.”

Internet Innovation Needs Big Investment

Illinois-based Nemertes Research Group recently released “The Internet Singularity, Delayed.” The study anticipates that the investment required to support the internet will not be enough to meet the demand for use, thereby stifling innovation.

According to the executive summary: “Although core fiber and switching/routing resources will scale nicely to support virtually any conceivable user demand, internet access infrastructure, specifically in North America, will likely cease to be adequate for supporting demand within the next three to five years. We estimate the financial investment … roughly 60%-70% more than service providers currently plan to invest.”

Available at www.nemertes.com, the study speculates that the next Google, YouTube, or Amazon might never arise, not because of a lack of demand, but due to an inability to fulfill that demand.
TECHLISTMANIA

We’ve seen a burst of interesting and useful lists lately. Among them:

- Useful Firefox Add-Ons for Librarians (oedb.org/blogs/librarian/) from Ellyssa Kroski’s iLibrarian includes tools for taking screenshots, automated e-mailing, and debugging HTML, CSS, and JavaScript—plus plenty of search plug-ins.
- Top 50 YouTube Tools and Resources on the Web (digital-musings.com) from Vikram Kinkar’s Digital Musings lists tools for integrating YouTube with a website or blog, downloading or saving videos, and enhancing usage, as well as a list of collections of top videos.
- Programmable Web (programmableweb.com) by John Musser has collected a growing catalog of web mashups that, as of press time, included 2,566 tools for 561 applications. The directory contains more than 1,200 mashups for Google Maps, almost 300 for Flickr, and about 200 apiece for Amazon and YouTube.
- 17 Specialty Search Engines Every Web Developer Should Bookmark (virtualhosting.com) from Christina Laun’s Virtual Hosting includes Ergonosearch for information on accessibility and usability, Rollyo for customized search engines, and the Internet Archive for historical amusement, if not productivity.
- A Big List of Sites that Teach You How to Do Stuff (readwriteweb.com) by Josh Catone at Read/WriteWeb covers 16 tutorial sites, from TeacherTube (a YouTube clone for educational videos) to the all-useful, sometimes-amusing VideoJug, to Make Magazine’s podcast site.
- 50 More Things to Do with Google Maps Mashups (googlemapsmania.blogspot.com) at Mike Pegg’s Google Maps Mania helps users find a job, calculate taxi fare, map 2008 presidential campaign contributions, or find a public toilet. The original list of 50 things is also still available on the site.
Serendipity is my second-favorite word in the English language (skip to the end of this column, if you simply cannot wait to know my first), and the one that best describes most of my career. It was a chance encounter on a train in New York that led to my job at Innovative Interfaces, good timing that led to my arrival in North Carolina, and I was actually sitting at my desk desperately trying to figure out what to put in my column for Computers in Libraries when American Libraries called me to talk about “Technically Speaking.” That was in the winter of 2004. After over 40 columns and six ALA exhibit roundups, this is my farewell to “Technically Speaking.” Serendipity calls.

At ALA Midwinter, you will likely find me even more present on the exhibit floor: I have accepted a position with OCLC as executive director for networked library services. It would be even more self-referential to bore you with the details. Suffice it to say that my new position in the Global Products division would make objective reporting and subjective editorializing difficult.

Though I might be able to pull it off, I’m not sure that my colleagues would take my reports on library automation seriously enough. And, quite frankly, the idea of writing about library technology without mention of my new employer is simply impossible; if I did not think OCLC has a vital and important role in the future of libraries, I would not have taken the job.

I heart vendors
There, I admitted it. I like this gig and will have a hard time detaching myself from it because I really respect and admire my vendor colleagues who work on the “other” side of this profession. The thing about serendipity is that you have to look for it in the right place (if Yogi Berra didn’t say that, he should have). Writing this column has been more planned serendipity, and I will admit to still being surprised at the five-star, kid-glove treatment that came with it. Quite honestly, it’s really been a lot of fun.

Rumors, innuendo, and clouds of insider dirt float above the exhibit floor like smoke in a saloon. Accusatory e-mails and blog posts roughen the edges of carefully crafted press releases. I’ve suffered a few barbs as a result of my musings, but short of slander, I find the marks they leave more like scratches than battle wounds. Nothing is worse than the blog post or editorial that falls like the proverbial tree in the forest.

AL does not typically like me to make references to it, but I’m hoping my farewell will allow an editorial indulgence. I love this magazine. As a profession obsessed with self-criticism, we like to give ALA all we’ve got, but I say unequivocally that the best and brightest of ALA make their mark between AL’s covers.

I’m not just riding for the brand, to use my cowboy library metaphor. I’m excited about my future at OCLC. As I took a serious look at my career in order to ponder my next move, I considered continuing with research libraries, toyed with the notion of public libraries (for whom I think the future is very, very bright), contemplated organization work such as ALA, and then settled back on the exhibit floor where I have spent so much time.

It was my role of pundit that gave me pause. A few vendors have “flirted” with me over the years by dangling positions that promised to capitalize on my objectivity without a plan for preserving it.

I heart OCLC
Without trying to touch off a huge debate about OCLC’s place among vendors, the clarity of its ethos is rare, as is the direction of its leadership and the future of its ownership. OCLC is the place from which I could see myself making a difference for all kinds of libraries all over the world. Wish me luck.

Okay, my favorite word in the English language is gazebo. The problem is that it’s much harder to fit into the theme of a column.

But there you have it.

Adieu.
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For reasons that surpass understanding, I’ve been ruminating on the National Union Catalog Pre-1956 Imprints lately. (I may be the only person in North America who can honestly say that.)

Either you learned about this and used it back in the day, or you’ve never heard of it, for years. For the uninitiated, this beast was published in 754 volumes, appearing from 1968 to 1981, and cost $35,000 for the set. It’s got over 11 million author entries for just about every book published prior to 1956, the date at which the existing NUC incorporated the holdings of other libraries besides the Library of Congress.

Mansell (so nicknamed for the publisher) looks like many of those old catalogs-in-a-book, consisting of photostats of catalog cards going on for page after page, volume after volume, shelf after shelf. In essence, it was the OCLC of its day, fulfilling many of the functions that we now rely on WorldCat for, a definitive resource for bibliographic information in very fine detail in a comprehensive, trustworthy fashion.

So what?

Question #1 for most of you is likely: Why was I thinking of this and used it back in the day, or you’ve never heard of it? In either event, I bet you haven’t touched it, or even seen it, for years. For the uninitiated, this beast was published in 754 volumes, appearing from 1968 to 1981, and cost $35,000 for the set. It’s got over 11 million author entries for just about every book published prior to 1956, the date at which the existing NUC incorporated the holdings of other libraries besides the Library of Congress.

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Even though this behemoth had a comparatively brief run, it was useful and we learned from it and moved on.

I also hold it up as an example of the creativity and hard work of librarians. Compiling that thing wasn’t easy or pretty, but it was incredibly useful in its day. It’s also a good illustration of a resource that has long since passed its sell-by date; it still has its charms and uses but its best days are obviously long since gone. For a period of roughly, say, 20 years, it was invaluable, but even as it was completed, the seeds of its obsolescence were being sown in work by OCLC and of course the coming internet wave of the ’90s.

Everything ends

Question #2 is likely: Why do I care? What is to be learned here? I tell my students that the object lesson is that everything ends. Mansell was great and then it wasn’t; there are lots of other examples of works that have gone to that great reference desk in the sky. (Reverse phone directories, anyone? Road maps? One-volume encyclopedias?)

As I write this, somebody is likely developing the Next Great Thing that will change the way we work, and supplant something we’ve used and found valuable for a long time. We’ll all ooh and ahh over it, and its predecessor will age and fall away. And someday the Next Thing, too, will end. WorldCat will end, Amazon will end, Google will end. Everything ends.

Even more important than that, though, is that it was worth the effort; they all are. Even though this behemoth had a comparatively brief run, it was useful and we learned from it and moved on. It represents a milestone on our path of innovation and development, which, in the end, is what matters; reacting to and shaping the information environment in which we work and building tools to respond and help out. All tools end, the path remains.

In truth, I also teach Mansell so that my students can say they know it; terribly impressive in a job interview these days . . . but that’s another story.

Joseph Janes is associate professor in the Information School of the University of Washington in Seattle. Send ideas to intlib@school.washington.edu.
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What Friends Are For
Capitalizing on your online Rolodex

by Meredith Farkas

There are times at work when we all have to go outside our comfort zone or areas of expertise. Perhaps you’re working on a new technology or a subject guide in an area you know little about. You can struggle for hours, days, or weeks on your own, or you can recognize that you’re probably not the first librarian who’s experienced this. None of us can be experts in everything; sometimes we need to depend on the advice of others to get through a particularly difficult task.

Fortunately, there are social technologies that make it easy to build an online network to tap in times of need. Tools like Facebook (facebook.com) and Twitter (twitter.com) allow people to easily make friends and share ideas. Whether your “friends” (in Facebook) or “followers” (in Twitter) are people you’ve met in the physical world, or people you only interact with online, most of them would be willing to offer advice on topics in their areas of expertise.

The right connections
In Facebook, people build a network of friends and colleagues. You can see friends’ profiles and learn what their interests are and what they’re working on. Twitter is a tool that allows you to let your friends know what you’re up to in 140 characters or less—a genre called micro-blogging—and then broadcasts your updates to all of the people who have chosen to follow you. They can respond to you through Twitter as well.

With both of these tools, you can keep up with what your friends and colleagues are doing without ever needing to contact them directly.

When I first started using Twitter and Facebook, I didn’t see their potential as professional development tools. One day, though, I examined my list of friends on Facebook, and realized I was looking at an online Rolodex full of experts. I saw experts on podcasting, library catalogs, engineering resources, web design, and much more. Here was this network of smart people who were likely ready and willing to share their knowledge. All I had to do is message them in Facebook.

Groupthink tank
With Twitter, you can benefit from the wisdom of the crowd rather than the advice of a single expert. The other day, I was working on a subject guide for finding economic data, a topic that is definitely outside my comfort zone. That afternoon, I wrote on Twitter: “trying to create a guide to finding economic data, which is funny, because I don’t know what half of what I’m looking at means!” Within 15 minutes, I had suggestions from four of my followers on Twitter and an e-mail from a fifth with detailed advice.

Just as you can find help, you’ll also find many opportunities to assist others. I’ve helped someone prepare for a book discussion on one of my favorite titles through Facebook, and offered advice through Twitter on configuring wiki software. These networks are only effective if people are willing to stick around and offer as much advice as they get.

Just as we can’t talk to our colleagues at the water cooler all day, there has to be a balance between getting our work done and networking online. Sometimes, these tools can eat up too much time on the job. It’s the same with any professional development activity (i.e., reading journals, going to conferences): We all need to find that happy balance between networking and learning, and our daily responsibilities.

The next time you see a colleague logged into Twitter or Facebook while at work, don’t assume he or she is playing on the job. Your co-worker may just be learning something that will benefit your library and its patrons.

MEREDITH FARKAS is distance learning librarian at Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont. She blogs at Information Wants to Be Free and created Library Success: A Best Practices Wiki. Contact her at librarysuccess@gmail.com.
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American Libraries: What’s the purpose of the new toolkit and your involvement with libraries?

ALFONSO AGUILAR: We’re facing another great wave of immigrants, one that may turn out to be the largest in the history of the United States. From 2002 to 2006, we naturalized over three million Americans, 80% from non-European countries—Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean. So it’s important at this time to strengthen assimilation efforts. When a society becomes extremely diverse, we need that glue that binds us together despite all of our differences.

What is that glue?
The glue is the English language. In a liberal democracy we need to deliberate, we need to solve the problems of citizens as a society—we need to speak the same language. We value languages that are spoken in households and community centers, but it’s important for immigrants to learn English to become full participants in American society. We believe that immigrants are assimilating, and we believe we need to strengthen this effort so 20 or 30 years down the road we don’t have issues like other countries are having. You can’t impose assimilation, but you can develop initiatives to encourage people to become part of the larger community. Several years ago we held a focus group with librarians from different parts of the country, and a report of best practices for libraries that work with immigrants is available on the Web and in our toolkit.

How do librarians get the toolkit?
Public libraries can register online at citizenshiptooolkit.gov to receive one free copy. Individuals can also buy it from GPO for $49.95.

How has your background shaped your ideas on immigration?
My background is really constitutional law and government, and international issues.

How are you helping librarians?
We are providing free training sessions across the country for educators, volunteers, and librarians that work with immigrants. We’re going to hold eight to ten sessions a year. The first installment of our online training is available at welcometoUSA.gov.

When you were a child, was English your first language at home?
My family spoke three languages at the same time and still do: English, Spanish, and Italian. So it was kind of hard to follow us; it’s truly a multilingual environment. But what is consistent in it is the love for our country. My brother went to Cornell. My cousin went to West Point; he’s a veteran of the Panama invasion. My uncle, who was born in Rome, was a lieutenant colonel in the National Guard. We all believe in giving back to this country.

Are your children growing up with the same languages?
I have a seven-year-old. My son is speaking English and Spanish. It’s tough. We still live up to our reputation in the United States of being a great cemetery of language. It’s unfortunate; you sit with Hispanic families where the second generation or the third generation don’t speak Spanish anymore. They are learning English, and that’s good, but, to be competitive in a global economy you want people—not only immigrants—to speak other languages.
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"My first visit to a university library offered a life experience akin to my first visit to a California winery. Where to start? What is this? What is that? Of course, the winery doesn’t let you borrow a bottle for a few weeks to see if you like it or not—unenlightened, wouldn’t you agree?” Publisher STEPHEN TROSLEY, in an op-ed piece on “The Hidden Secrets of the Library,” Freeport (Ill.) Journal-Standard, Oct. 28.

“The skills and education requirements are high—a master’s degree is required—and so are salaries.” From the preface to a “Hot Careers” interview with Oak Park (Ill.) Public Library librarian ALAN JACOBSON subtitled “Information Needs Send Stereotypes Packing,” Chicago Tribune Special Advertising Section, Nov. 4.

“This might surprise some people, but I’m even quite fond of the Central library [in downtown Fresno, California]. Yes, it’s cramped, and the architecture could best be described as Late ’50s Brick Wall. The seats aren’t the most comfortable, and there aren’t enough of them. There are no spectacular views. The bathrooms need to be remodeled. Outlets for laptops? Forget it.

“But it is a library. It invigorates me with the possibility of all those words. It is filled with books and people, one of the best combinations in the world. Often on a Sunday afternoon, when I wander down to the Central branch to read and listen to my iPod for a couple of hours, it’s hard to find an empty table.” Columnist DONALD MUNRO, on supporting the public library, Fresno (Calif.) Bee, Nov. 3.

“The fact is I’ve been involved for a long time in policy, and I think I just didn’t get a lot of coverage on it. I was stereotyped as being a certain way because I was a librarian and a teacher . . . which are considered traditional women’s careers.” First lady LAURA BUSH on the perception that she stays out of presidential policymaking, The Hill, Oct. 28.


"The gift of a library is not the sexiest thing in the world—people prefer to build buildings—but this is much more important." JOE MANNING, associate professor of Classics at Stanford University in California, about the Cecil H. Green Library acquisition of the Egyptology collection of Wolja Erichsen, Stanford (Calif.) News Service, Oct. 29.

"The words reappear, slowly/developing/on a vast unknown/but precise number of pages/as I enter: the great building/empty of visitors/except for me, reading/the minds of the dead—"

From the FRANZ WRIGHT poem “Visiting the Library in a Strange City,” The New Yorker, Nov. 19.
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The “i” in Libraries

We can offer more than mere information

by David R. Dowell

How many “i”s are there in “libraries”? Most of you will answer two. However, much of the dialogue within our profession over the last quarter of a century would lead a casual observer to believe that there is only one: information. I would like to suggest there are really at least three in our product line. In addition to information, we offer connections to imagination and inspiration to our customers.

Toughening credentials

Librarianship has historically attracted large numbers of those with degrees in the humanities. It has even been suggested that one could track the ebbs and flows in the number of new librarians by following the under- or oversupply of humanities graduates attempting to enter the workforce. Many of us have degrees in English, history, or related disciplines. With this demographic dominating our professional workforce, it is understandable why many in our profession have felt the need to evolve and harden our soft humanities image.

Emphasis on information has invigorated many of us. But, although many graduate programs have added undergraduate degrees in IT (our associate program at Cuesta College even has a web development track), they are not always significant feeders to library programs.

If we focus totally and completely on information, we exclude much, if not most, of our humanities content. In so doing we run the risk of ignoring important parts of our background. We subconsciously know that libraries are more complex than information centers. However, it is time we collectively verbalize these other dimensions of what we have to offer.

To me, imagination is the act of creating images in our minds of things we have not fully experienced through our senses. Inspiration is an impulse to turn our thoughts into action. Information is only the beginning.

I still haven’t resolved my own self-perception dilemma. I consider that what I do is help both individuals and organizations solve information problems. Maybe I am less confident that I have the knowledge and skills to help others solve their imagination and inspiration problems. Or maybe I just haven’t yet adjusted my paradigm to realize and maximize these last two elements of what we have to offer.

Our graduate programs can lead the way by developing parallel focuses on imagination science and inspiration science. Practitioners can reexamine current missions and services.

To me, the emphasis on providing information has always been a very useful but incomplete concept.
Picturing America℠ is a project of the *We the People* program of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), conducted in cooperation with the American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office.

Picturing America offers grants to schools (K-12) and public libraries that consist of a collection of large-scale laminated reproductions depicting works of American art, as well as other educational resources on American art and history. The goal of Picturing America is to promote the teaching, study, and understanding of American art and history.

Picturing America will provide schools and public libraries with a collection of 20 double-sided, laminated posters (24 x 36 inches) depicting works of American art, related reading lists, and a 125-page resource book with information about the paintings, sculpture, architecture, and crafts reproduced. A single application may be submitted on behalf of multiple libraries within a library system, school district, or community. Individual branch libraries, school libraries and schools are also encouraged to apply. Applications will be accepted online at http://publicprograms.ala.org/picturingamerica from January 7 through April 15, 2008.

For complete information, including a list of images, eligibility, and guidelines, visit the Picturing America Web site (http://publicprograms.ala.org/picturingamerica) or contact publicprograms@ala.org.

The Picturing America program is part of the NEH’s *We the People* program, which supports projects that strengthen the teaching, study, and understanding of American history and culture.
Design matters. Be it your office chair, the suit you put on in the morning, the car you drive, or your computer’s interface, the influence of design surrounds us. Certainly building design is crucial to the delivery of outstanding library services, but design also has the potential to influence our professional practice in many more ways beyond the layout, look, and feel of our facilities. Design can and should influence how we think and act in identifying problems and developing the appropriate solutions. Put simply: We should be design thinkers.
Many professions outside traditional design fields recognize the value in understanding how designers think and work, and then applying design methods and strategies to their own work environments. This movement is particularly prevalent in business.

The interest in and exploration of design thinking may be traced back to the publication of the book The Art of Innovation. Author Tom Kelley, then general manager of the Silicon Valley–based IDEO, provided unique insights into the world of product design. IDEO is one of the world’s leading design firms and is perhaps best known for designing the Apple mouse and the Palm handheld, along with hundreds of other cutting-edge products and services.

Business readily grasped Kelley’s book because of its messages about fostering cultures and processes for continuous improvement and innovation. The Apple mouse is a good example. IDEO didn’t invent it, they simply created an innovative, next-generation version. The question everyone had was “How do they do it?” The answer: design thinking.

Can design thinking help librarians? As a profession that mediates information from source to user—not unlike newspapers and travel agents—our future challenge is avoiding marginalization. We must determine how we fit into a world that defines an exceptional user experience as memorable, unique, and exquisitely simple. Identifying appropriate solutions will to some extent depend on our ability to adapt the IDEO method of design thinking into creating another emerging, for us at least, concept: the library user experience.

What is it?
The Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto is a leading center for transforming the core of business education from management to design. Leading that process is Roger Martin, the school’s dean. He provides what might be the simplest yet most robust definition of design thinking when he writes that it is “a way of approaching business problems in the same way that the designer approaches a design problem.” At the heart of design thinking is the designer’s unique work process, one that begins by fully understanding the problem before thinking about possible solutions. One way to examine that process is through a closer look at the five parts of the IDEO method: understand, observe, visualize, evaluate and refine, and implement (see box below).

Librarians familiar with instructional design—a field of design that uses similar constructs to create instructional products—may find that the IDEO method has more than a few commonalities with the ADDIE (analyze, design, develop, implement, and evaluate) model. What both ADDIE and the IDEO method share is their emphasis on first understanding users and their problems, and then developing thoughtful and creative solutions that are capable of being evaluated. Compare this to the process used in your library to solve problems.

Whether it is owing to a lack of time, a desire to quickly implement new technologies, or allowing a bandwagon mentality to rule, rarely do most of us allow sufficient time to carefully design a strategy for technology innovation. Not only do we likely fail to conduct an analysis to first determine the feasibility of a new technology application, but we rarely take the time to adequately determine if our users would value the new service. In a nutshell, our approach is to identify a solution before we fully understand the problem. We can do better. Design thinking can offer a new way of thinking about, acting on, and implementing our resources and services with a more thoughtful and creative approach that is focused on the design of the best possible library user experience.

@ your library
My first encounter with the application of design thinking in a library setting was the Maya Design firm’s renovation and remodeling of the main branch of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. Maya’s approach was to begin learning about the users and their work processes before making any attempt at rethinking the building. For example, Maya would shadow users to see what they actually do in the library, or observe them as they use electronic resources.
One of the things they discovered was the “environmental complexity” (information overload of sights, sounds, and signs) of the library and how it confused and intimidated users.

My second encounter further developed my knowledge of ethnographic research as I learned about work-practice studies being conducted at the library of the University of Rochester in New York. These studies are designed to reveal the practices of users as they conduct their work. The goal is not to identify ways to improve user satisfaction, but rather to help users to accomplish their work by removing barriers or inefficiencies in the workflow. Visits to students’ dorm rooms yield information on their research practices and their electronic devices. Students use single-use cameras to record different aspects of daily life. Researchers observe students doing research, and they conduct interviews to further delve into the students’ thought processes as they conduct their research.

The difficult part of these research projects is the analysis stage. It can take hundreds of hours to review transcripts and notes, and then turn the trends that emerge into something tangible that can help the library develop a better user experience. But librarians can still make use of design thinking in re-engineering how users navigate the library and its electronic resources.

In a presentation for the Library Association of the City University of New York, Nancy Fried Foster, lead anthropologist at the University of Rochester, encouraged attendees to take steps to implement the work-practice study at their own libraries to whatever degree possible. Even with limited resources (and how many of our libraries have an anthropologist on staff?), there are ways to gather useful information about library users. By observing their research practices or engaging them in discussion about the library and how they use it, any librarian can take the first step in the design thinking practice: identifying the problem.

Whether it is the introduction of a new technology, a shift in the organizational structure, or a new promotional campaign, we may be too quick to formulate the solution without adequately understanding the problem. That’s not how designers think. Kelly of IDEO has said that design is largely about identifying problems, not solutions. If the
problems are well understood, the solutions will present
themselves from the available possibilities. Perhaps the
best way to better understand this thought process is to get
to know a designer, be it an architect or an instructional
design specialist. You will notice that he or she spends a
great deal of time at the beginning of any project simply
talking to people and attempting to recognize patterns. The
designer’s effort to assess the gap between what exists and
what needs to change helps to inform the process of target-
ing the appropriate solution. Design thinkers take a much
more deliberate and thoughtful approach to problem reso-
lution; they rarely jump on bandwagons.

Better library user experiences
Where design thinking can really help librarians make a
difference is in creating better library user experiences.
The idea of a “user experience” may strike some librarians
as somewhat superficial in that it may imply an effort to
deliver style over substance. Yes, a library may need to work
at developing an experience for its users, but the goal is to
engage the people who use our libraries, and connect with
them in a personal and memorable way. Consider the pos-
sibilities of creating library users who are passionate about
the library. Organizations that achieve success in this way
do so by giving users great experiences. They want to come
back again and again. That’s why certain food and beverage
outlets, theme entertainment companies, and even infor-
mation providers create highly sustainable services. To
emulate such practices, for a start, as a profession we need
to move beyond thinking of our primary product as just a
commodity to which we offer access.

In the book The Experience Economy, B. Joseph Pine and
James H. Gilmore identify the four stages of the user expe-
rience. It’s similar to a hierarchy with the goal being to achieve
the highest level of user interaction – the experience. At the
lowest level is the commodity.

For example, a coffee bean is a commodity. A cup of cof-
fee requires about five cents worth of coffee beans, but
making the coffee requires the user to do all the work. At
the next level is a good. A cup of coffee is the good that comes
from the commodity. Making a cup of coffee from a package
of ground coffee purchased in a store costs about 25 cents
a cup. It’s more convenient than starting with beans so
there’s an added cost. The next level is service. Buy a cup of
coffee at an average restaurant or coffee outlet and you save
time and hopefully get a better good, but it costs more. At
the top of the hierarchy is the experience. All of these
other modes resulted in a cup of coffee, but none of them
is truly memorable. Now go to a highly evolved and special-
ized coffee café where you can socialize, connect to the
internet, purchase gourmet beverages and food, and, of
course, pay perhaps 100% more for a cup of coffee. But
people will pay the premium because they want the experi-

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Deborah L. Jacobs, City Librarian, The Seattle Public Library
Libraries are tremendously challenged to provide memorable user experiences. For a start, we tend to focus on the commodity. Our commodity is information and when we allow ourselves to be identified primarily as an outlet for books and e-content we condemn ourselves to the lower rungs of the user experience. One way in which we can do better is to improve the quality of service by encouraging all staff to perform at high levels and do all they can to give users more than content. We know our library users can obtain content from other outlets, and will even pay to do so if they perceive value in the convenience and cachet of those other sources.

But what can librarians do to create experiences that are memorable? That’s where design thinking may help by providing a framework for identifying the problems that prevent the delivery of great user experiences. There is no need for libraries to provide the Disney World or Las Vegas Strip experience. But consider the Pike Place Fish Market in Seattle. If they can turn buying fish into an experience, then surely there must be some hope that librarians can create a memorable experience for seekers of knowledge.

The solutions may be as simple as fixing things that are broken, identifying procedures that create barriers for users, developing treasured social and cultural programs, or establishing community recognition for technology leadership and support. Observing the best practices of libraries that are creating passionate users who return again and again may help. It must begin by taking the slower, more thoughtful path of studying the work practices of users and understanding a great library user experience from their perspective.

Want to be a design thinker?
There is more to learn. A good start is to begin with some basic reading about design thinking in order to better grasp its inner workings. Books and articles by and about design thinkers, such as the *The Art of Innovation*, can provide greater detail and more concrete examples of how design thinking is applied to the creation of products and services. Another prominent design thinker, Tim Brown, also of IDEO, has written articles and recorded presentations with insight into how it works.

What about design thinking in libraries? Is there anything specific about applications in our profession? As with other non-design fields that are just now examining design thinking more closely, the migration of these ideas to new territory is too new to yield much that is specific in nature. But there are two ways that librarians can begin to learn more about design thinking in library settings. First, join the Blended Librarians Online Learning Community. Blended librarianship is the integration of instructional design and technology skills into practice. As a form of design there are

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elements of design thinking in instructional design. The Blended Librarians Online Learning Community at blendedlibrarian.org is a free community open to all that is just beginning to explore ways in which design thinking can be applied to further collaboration with community partners and help students achieve academic success. Those interested in design thinking may wish to participate in future programs, discussions, and information exchange supported by the Blended Librarians community.

Second, consider becoming a regular reader of Designing Better Libraries, a relatively new blog dedicated to exploring how design thinking can be applied to improve library user experiences. Found at dbl.lishost.org, this blog regularly reports and discusses new sources for learning about design thinking, user experiences, and other aspects of how to better apply creativity and innovation in libraries. The writers are all librarians who share their thoughts on how design thinking can be applied in library environments. Typical posts cover ethnographic research methods, the design and assessment of user experiences, and new ideas for generating innovation in organizations.

As a profession we need to move beyond thinking of our primary product as just a commodity to which we offer access. All of the above may help librarians to better understand and appreciate the value of design thinking. The essential question to ask in undertaking any new endeavor is “What’s in it for me?” Perhaps this passage from Maya Design’s report on the changes at Carnegie Public Library may help to convince you:

“Librarians and library staff devote more of their time to more high-value, high-reward efforts. Changed perceptions have attracted new customers who would have otherwise avoided the library. Existing customers find it easier to accomplish their goals and, along the way, discover new things that they might have otherwise missed.”

Sounds like the type of library where many of us would wish to find ourselves working. Those who decide there is little to gain from these new ideas may find that even some exposure to design thinking concepts and practices can help librarians imagine new ways to identify solutions to vexing problems or improve their users’ experiences. Together, librarians who wish to learn more about design thinking can work together as they journey the path to becoming design thinkers.

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Librarians in the Jury Box

Why do information professionals make such desirable jurors?

By Nancy Kalikow Maxwell

One four-letter word has been permanently banned from the lips of my library employees: “jury.” My heart sinks every time a staff member waves a jury summons in front of me, for I know serious staff shortages are sure to follow. In the past year, almost every employee in my library summoned for jury service was selected for a trial. Most served no more than a week, but one librarian was put on a medical malpractice case lasting four months. I know of another librarian whose grand jury sentence lasted more than one year.
Perhaps I have a knack for hiring individuals who are attractive jurors. But maybe not. When our new library science student intern told me she could not report for work on what was to be her first day—she had been summoned to jury duty—I grew curious about librarians as jurors. After talking to attorneys and researching trial technique handbooks, my initial hunch was confirmed: Librarians do indeed make highly desirable jurors.

**Trial by librarian**

“As a whole, librarians make excellent jurors,” says Mary Minow, an attorney, former librarian, and library trustee. “Librarians are interested in the facts and not generally swayed by innuendo or subjective beliefs.”

Washington attorney Jacob Stein admitted his partiality to librarian-jurors in a *Time* magazine article several years ago. He prefers librarians, he explained, because “they listen to reason.”

The profession’s perceived analytical skills draw Fort Lauderdale, Florida, attorney Steven W. Hyatt to librarians as jurors. “Librarians are organized, practical, conservative, and careful,” he says. “By conservative, I don’t mean politically, but rather they are the kind of people who pay their bills on time. They would focus on the facts and not be swayed by the big picture a plaintiff tries to paint.”

Sydney Charles Schweitzer’s classic *Cyclopedia of Trial Practice* provides a sample selection chart lawyers can use to help them assess potential jurors. In the example provided, 12 possible jurors are listed, including one Sarah Cole, described as, “Retired librarian. Motherly type. Intelligent.” While most of the other candidates are evaluated as “Good,” “Questionable,” or “Challenge,” Sarah Cole earned the rating “Excellent.”

Simply displaying traits associated with the library profession could enhance one’s chances of being selected for a jury. In *Judge the Jury* (Kendall/Hunt, 2000), Alice Weiser and Jan Latiolais Hargrave recommend readers and writers for juries, especially “deeper, heavier writers,” who would be expected to have strong opinions. “Literary people”—whatever that means—and musicians are recommended because they tend to be generous and enjoy giving money away.

One excellent combination lawyers are encouraged to look for are individuals who prefer a good book to television and who have never fallen victim to criminal violence. Such individuals are better able to “intellectualize crimes.”

Intelligence, which many associate with the library profession (would that it were always true!), is one of the

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“As a whole, librarians make excellent jurors. Librarians are interested in the facts and not generally swayed by innuendo or subjective beliefs.”—Attorney Mary Minow

most important characteristics attorneys seek in jurors. Though Miami attorney David L. Kessler recognizes potential problems with people who are too smart, he does not want those who are too dumb, either. “Mainly I want someone who can empathize,” he says.

Some sources advise against persons of superior intelligence because their preconceived ideas will be difficult to dislodge. One handbook warns that brainy types will dominate the other jurors.

Not all librarians are created equal
Several jury selection manuals advise against cabinet-makers and accountants because, as one puts it, they “require everything in a case to fit together too neatly.” Using the same logic, one would assume catalogers would be thanked for coming, but excused from jury service.

School librarians, on the other hand, should be preferred as much as carpenters, who, unlike cabinetmakers, reportedly make good jurors because they are accustomed to making do with available materials. Public librarians—whose occupation exposes them to a variety of aspects of life—would be preferred as defense jurors in criminal cases; these individuals are less likely to be shocked by the details of a crime.

Teachers and librarians are closely related, so one would assume both would be chosen often as jurors, but several sources advise against selecting educators. Judge the Jury cautions that teachers “tend to be negative jurors as they want to teach and persuade.”

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As I preach in *Sacred Stacks: The Higher Purpose of Libraries and Librarianship* (ALA Editions, 2006), librarians and ministers share numerous attributes. However, one jury-selection manual advises rejecting members of the clergy, along with teachers and lawyers, outright. The fact that no further explanation is given assumes lawyers automatically know why those holding these types of jobs are to be avoided.

Looking like a librarian

Several jury selection sources counsel lawyers to consider physical characteristics when selecting jurors. “Beware of the person who is frowning over half-glasses; they are often analytical and want everything proven,” caution Weiser and Hargrave.

“Thin people have a tendency to give lesser damage awards,” they add, as do “people who have thin lips, thin hair, and angular features.”

F. Lee Bailey’s classic *Successful Techniques for Criminal Trials* advises, “The heavy, roundfaced, jovial-looking person is the most desirable.”

Smiling jurors—especially if they smile at the attorney—are recommended by such eminent sources as Clarence Darrow. Yet other schools of thought look grimly upon the grinning: “Be wary of smiling jurors who are trying to disarm attorneys; they want to get on the jury and ‘murder’ them,” warns the article “Psychological Factors in Jury Selection” from the 1969 *Tennessee Law Review*.

I admit that “murder” crosses my mind every time an employee brings me a jury summons. But next time, instead of contemplating homicide, I will compose myself and calmly offer the following advice:

“When you are on the stand, just try to smile at the attorney, and occasionally frown over your half-glasses. And by the way, unless you are specifically asked, please don’t mention that you are a librarian. If it does come out, maybe you could tell them you work in cataloging.”
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When we talk about advocating for school libraries, what do we truly mean? Are school libraries an end or a means? Should schools have school libraries just to have a library? Should schools have library media specialists simply to have a media specialist?

Before answering these questions, put aside what you know about school libraries and how they support the educational goals of a school. Instead, think about these questions from administrative and budgetary viewpoints. School libraries are traditionally seen as rooms with resources, with school librarians viewed as keepers of materials. Under this pretense, it’s no wonder that libraries and librarians are sometimes thought of as expendable.

If the mission of schools is to prepare students to live, work, and learn in the 21st century, many school administrators must be wondering how the school library fits in. Compounding this dilemma is the approach that school librarians have been taking to advocacy: merely stating that we need school libraries and librarians sounds self-serving and does nothing to align our work with educational goals. When we advocate for school libraries and librarians, we know the many ways our services, programs, and professionalism serve students, teachers, and schools. However, most of our listeners have tuned out.

One definition of advocacy is: informed stakeholders standing up for a cause, program, or idea. Under this definition, it is easy to understand why decision-makers view school librarians who stand up for libraries as whiners rather than advocates. That doesn’t mean we should stop our efforts to build support. However, it is crucial that we change the nature of our messages while building stakeholder support for school library programs.

To become effective advocates, our profession must shift the focus of our messages from speaking out about school libraries to promoting and supporting student learning and achievement. Student success is the business of schools. Student learning is at the core of meaningful advocacy messages. To be effective school library advocates, we must advocate for students.

Building true advocacy
Since our advocacy mission and messages must be about serving students and must convey that school libraries are
essential to meeting student needs, just who is going to come out and say we need strong school libraries and librarians? We need to have stakeholders advocate for them, and it is our job to build this stakeholder support.

Who are these stakeholders? Our best advocates are the members of our learning communities. When students, parents, teachers, and administrators know and experience the benefits of a strong school library program, they can be our most effective advocates. Stop and think about that. Which is more powerful: a librarian who says that libraries and librarians are necessary, or a group of community members fighting for school libraries and access to professional staffing?

How do we foster increased advocacy among our stakeholders? Answering that question necessitates the expansion of our definition of advocacy—but we must also note that good advocacy building is ubiquitous. Building advocacy should be embedded in the school librarians’ daily practice.

Motivate stakeholders to advocate
Let’s start with what we already know:

Wrapping school library advocacy efforts around students and learning is a natural connection. School librarians and libraries are both essential and effective means to helping schools meet their educational missions for students. Study after study shows that school libraries are the means to achieving educational goals common to good schools.

Just flipping through Scholastic’s report on school libraries (School Libraries Work!) provides an overview of the educational benefits of school libraries and professional media specialists. Projects like the Partnership for 21st-Century Skills identify what students need to know to be successful in life and work.

We know that school librarians are the teachers who are uniquely qualified to deliver this critical content and help prepare students. To ensure that our students have access to the essential information and skills provided by school librarians, they need access to school libraries. Students without access to professionally staffed school libraries are being left behind. Yet what seems more difficult for our community of librarian–teachers to grasp is how to teach our stakeholders. Clearly, our traditional library message is no longer working. When research evidence is presented in isolation, listeners inevitably question the validity of research. Instead of simply sharing research studies, school librarians need to “mash up” research findings with what we know about our specific programs.

Mashing the data
To start, we need to clearly and consistently articulate and highlight the research showing the connections between strong school library programs and student learning and success. This forms a firm foundation for stakeholder advocacy.

For example, don’t simply state that Keith Curry Lance’s second Colorado study found that schools with strong collaborative library programs averaged 7th-grade reading scores that were 18% higher than schools without such programs. Instead, share that statistic with documentation that the instruction of state reading standards and indicators is part of learning in “our school’s library.” Track which of these standards and indicators are embedded in what students do and learn in the library every time a class comes through the doors.
Next, document the connection between research in the library and reading and writing standards as an integral part of weekly lesson plans. Make the library’s connection to reading and writing standards part of curriculum maps.

When crafting an advocacy message, focus on specific and essential student needs and how school libraries and librarians are the primary providers of those skills and resources within a school.

Share evidence that ties research findings with what is happening in your school. Connect research findings to what your school library provides that can’t be found anywhere else in the school. Show that the library’s unique services are important to students. Give that information a face with anecdotes from or about actual students.

What do students know and what are they able to do because of your library and instruction? Clearly demonstrate that school libraries and media specialists play vital roles in preparing students for success. True advocacy messages from school librarians are student-centered.

While the goal of evidence-based practice is to improve practice and inform decision-making, the gathering and use of qualitative and quantitative evidence collected for this purpose can be a powerful and multifaceted resource for building advocacy. Since the driving purpose is to improve practice, the improvements to the library program will help promote the library. Asking students to write about what they have learned and how they will use that learning provides qualitative evidence directly from the students. End each lesson with these questions and then share this information with teachers, administrators, and other stakeholders.

Ultimately, students are the library’s most persuasive advocates. Reporting that you have taught 5th-graders about plagiarism is nowhere near as powerful as sharing...
a collection of their comments such as, “You should take notes and transform them into your own words. If you do use what someone says, then you need to give him or her credit,” and “I learned not to copy other people’s work and give people credit.” Such quotes—especially when paired with examples of student work—provide concrete evidence of student learning and of the library’s alignment with and support for learning-community goals. Teachers and administrators will realize that their students need the services of the library because the library and librarian make a difference in student learning.

One of the most powerful advocacy benefits from evidence-based practice is indirect and hidden. When students are asked about what they learn and how they are going to use it after instruction, metacognition about learning takes place: Students reflect on learning and its importance. They begin to identify and realize the value of the library and can become direct and active library advocates.

It’s all about the students
All along we have known that school libraries play a critical and unique part in helping schools achieve their goals for students. However, our messages have sounded like school libraries and librarians are ends, not means. It’s time to adjust these messages and become advocates for students and student learning. This means we also need to build support and foster school library advocacy among our stakeholders. We need to help the educational community see that school libraries and librarians are critical in making that happen.

We can no longer rely on the kinds of evidence we have traditionally shared with stakeholders. Circulation statistics and date-of-collection statistics are primarily about collections and have value to librarians. But schools are about learning, and our traditional data typically does not address the missions, goals, and values of our learning communities. We need to focus on gathering, using, and sharing data and other evidence that directly shows our contribution to learning. This is essential as we continuously work to build the support of our learning communities.

School libraries and librarians are a powerful means to help prepare students to live, work, and learn in the 21st century. Our students need us to advocate for them to have access to the learning made possible through school libraries and professional librarians. Our message is about what research and our evidence shows about what contributes to student success. Our message is about students and what they need and must have. We are student advocates.
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Welcome to Philly

Up close and personal with a basketball legend and the year’s best youth media awards highlight the conference agenda

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Founded in 1682 by William Penn, Philadelphia grew into an important colonial city and during the American Revolution was the site of the First and Second Continental Congresses. It also served as the temporary capital of the United States after the Revolution and became one of the first U.S. industrial centers.

Among Philadelphia’s early “firsts” are: the first brick house erected in this country, the Penns’ house in 1682; the first almanac, America’s Messenger, published by William Bradford in 1685; and the first commercial museum in America in 1897.

For those attending Midwinter in Philadelphia for the first time, although the location changes, the agenda would not be complete without the announcement of the “Academy Awards” of children’s media at the Youth Media Awards Press Conference, January 14, 8 to 9:15 a.m., Ballroom B, PCC.

Winners of the Newbery and Caldecott Medals—the highest honors in children’s literature—as well as the Coretta Scott King Awards for African-American authors and illustrators, the Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Children’s Video, and other awards—will be announced.

New this year will be the announcement of the inaugural recipient of the Odyssey Award for Excellence in Audiobook Production. The new award is sponsored by the Association for Library Service to Children, Booklist, and the Young Adult Library Services Association.

In addition to a variety of business issues, Council will consider a slate of Executive Board candidates nominated by the Council Committee on Committees, chaired by ALA President-elect Jim Rettig.

The candidates are: Frances R. Roscello, information literacy consultant, Roscello Associates, Rensselaer, New York; Diane R. Chen, library information specialist, Hickman Elementary School, Nashville, Tennessee; Thomas L. Wilding, professor of practice and associate director for academic programs, School of Information Resources and Library Science, University of Arizona, Tucson; Dora T. Ho, young adult librarian, Los Angeles Public Library; Pamela C. Sieving, biomedical librarian/informationist, National Institutes of Health Library, Bethesda, Maryland; and Em Claire Knowles, assistant dean for student administrative services, Simmons College, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Boston.

Three candidates will be elected to three-year terms on the Executive Board beginning at the 2008 Annual Conference through the end of the 2011 Annual Conference.

The Pennsylvania Convention Center is the second-largest in the Northeast. The facility combines contemporary architecture with the renovation of one of the city’s historical buildings, the Reading Terminal Headhouse.
An Executive Board Candidates Forum will be held January 14, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in Ballroom B, PCC. Balloting will begin on January 14 at 5:30 p.m. and will conclude January 15 at 4:30 p.m. Election results will be reported January 16 at the Council III meeting.

Speakers galore
ALA President Loriene Roy will host Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, NBA all-time leading scorer and author, during her President’s Program, January 13, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., Ballroom A, PCC.

In an exclusive interview (see sidebar and the video at alfocus.ala.org), Abdul-Jabbar told American Libraries, “I’ve been an avid reader my whole life and spent a lot of time in the library when I was a kid. It’s nice to be associated with an organization like ALA.”

The master of the sky hook, the 7-foot-2-inch tall Abdul-Jabbar led the University of California at Los Angeles to a national championship in 1968. Abdul-Jabbar is currently a television analyst for ESPN Sports and is an author. The Speakers Series features (from left) Aaron Lansky, Shireen Dodson, Carol Fitzgerald, and Geraldine Brooks.

FROM HOOPS TO INK
AL INTERVIEW WITH BASKETBALL LEGEND TURNED AUTHOR

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar visited ALA Headquarters in Chicago one day after being one of eight individuals inducted into the National Collegiate Hall of Fame established in 2006. Abdul-Jabbar talked exclusively to American Libraries about his latest honor, libraries, and books with Associate Editor Pamela A. Goodes.

American Libraries: How do you feel about being inducted into the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame?

ABDUL-JABBAR: When I was in grade school I had no idea that I would become a professional athlete and college was about as high as you could aspire to. It was really neat to get the opportunity that I did at UCLA, and to even go further than that.

American Libraries: How do you select your book topics and do you use a library for your research?

ABDUL-JABBAR: I certainly use the library for my research, but I select my topics based on my own gut feeling on what needs to be addressed and in what particular way it needs to be addressed. Everything that I’ve written has to do with my own personal life and experiences, so three of my books have been more or less autobiographical. I’ve also written three history books. My latest book on the Harlem Renaissance is both autobiography and historical. For too many people, history is just dry facts, and a lot of people don’t relate to it personally. If I can give my own personal connection to history, it makes it more accessible to people and enables them to relate better.

American Libraries: Were there Harlem writers who influenced your life?

ABDUL-JABBAR: James Baldwin’s essays I found to be really fascinating and informative. They gave me a good perspective on what was going on in the Civil Rights Movement while I was growing up. Seeing something like that unfold while you’re in high school can affect you in a lot of different ways, some of which could be very traumatic. The anger that was created by all the violence against black Americans trying to secure their civil rights was appalling. Having someone explain it to you and enable you to deal with it without becoming filled with hate and a need to retaliate really helped me a lot personally. I have to give credit to some of the people who were around—my high school coach Jack Donahue and other mentors who gave me a realistic perspective on it. I also read W. E. B. DuBois and others who were in the Harlem Renaissance.
Angles to three consecutive NCAA titles and the Milwaukee Bucks to six NBA championships.

Now retired, Abdul-Jabbar has written six books—four of which reached bestseller lists—including: Giant Steps: Black Profiles in Courage: A Legacy of African-American Achievement; A Season on a Reservation; My Sojourn with the White Mountain Apache; and Brothers in Arms: The Epic Story of the 761st Tank Battalion, WWII’s Forgotten Heroes.

Abdul-Jabbar hopes Midwinter attendees would come to see him “and get an idea that not all athletes who gain prominence are uneducated. I hope to show them that it does work to get an idea that not all athletes who gain prominence are uneducated. I hope to show them that it does work and that people can go through college and play athletics and get a first-rate education.”

He described his role models, Jackie Robinson and Oscar Robertson, as two “great student athletes who went on to do great things as professionals,” adding that “the whole idea of your education making you more of a man and more capable to give to society is something that all young people need to learn about.”

Born in Harlem in 1947, Abdul-Jabbar’s latest literary claim is On the Shoulders of Giants: My Journey Through the Harlem Renaissance (Simon and Schuster, 2007). He will sign copies of the new audio version of the book at the conclusion of his talk. For more information about Abdul-Jabbar and the audiobook, visit osgmovie.com.

H. W. Wilson continues its Sunrise Speakers Series January 12–14, from 8 to 9 a.m. each day in Ballroom A, PCC.

“Celebrate Your Dreams at America’s Most Famous Steps” is the topic for Philadelphia Inquirer staff writer Michael Vitez and editor and photographer Tom Gralish.

Vitez won a 1997 Pulitzer Prize for his series chronicling the experiences of five people as they approached the ends of their lives.

In 1986, Gralish also won a Pulitzer for Feature Photography and the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award for his photo essay on the homeless.

Vitez is the author of Rocky Stories: Tales of Love, Hope and Happiness at America’s Most Famous Steps, with photographs by Gralish, that tells the stories of people who come from all over the world to run the steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. The

FROM HOOPS TO INK
KAREEM ABDUL-JABBAR AL INTERVIEW CONTINUED

AL: Do you think that the children now need to go back to these great Harlem Renaissance writers to help them understand what’s going on in today’s environment?

ABDUL-JABBAR: When people take an active interest in what’s going on now they automatically will start looking at what happened, and you don’t even have to go back as far as to Harlem Renaissance. The 1950’s were a time of great turmoil in this country, if you look at what happened with the murder of Emmett Till. A lot can also be learned from Dr. King’s efforts.

AL: How important is the role that libraries play in supporting literacy in the community?

ABDUL-JABBAR: Libraries are very important in helping young people get an understanding of how important it is to read. A lot of people don’t have the money to buy books, and having a place where you can go and get a book, read it, and return it really enables you to broaden your perspective on life. Going to the library helped me understand how big the world was and the incredible amount of possibilities that you had for your life. Without the library, it wouldn’t have been that obvious to me.

AL: You once taught basketball and history to American Indian children on an Arizona reservation. Tell us about that experience.

ABDUL-JABBAR: I went to the White Mountain Apache Reservation in White River, Arizona, to do some research on the buffalo soldiers who were stationed at Fort Apache. I met members of the tribal council as well as the tribal historian with whom I established a friendship. When they realized that I was interested in coaching, they asked if I could help with the boys basketball team and talk to some of them about going to college.

Getting kids to go to college off the reservation is very difficult. There are a lot of cultural and socioeconomic pressures on them to never leave but they really need to do that to expand their world and to get the needed knowledge to do things for their tribe.

AL: Any other experiences in working with youth in the community?

ABDUL-JABBAR: Since I retired from professional basketball, I’ve tried to be involved with programs that promote literacy and learning. That’s something that I feel is a key to advancement. No matter where you want to advance, no matter what field, literacy and learning really are part of it. Knowledge is power and if you’re looking for the power to change, you have to make yourself knowledgeable. This is a message I try to continually share with children and hope that it takes hold and they go out and learn how to change the world in a positive way.
Lustbader is a former editor for both Harper and Row and Berkley/Putnam, who wrote her first novel, Hidden (Forge Books), in 2006.

Noble wrote The Reading Group (Harper) published in the UK in 2004.

Fitzgerald spent 17 years at Mademoiselle in promotion and marketing. She is founder of BookReporter.com, a book review and information site.

The ALA Exhibits Round Table Author Forum, January 11, Room 204 A/B, PCC, will feature discussions with and readings from two bestselling authors.

Geraldine Brooks was a Wall Street Journal correspondent for 11 years, where her beats included some of the world’s most troubled areas, including Bosnia, Somalia, and the Middle East. Her fiction debut, Year of Wonders: A Novel of the Plague (Viking, 2001), was published in 10 countries and was a 2001 New York Times, Washington Post, and Chicago Tribune Notable Book of the Year.

Mary Doria Russell, author of the The Sparrow and Children of God (Villard, 1998), is a trained paleoanthropologist and has written scientific articles on subjects ranging from bone biology to cannibalism.

Jazz violinist Regina Carter will entertain attendees at the Arthur Curley Lecture, January 12 at 1:30 p.m., Lecture Hall, PCC. The annual Midwinter event honors ALA past president Arthur Curley.

In 2006, Carter won a MacArthur Fellowship, which is given to individuals who have shown extraordinary originality and dedication in their creative pursuits. She has released five albums, including “I’ll Be Seeing You: A Sentimental Journey” in June 2006.

Strolling the exhibits
More than 800 vendors are expected at the PCC, featuring demonstrations, training, new products, and publications.

In addition to the Best-Selling Author Forum from 4 to 5:15 p.m.,
January 11, conference registration also includes several special exhibit events.

Enjoy music, free food, and the chance for prizes at the the Friday Night Opening Reception, January 11, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., on the exhibit floor.

More than 60 gift baskets (valued over $75 each) will be given away by exhibitors on Friday only.

To register to win a basket, visit the exhibitor’s booth during the opening reception.

Exhibits hours are: January 11, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.; January 12 and 13, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and January 14, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

New job on the horizon?
Provided by ALA’s Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment, the Placement Center will be available to assist job seekers and employers, as well as provide career assistance.

Job seekers should register and search for jobs on the JobLIST website at joblist.ala.org. All services are free to job seekers. Registration is not required but recommended.

An orientation for job seekers will take place January 11 from 11:30 a.m. to noon in the Placement Center, Hall C, PCC. Hours are: January 11, noon to 5 p.m.; January 12 and 13, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and January 14, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Additional workshops in the Placement Center are: “Interviewing Strategies,” January 11 and 12, from 9:30 to 11 a.m., “Staying Ahead of the Curve: Keeping the Job You Love,” January 13, 9:30 to 11 a.m., and a résumé critiquing service, provided by the New Members Round Table, during center hours.

Employers who want to post positions should do so at joblist.ala.org. Employers who want to use the interviewing facilities must have an active ad placed on JobLIST at the time.

REVISITING A HISTORIC RELIC

ALA members visiting Philadelphia for Annual Conference may feel they are too busy to see the city’s sights. On a recent trip to the city, I revisited the Liberty Bell, the world’s most famous symbol of freedom, and urged fellow members to do the same.

I first saw the Liberty Bell as a child on a family vacation, but seeing it now is a very different experience. A new building to shelter the icon was built in 2003; making good use of the opportunity to transform a boyhood quick-and-solemn gawk at a famous object into a teachable moment.

Visitors approach the bell through a winding corridor of exhibits and are reminded of the icon’s preindependence, colonial-era history. The full story of the crack in its surface is completely told through photographs. There are also mementos of the bell’s centennial and bicentennial as well as depictions of the many crowded tours.

An accompanying exhibit is charged with the meaning that was imperfectly implemented in our country, but always inherent in the toll of the Liberty Bell—a meaning that reinforces the founding documents that it rang in defiance to praise, to celebrate, and to remember. It reminds visitors that the name “Liberty Bell” was attached to the historic relic in the 1830s by the Abolitionist movement, choosing it as an icon for goals as yet imperfectly reached, but to be fulfilled. It tells the story of the Women’s Liberty Bell, a replica cast in 1915 by the leaders of the Suffrage Movement, and displayed with its clapper chained until women won the right to vote. On September 25, 1920, it was brought to Independence Hall and rung in ceremonies celebrating the ratification of the 19th Amendment.

The exhibit also features a 1915 photograph of Native American Chief Little Bear, a member of the Blackfeet Tribe, standing beside the bell, with text acknowledging that the full promise of the bell’s inscription, “Proclaim Liberty throughout the land,” has been slow in maturing to include all within reach of its appeal. Photographs of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and other Civil Rights Movement leaders are also included, along with a cluster of quotations from their writings and speeches, claiming the soul and meaning of the bell for all Americans. There are also photographs of Tibet’s Dalai Lama and South Africa’s Nelson Mandela with quotations that illuminate the meaning that the bell now serves—a symbol of freedom and equality that has spreads beyond our borders and embraces all humanity.

By the time modern visitors reach the bell, they have an enhanced understanding of its role in history, and its meaning and potential as a symbol. It’s a good thing.

—Christopher H. Walker, serials cataloging librarian, Pennsylvania State University.
Independence Hall is where the Declaration of Independence was first adopted and the Constitution was written and signed.

Hot topics
Following is a brief rundown of other notable Midwinter events. For more information, visit www.ala.org/midwinter/, check the final conference program, or see American Libraries October 2007 (p. 10–21).

JANUARY 11

Advocacy Institute
8:30 A.M.–3:30 P.M., SALON G MARRIOTT PHILADELPHIA
Open to all library advocates, the institute will focus on message development and coalition building and will feature afternoon breakout sessions on making budget presentations, crisis communications, and passing bond issues and referenda. Onsite registration is $75. For more information, visit www.ala.org/advocacyinstitute/.

Coordinated by the Office for Library Advocacy and the Advocacy Institute Task Force of the ALA Public Awareness Committee, in cooperation with the Public Information Office, the Association for Library Trustees and Advocates, the Chapter Relations Office, the Committee on Legislation, and Friends of Libraries USA.

YALSA’s Gaming Extravaganza
8–10 P.M., MILLENNIUM HALL LOEWS PHILADELPHIA
Experienced gamers, beginners, and everyone in between will find something new in the world of online, video, and tabletop games, while enjoying refreshments.

Tickets are $40. Winners of YALSA’s “Create Your Own Avatar Contest” (AL, Dec., p. 14) will be announced. For more information, visit www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/.

JANUARY 12

Washington Office Update Session
8–10 A.M., ROOM 108 A PCC
Bassem Youssef, the highest ranking Arab-American agent employed by the FBI, will speak about his experience with the bureau’s counter-terrorism surveillance activities, including National Security Letters.

Tom Susman, partner, Ropes and Gray LLP, will discuss the effect of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act on libraries.

In a breakout session from 10:30 a.m. to noon, a discussion titled “All (Telecom) Politics Is Local: What the FCC is up to, and what it has to do with your library” will be held.

To be moderated by Alan Inouye, director of ALA’s Office for Information Technology Policy, the session
will include a discussion of the February 17, 2009, Digital Television Transition, in which libraries are set to play a big role.

The ALA Government Documents Round Table update will feature representatives from the Library of Congress, the Federal Depository Library Program, and Indiana University.

“A Continuation of the Deliberative Dialogue” is the topic of the last breakout session. On December 12, ALA’s Committee on Legislation sponsored a “Deliberative Dialogue” on government information, with an emphasis on how the Association can develop an ongoing process for the consideration and articulation of policy positions. Due to overwhelming response, this discussion continues at Midwinter.

Nuts and Bolts workshop
10:30 A.M.–NOON, WASHINGTON ROOM
FOUR SEASONS PHILADELPHIA
Library Friends, volunteers, and staff are invited to share best practices and hear from experts on membership and board development, fundraising, advocacy, and strategic planning. Roundtable discussions will be moderated by Friend of Libraries USA board members. Conference registration is not required to participate in this program. Sponsored by FOLUSA.

White Privilege
1:30–3:30 P.M., LESCAZE ROOM
LOWS PHILADELPHIA
The Diversity Discussion Group will uncover how white privilege has evolved, how it is perpetuated today, and what librarians can do in their roles to un ağır its power. Sponsored by the Office for Diversity.

Spotlight on Adult Literature
2–4 P.M., EXHIBIT HALL
PCC
Participating publishers will feature book signings and some will give away free books or galleys. Register at the FOLUSA booth ($611) for prizes.

Conference registration or an exhibit only pass is required to participate in this program.

“Working with the FaceBook Generation: Engaging Student Views on Access to Scholarship”
4–6 P.M., ROOM 204 A/B
PCC
The forum will feature Andre Brown, doctoral student at the University of Pennsylvania, and co-blogger for Bio-Curious; Kimberly Douglas, university librarian, California Institute of Technology; Nelson Pavlosky, law student, George Mason University and co-founder of Students for Free Culture; and Stephanie Wang, graduate student at Princeton University and former National Coordinating Committee member, Universities Allied for Essential Medicines.

The first Sparky Award winners for the best short videos on the value of information sharing will be showcased.

The ACRL Scholarly Communication Discussion Group will continue the forum discussion January 14 from 4 to 6 p.m., Franklin 11 Room, Marriott Philadelphia.

Sponsored by the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition and the Association of College and Research Libraries.

JANUARY 13

Diversity Research Tea/Poster Session
4–6 P.M., ADAMS ROOM
FOUR SEASONS PHILADELPHIA
The Diversity Research Grant program, sponsored by the Office for Diversity, addresses critical gaps in the knowledge of diversity issues within...
library and information science. Topics for 2008 grant applications will be announced and attendees will have the chance to review poster sessions by past recipients.

**JANUARY 14**

**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Sunrise Observance**
6:30–7:30 A.M., ROOM 113
PCC
Speaker Ganga Dakshinamurti will share her perspective on the connections between Dr. King and Mahatma Gandhi in a presentation titled “A Challenging Inspiration Lighting Our Way: From Gandhi to King Jr. to Us.”

Dakshinamurti, librarian at the Albert Cohen Management Library, Asper School of Business at the University of Manitoba, is past president of ALA’s Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association.

Hear selected quotes from Dr. King’s writings and speeches, as well as music from a local choir, and enjoy light refreshments.

Sponsored by Black Caucus of the American Library Association, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Task Force, and ALA’s Social Responsibilities Round Table.

**“New Roles for Acquisitions: Selecting and Harvesting for Institutional Repositories”**
1:30–3 P.M., ROOM 204C
PCC
The forum will address the latest transformational change that has taken place in research libraries—the development of institutional repositories.

Karl Debus-López of the National Agricultural Library and Trisha Davis of Ohio State University will give presentations on how they have restructured their acquisitions operations to manage the selection and harvesting of content for their institutions’ digital repositories. Sponsored by the ALCTS Acquisitions Section Forum.

**Author Tea**
2–4 P.M., SYMPHONY ROOM
DOUBLETREE
Authors Barbara Taylor Bradford, Russell Banks, Ann Hood, Sue Miller, and Meg Rosoff will be featured.

Attendees will enjoy a selection of desserts and finger sandwiches, along with coffee and tea. A book signing will follow the author presentations. Some books will be given away free and others will be available for purchase at a generous discount.

Tickets are $35 in advance ($30 for FOLUSA members) or $45 on-site. Advance tickets are available online at www.folusa.org or by calling 800-936-5872 through January 8. Tickets will be available, while supplies last, at booth 611 in the Exhibit Hall during all exhibit hours and just prior to the event at the door.

**“Anthony Lewis on the First Amendment”**
6:30 P.M., GRAND HALL OVERLOOK
NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER, 525 ARCH ST, INDEPENDENCE MALL
Two-time Pulitzer Prize winner Anthony Lewis will be discussing his new book, *Freedom for the Thought That We Hate*, with Chris Finan, president of the American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression and trustee for ALA’s Freedom To Read Foundation. He will discuss how our First Amendment rights were created and reveal a story of hard choices surrounding one of America’s great founding ideas. A book signing follows.

Tickets are $12 for Constitution Center members, $15 for nonmembers, and $6 for K–12 students and teachers. Reservations are required. For more information, visit programs@constitutioncenter.org or call 215-409-6700.

Sponsored by the National Constitution Center and the Freedom to Read Foundation.
From Cozy to Funky

Philadelphia’s diverse dining choices  by Evelyn Minick, Sara Moran, Elliot Shelkrot, and Kevin Vaughan

Philadelphia’s restaurant renaissance began in the late ’70s and is still going strong. Terrific new restaurants are opening every week, and it’s usually worth making a reservation. A recent trend is BYOBs, where you can enjoy some of the city’s best food, while saving money on drinks. It does require navigating Pennsylvania’s archaic liquor laws, though. Wine and hard liquor can be purchased at state stores, some of which are listed at the end of this article. Beer can be purchased at delis and some bars.

Closest to the Convention Center

Reading Terminal Market $  
12th and Arch Streets,  

Every Philadelphian has their favorite purveyor at this former train terminal. Enjoy walking the aisles and take it all in before you choose. There is one sit-down restaurant, the Down Home Diner, that serves all day.

Center City West

Tequilas $$  

Founder David Suro provides authentic dishes from all regions of Mexico. These folks know their tequila (Suro comes from Mexico’s Tequila region) and they make their own under the label Siembra Azul, recently named among the 10 best tequilas by the New York Times. Tequilas offers unique combinations and presentations, but there are no reservations, so come early.

Striped Bass $$ $$  
1500 Walnut St., 215-732-4444, stripedbassrestaurant.com.

Stephen Starr revived Striped Bass when it nearly closed three years ago and it is consistently rated one of Philadelphia’s best restaurants. Occupying an old brokerage house, it retains the original marble columns and five-foot-diameter crystal chandeliers. Striped Bass specializes in seafood but has other offerings as well. Reservations strongly suggested.

Susanna Foo $$ $$  
1512 Walnut St., 215-545-8800, susannafoo.com.

Average prices for dinner, one drink, and tip. Lunches average 25% less.

Price Guide

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Iron Chef Masaharu Morimoto’s eponymous restaurant.
Former librarian Susanna Foo serves up reliably excellent Chinese French fusion with imaginative presentation. Many dishes combine Asian sauces with traditionally French entrées such as pheasant. Foo won an award in 1997 as the Mid-Atlantic region’s best chef. Lunch and dinner are served daily. Reservations are advised.

Alma de Cuba $$$
1623 Walnut St., 215-988-1799, almadecubarestaurant.com.

This was the place to spot Ben Affleck and Jennifer Lopez when they were in Philly filming Gigli. Alma de Cuba serves delicious food infused with the sensuous flavors of Cuba in a vibrant atmosphere reminiscent of old Havana.

Genji $$
1720 Sansom St., 215-564-1720.

Locals swear this Rittenhouse sushi shop is the best in the city. The philosophy here is to serve Japanese food with Japanese culture, and indeed, the owners of Genji artistically present their cuisine in the great Japanese tradition. Specialties include sashimi, tempura, and of course, sushi. Go early and shop at a wonderful independent bookstore next door, Joseph Fox Books.

Melograno $$
2201 Spruce St., 215-875-8116.

A terrific BYOB serving contemporary American food, Matyson is part of the movement to serve locally produced foods. Look for the amazing specials: They select a food, like nuts or spinach, and run it through all of the items on the special menu.

Continental Midtown $

This return to the ’70s blends shag carpet and rattan swings with inventive food such as lobster mac and cheese and cotton candy.

La Viola $$
253 S. 16th St., 215-735-8630.

This BYOB can be loud and crowded, but it has great Italian food for a moderate price.

Apamate $$
1620 South St., 215-790-1620, cafecapamate.com.

A casual Spanish tapas restaurant with the best hot chocolate in town. BYOB, cash only.

Mercato $$
1216 Spruce St., 215-985-2962, mercatobyob.com.

Close quarters and noisy ambiance add to the irresistible atmosphere at this Italian/new American BYOB. Cash only.
American cuisine with emphasis on seasonal foods and special attention paid to side dishes.

**Chinatown**

**Lakeside Chinese Deli $**
207 N. 9th St., 215-925-3288.
This is a great Chinese restaurant, serving dim sum made fresh to order all day. Don’t miss the stuffed eggplant, steamed pork buns, and baby bok choy with garlic, but get there early; it closes at 8 p.m. on weeknights.

**Vietnam Restaurant $**
Adventurous authentic Vietnamese food. The third floor is home to the Bar Saigon Lounge, featuring cognacs, single-malt scotches and signature drinks such as lemongrass martinis, the Flaming Volcano (For Two), and the Suffering Bastard.

**Lee How Fook $**
Lee How Fook translates as “good food for the mouth.” This cozy BYOB offers an abundant selection of moderately priced Cantonese dishes prepared fresh. Closed Mondays.

**Logan Circle (near Central Library)**

**Sabrina’s Café and Spencer’s Too $**
1802 Callowhill St., 215-636-9061.
An offshoot of the South Philly institution Sabrina’s, this diner retains the original’s charm, only funkier. Comfort food, a great brunch, and large portions can result in long, but quick-moving lines. BYOB.

**West Philly**

**White Dog Café $**
3420 Sansom St., 215-386-9224, whitedish.com.
Serving consistently good nouvelle American food, owner Judy Wicks has built quite a following for her cuisine and her philanthropic commitments. The café often hosts speakers and debates, and the two attached rowhouses are decorated in a delightfully eclectic Victorian style; next door is the Black Cat gift shop.

**Pod $**
Modern enough for a mention in Wired, Pod serves very cool pan-Asian food. Trendy lighting, and if you have a larger group and you’re lucky, you can score your own pod and eat in a private space with lights that change colors on command as you dine.

**South Street**

**Beau Monde $**
A cozy fireplace and yummy
crepes make this a great spot for a cold night or a weekend brunch.

**Alyan’s $**
603 S. 4th St., 215-922-3553.
A hole-in-the-wall Middle Eastern spot with the best french fries around. Try the shawarma and spinach pie too. BYOB.

**Chick’s Café and Wine Bar $**
614 S. 7th St., 215-625-3700, chickscafe.com.
Chick’s Café serves small plates with an interesting cheese list, and knowledgeable, friendly staff will help you navigate the wine list.

**Coquette Bistro $$**
700 S. 5th St., 215-238-9000, coquetebistro.com.
A noisy French bistro with all the standards—steak frites, cassoulet, etc.—plus a raw bar. The interior makes you feel like you’re in Paris.

**Supper $$**
926 South St., 215-592-8180, supperphilly.com.
The owners have transformed a former Vespa salesroom into “an appealingly great American space,” as the Philadelphia Enquirer called it. Supper serves smallish plates and has an interesting wine list.

**South Philly**
**Victor Café $$**
1303 Dickinson St., 215-468-3040.
Victor Café has been a South Philly staple since 1918 with wonderful meals and waiters who burst into opera. The Victor Salad is a must.

**Dmitri’s $$**
795 S. 3rd St., 215-625-0556.
Outstanding fresh Greek-influenced seafood, grilled in the open kitchen. No reservations, but leave your name and walk across the street to the New Wave Café for a drink while you wait. BYOB.

**Villa de Roma**
936 S. 9th St., 215-592-1295.
The real thing, smack in the heart of the Italian Market, serving manicotti, veal prepared seven different ways, and cannoli from the bakery around the corner. Red wine comes chilled and white often isn’t. No reservations; cash only.

**Little Gems**
**Capogiro Gelato Artisans $$**
A small-batch gelato place that makes new flavors every day. They use fresh fruits, veggies, liquors, and spices in their mixes. The flavors are not subtle, so you will definitely taste the bourbon in the Bourbon Butterscotch, or the ouzo in the Star Anise with Ouzo. A must-have experience.

**5 Guys $**
A D.C.-based chain that’s expanding throughout the eastern U.S., 5 Guys has incredible burgers, fries, and hot dogs, perfect for a quick lunch or dinner.

You’ll feel like you stepped back in time at this Victorian soda fountain, complete with creams and fizzes made with the highest quality ingredients.

And no trip to Philadelphia is complete without one of our world-renowned cheesesteaks. Locals can’t agree on who’s the best, so you’ll have to decide for yourself.

**Pat’s King of Steaks $**
1237 E. Passyunk, 215-468-1546.
**Geno’s Steaks $**
Long-time competitors, Pat’s and Geno’s are both open 24/7. Regardless of the weather, patrons stand outside at counters or sit at picnic tables to enjoy their steaks. (Geno’s earned notoriety in 2006 for a sign directing customers to order in English.)

**Jim’s Steaks $$**
400 South St., 215-928-1911, jimssteaks.com.
The line to get in snakes around the corner, but South Street has some of the best people-watching in the city.

Martha Anderson was named director of program management for the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program at the Library of Congress November 13.

Patricia Auriene, assistant director for technical services at Fountaindale Public Library District in Bolingbrook, Illinois, has retired after 25 years with the library.

Jack M. Berk retires as executive director of Bethlehem (Pa.) Area Public Library as of February 15.

December 17 Jason Casden joined North Carolina State University in Raleigh as digital technologies development librarian.

Richard W. Clement has been appointed dean of libraries at Utah State University in Logan effective July 1.

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro has named Michael Crumpton as assistant director of administrative services.

Wendy Doucette has been named system coordinator for Holston Associated Libraries in Emory, Virginia.

Josh Finnell has joined McNeese State University

Eileen Abels, associate professor in the College of Information Science and Technology at Drexel University in Philadelphia, is the recipient of the Special Libraries Association’s 2007 Rose L. Vormelker Award for Library Education.

Denice Adkins, assistant professor at the University of Missouri School of Information Science and Learning Technologies in Columbia, has received a Fulbright scholarship to teach at the National Pedagogical University in Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Kathleen Ageton, youth services librarian at Hawaii Public Library System’s Kihei branch, has been named Hawaii Public Librarian of the Year by the Friends of the Library of Hawaii.

Richard F. Andersen, vice president for information systems at Tidewater Community College in Norfolk, Virginia, has received the Virginia Library Association’s George Mason Award for contribution to the development, growth, and extension of library and information services.

The Pacific Islands Association of Libraries and Archives has awarded Arlene Cohen, circulation and interlibrary loan librarian at the University of Guam, a lifetime achievement award.

Douglas County (Colo.) Libraries Director Jamie LaRue is the 2007 recipient of the Colorado Association of Libraries’ Julie J. Boucher Memorial Award for Intellectual Freedom.

Sharon Lenius, librarian at the U.S. National Guard Bureau Information Resource Center in Arlington, Virginia, has received the Special Libraries Association’s Member Achievement Award.

Irene Owens, dean of the North Carolina Central University School of Library and Information Science in Durham, is the winner of the North Carolina Library Association Roundtable for Ethnic Minority Concerns Roadbuilders’ Award for Library Education.

Former Hancock County (Miss.) Library System Director Prima Plauché has been named winner of the Mississippi Library Association’s Peggy May Award for outstanding achievement in library development.

Fred R. Shapiro, associate librarian for collections and access at Yale Law School in New Haven, Connecticut, is a finalist in the nonfiction category of the 2007 Connecticut Book Award for The Yale Book of Quotations.

Steven Watkins, coordinator of technology development at California State University at Monterey Bay, has been named the first lifetime member of the International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers.
in Lake Charles, Louisiana, as reference librarian and assistant professor of library science.

- November 19 Erica Foley joined Clinton-Macomb (Mich.) Public Library as head of popular materials.

- Janet S. Frieker has been appointed executive director of Bethlehem (Pa.) Area Public Library.

- In November Francisca Goldsmith became director of branches at Halifax (Nova Scotia) Public Libraries.

- Wayne Keil, adult and teen services manager at Fountaingdale Public Library District in Bolingbrook, Illinois, has retired.

- Cecy Keller resigned as director of Chester County (Pa.) Libraries effective December 31.

- Elsa Kramer has been appointed to the Indianapolis–Marion County (Ind.) Public Library Board of Trustees.

- Mary Krautter is the new head of reference and instructional services at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

- November 19 Sara Lowman was named vice provost and university librarian at Rice University in Houston.

- Paula Moore was promoted to executive librarian at Arlington Heights (Ill.) Memorial Library November 21.

- Alexandria (Va.) Library Director Patrick M. O’Brien retires March 1.

- Cindy Palermo, circulation manager at Fountaingdale Public Library District in Bolingbrook, Illinois, has retired.

- Stanley Ransom has been appointed director of Plattsburgh (N.Y.) Public Library.

- The University of California at Irvine has named Jeanine Scaramozzino research librarian for math, physics, and astronomy, and Lisa Sibert electronic resources acquisitions librarian.

- In December Daniel Siebersma became South Dakota state librarian.

- November 13 Pam Sandlian Smith joined Rangeview Library District in Adams County, Colorado, as director.

- Matt Sumner began as geospatial data services librarian at North Carolina State University in Raleigh November 1.

- Cornelia M. van Aken was recently named assistant director of Palo Alto (Calif.) City Library.

- Jane Whiteside, children’s services manager at Fountaingdale Public Library District in Bolingbrook, Illinois, has retired.

- December 3 Wendy S. Wilmoth became director of library and media services at Griffin (Ga.) Technical College.

- Mark David Wolfe has joined the University at Albany, New York, as curator of digital collections.

**OBITUARIES**

- Robert E. Barron, 77, former bureau chief of school libraries for New York State, died October 2. He had also served as librarian at White Plains (N.Y.) High School and a state consultant. Barron received the New York Library Association’s Outstanding Service to Libraries Award and the Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy’s School of Information Science and Policy Award for distinguished alumni.

- Wilita Larrison, 65, director of the Public Library of Enid (Okla.) and Garfield County until her 2006 retirement, died December 3. Prior to joining the public library, she worked at Phillips University in Enid for 12 years.

- Paul M. Rooney, 89, director of Buffalo (N.Y.) and Erie County Public Library until his 1983 retirement, died November 8. He was with the system for 48 years, starting as a page in 1935. Rooney was active in the reconfiguration of library services that began in 1947 with the establishment of the county library system, served on the team that oversaw construction of the central library, and oversaw the 1963 move of equipment and books from two buildings to the central library’s new east wing.

**At ALA**

- Christina Coleman becomes marketing specialist for membership development in the Communications and Member Relations department February 4.

- December 10 Tom Ferren became senior registration coordinator in the Member and Customer Service Center.

- Angela Hanshaw became program officer/web editor in the Public Programs Office December 10.

- January 7 Robert Macaione joins Choice as technical services specialist.

- Angela Thullen became program officer for communications in the Public Programs Office December 17.

Send notices and color photographs for Currents to Greg Landgraf, glandgraf@ala.org.
As I was writing this, I was anticipating the December 7 movie release of *The Golden Compass*, so you know that I was also looking forward to the new year. Wondering what else 2008 portends for youth services (my guess is less Harry Potter mania, plus an ever-increasing number of electronic innovations), I asked Jane Marino and Paula Brehm-Heeger—respective presidents of ALA’s Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) and Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA)—for their perspectives in late November.

Q: What youth media is on your must-read or must-view list in 2008?

The 2008 youth media awards, to be announced at ALA’s Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia, were on both women’s minds. “I usually try to read all the notables and award winners that I didn’t get to read before they were announced, so I’ll do that again this year,” Marino said, noting that the title that has piqued her interest is *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*. Brehm-Heeger said that prizewinning titles would also dominate her reading at first; her fondness for fantasy, though, puts Anthony Horowitz’s *Snakehead* at the top of her list.

Q: Do you have a technology resolution for 2008?

Both youth-division presidents talked about making better use of recent innovations. Marino’s resolution is “to learn about and understand RSS feeds and see how I can incorporate them better into my working world.” Brehm-Heeger said, “I’d like to increase the number of podcasts I download to my iPod. My New Year’s resolution is to make it a habit.”

Q: What continuing education will you take advantage of in 2008?

For Brehm-Heeger, YALSA’s inaugural young-adult literature symposium, slated for November, will be a highlight. Marino noted that continuing education can take us back to basics. “With my busy, crazy schedule for ALSC, the only continuing education I can take advantage of is through books, and I’ve taken advantage of many of ALA’s Public Library Association books, like the ones by Sandra Nelson. Outside of ALA, that will be my only source,” Marino explained.

Q: What issues will need youth librarians’ attention?

“We need to keep reminding our patrons to read aloud to babies and very young children.”

—Jane Marino

“Teens embrace technology at an astounding rate,” Brehm-Heeger noted, and she wants to ensure that libraries provide both “virtual space and physical space for teens.”

Q: What are you looking forward to?

“I’m looking forward to seeing teen-library cooperation,” Brehm-Heeger said. “Be creative,” she advised. “Draw them into our environments.” Technology is also a factor for children’s services, Marino observed. “Technology can empower kids. As it becomes more interactive and allows children different ways to learn and experience things, we need to become as familiar as we can with it and make it part of our service to kids.”

Q: Will something old be new again in 2008?

Both Marino and Brehm-Heeger stressed the experience of hearing stories. “I hope that reading aloud to very young children will be new again,” Marino responded. Brehm-Heeger talked about the potential of audiobooks to attract teens, describing young people as “a whole new audience” for the medium.

As your library reads its compass and discerns its future, share your story at youthmatters@ala.org.

JENNIFER BUREK PIERCE is assistant professor of library and information science at the University of Iowa in Iowa City. Contact her at youthmatters@ala.org.
TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

Discounted Early Bird Registration for PLA Members Ends January 18, 2008
Join PLA in Minneapolis for the 12th National Conference, March 25-29, 2008. The biennial Conference is the premier event for the public library world, drawing librarians, library support staff, trustees, Friends, and library vendors from across the country and around the world.

Visit www.placonference.org to register and for information about programs, special events, author luncheons, travel, and insider tips on everything the Conference and Minneapolis have to offer.

Not a PLA Member? There’s Still Time to Join PLA and Save!
Become a PLA member and take advantage of the early bird registration rate - $180, compared to ALA members who pay $260 and non-members who pay $315. For more information about the benefits of PLA membership, visit www.pla.org or call 800.545.2433, ext. 5PLA.

PLA is a division of the American Library Association.
How will you make a difference this year in your own professional life and those of your library colleagues? Here are some ideas to help you get started:

1. Can you name three librarian colleagues working in similar roles in nearby libraries? Reach out and connect this year. Start simply with a call and a question, and work up to inviting them to go for coffee.

2. Is there at least one professional journal you read cover to cover each month? Stretch yourself. Scan another print or online journal related to an aspect of the library profession that differs from your own role. Watch for opportunities to increase your scope of understanding and improve your own results.

3. Attend a professional conference, if you can. Many now post handouts on the conference website, so if you cannot go in person, go virtually.

4. Subscribe to at least one RSS feed on a library topic of interest.

5. Are you a technology superuser? Learn at least one new shortcut or feature of your library’s automation program. Earn a bonus point if you also teach it to someone else.

6. Share your librarianship ideas more broadly. Start a blog, write an article, create a poster session, or post to a library discussion list—whatever appeals to you.

7. Vote. There will be plenty of opportunities this year, professionally and politically. Paid ALA members as of January 31 are eligible to vote in the Association election (AL, Dec., p. 13). If you are not yet registered to vote in the general election, do so now.

8. Take a local or web-based continuing education class related to your own information needs. Bolster your computer techniques, learn a new language, or improve your presentation skills. Then, look for new opportunities to use these in your library.

9. Serve on a committee in your library, school, or professional organization.

10. Nominate a librarian for an award. There are many ways to recognize excellence in the profession. All it takes is the time to fill out the application. Even if your nominee does not win, he or she will feel honored by your efforts.

11. Apply for a grant. Do you have an exciting idea but lack the money to carry it through? Develop your concept and find a funding match. There are even some grants for first-timers, so no more excuses!

12. Take a vacation, and visit a library. We all need time away from work. Why not seek new inspiration by visiting a library in a new city, state, or country. Perhaps you will make a new librarian friend while you are there.

You now have a dozen ideas for the new year. Even two or three, faithfully executed, will give you renewed energy and confidence.

Mary Pergander is director of Deerfield (Ill.) Public Library. Send comments or questions to working@ala.org.

Even two or three of these ideas, faithfully executed, will give you renewed energy and confidence.
DISCUSS

Love & Forgiveness

THEMES AT YOUR LIBRARY!

$2,500 grants now available
Application Deadline: July 15, 2008

The ALA Public Programs Office is pleased to invite public library applications for Let's Talk About It: Love and Forgiveness programming grants.

Participating libraries will promote and present a five-part literary discussion series led by a local scholar and based on one of three themes. Successful applicants will receive training for the library project director at a national workshop, program and promotional materials, and a $2,500 grant to support program costs, scholar honoraria and travel to the workshop.

Themes include:
• Love and Forgiveness in the Presence of the Enemy
• Love, Forgiveness, and Wisdom
• Love and Forgiveness in the Light of Death

Applications are due July 15, 2008. To download an application and complete guidelines, visit www.ala.org/publicprograms. To request an application by mail, or with questions about applying, email publicprograms@ala.org.

At a time of such love, such rapture, such self-sacrifice, what do any of our quarrels and affronts matter? I love and forgive everybody now.

—LEO TOLSTOY. WAR AND PEACE

On August 17, 1940, the Oklahoma City police began a series of raids on the Progressive Books Store, the headquarters of the local Communist Party. Five private homes were also raided. Thus began a notorious case that resulted in the arrest of 16 people and the conviction of four, including Bob Wood, the state Communist Party secretary, and his wife.

Their crimes? Belonging to the Communist Party, and distributing books that advocated the use of violence to bring about political change. In *Books on Trial: Red Scare in the Heartland*, Shirley A. and Wayne A. Wiegand reconstruct the case in painstaking detail, from the raids and the politics behind them through the trials and appeals. Though the convictions were eventually overturned, thanks in part to national protests over violations of the defendants’ civil rights, the story of the Oklahoma book trials still stands as a cautionary tale.

Indexed, 286 p., $24.95 from University of Oklahoma (978-0-8061-3868-8).

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The story of the Oklahoma book trials still stands as a cautionary tale.

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**NEW FROM ALA**

**PROPERTY LINES**

The digital age has made the already murky depths of intellectual property even less crystalline. In *Intellectual Property: Everything the Digital-Age Librarian Needs to Know*, copyright expert Timothy Lee Wherry explains patents, copyright, and trademarks with particular reference to newer technologies. If you generally find it hard to slog through books about intellectual property, give this one a try. By keeping things simple and jargon-free and using plenty of well-chosen examples, Wherry manages to make an often snooze-inducing topic much more interesting.

Indexed, 141 p., PBK., $50, $45 for ALA members (978-0-8389-0948-5).

**CONSULT YOURSELF**

Is Consulting for You? It’s a question you may have asked yourself, especially on one of those days when you’re dreaming about an alternate career path. In Ulla de Stricker’s book, subtitled *A Primer for Information Professionals*, you’ll find a handholding guide covering everything from what consulting is and how it applies to libraries, to deciding whether it’s a good fit for you, to building a viable (and remunerative) career. It’s just what you need to make an informed decision rather than an ill-considered plunge.

Indexed, 101 p., PBK., $46, $36 for ALA members (978-0-8389-0947-8).

Calculation and promotion, and evaluation. New to this edition are some valuable pieces of advice on using online selection tools, licensing online resources, and providing remote access. Also new are discussions of the impact of curriculum standards and educational trends on school library collections.

Indexed, 292 p., pbk., $50 from Libraries Unlimited (978-1-59158-360-8).

Instead of just participating in school reform, media specialists can be change agents, according to Sandra Hughes-Hassell and Violet H. Harada in School Reform and the School Library Media Specialist. How? Collaborating with teachers to create an environment that fosters understanding, practicing evidence-based librarianship, embracing multiple kinds of literacy, and supporting the development of English-language learners and minority students are just some of the things librarians need to do in order to be actively involved in reform initiatives.

Indexed, 204 p., pbk., $40 from Libraries Unlimited (978-1-59158-427-8).

The Future Is Now
Anyone who keeps up with developments in information technology will be familiar with names such as Stephen Abram, Joseph Janes, and Jenny Levine. In Information Tomorrow: Reflections on Technology and the Future of Public and Academic Libraries, edited by Rachel Singer Gordon, these and 17 other experts share their ideas on libraries and new technologies. Have you considered delivering service on smartphones? Ever hear of FLOSS (Free/Libre/Open Source Software)? Is it time for your academic library to become a publisher? How will libraries collect “born digital” content? Why do you need to pay attention to video games? How can you manage technostress? This is provocative reading from thinkers on the cutting edge.

Indexed, 258 p., pbk., $35 from Information Today (978-1-57387-303-1).

Eye Candy
It’s not often that a title aimed at library professionals includes lovely color artwork. Children’s Books: A Practical Guide to Selection by Phyllis J. Van Orden and Sunny Strong has 10 color plates of artwork by Eric Carle, David Wiesner, and other eminent illustrators, which is why we chose it for this issue’s column. That and the fact that it also has good practical advice on the selection process in general, and on selecting within particular genres, formats, and subject areas.

Indexed, 239 p., pbk., $59.95 from Neal-Schuman (978-1-55570-584-8).

Friend or Foe
Can print and digital works peacefully occupy the same planet? In Print vs. Digital: The Future of Coexistence (edited by Sul H. Lee and published simultaneously as Journal of Library Administration, Volume 46), several experts have contributed papers to consider this urgent question.

Scholarship, and therefore research libraries, are evolving to match the changing behavior of information-seekers; so space, collections, preservation, and cooperation all need to be rethought. Though the emphasis seems to be more E (electronic) than P (print), Joan K. Lippincott of the Coalition for Networked Information suggests that “print and digital resources can have creative and interesting relationships; they do not need to reside in separate worlds.”


Forty Million Strong
Not only are Latinos the largest and fastest-growing ethnic group in the United States, but they are no longer concentrated in the South and Southwest. The timely second edition of Serving Latino Communities: A How-To-Do-It Manual for Librarians by Camila Alire and Jacqueline Ayala, both past presidents of ALA’s affiliate Reforma, is designed to help librarians grapple with those facts. The book provides guidance on understanding the Latino community, building a case for providing service, and assessing needs; then covers topics such as outreach, programming, and collection development. Revisions include a new emphasis on electronic and web resources, new strategies for conducting focus groups and bilingual surveys, and more examples of bilingual promotional materials.

Indexed, 229 p., pbk., $59.95 from Neal-Schuman (978-1-55570-606-7).

Mary Ellen Quinn is editor of ALA Booklist’s Reference Books Bulletin.
ROUSING READS
BEST OF 2007

It’s best-of-the-year time, always a period of frenetic activity at the Booklist offices. Our editors have just completed the always arduous process of sifting through a year’s worth of reading in an effort to isolate the best of 2007. It’s a collaborative effort, of course, and our selections reflect an amalgam of the very different opinions of a dozen editors and many contributors. That we reach a consensus at all—both for the editors’ choice lists themselves and especially for our Top of the List (the best of the best in adult books, books for youth, video and DVD, audiobooks, and reference sources)—is a testament, finally, to the power of deadlines. Our winners can be seen in the January issue of Booklist, and while they are all outstanding works, they aren’t necessarily my own picks.

Culled from a far more limited universe of books, my favorites are inevitably more an indication of my own taste than they are a true barometer of the year’s best. But so it is with all our favorites—the point of these exercises is never definitive judgment but, rather, the simple pleasure of making distinctions. We do it every day—the best lunch I’ve had this week, the most obnoxious guy on my commuter train—so why not do it with what we read . . . as long as we don’t take ourselves and our distinctions too seriously (though I’m very serious indeed about that jerk on the 5:35 who demonstrates his stature by screaming to his underlings on his cell phone).

Space limits me to three favorites from my crop of 2007 books. My choices are hardly surprises—three novels by writers who have long been favorites of mine—but what can I do? I happen to think that their new books are every bit as good as anything they’ve written before, and that’s reason enough for them to make my list. Here they are:

THE ITALIAN LOVER
BY ROBERT HELLENGA
LITTLE, BROWN, $23.99 (978-0-3161-1763-0).
This sort-of sequel to Hellenga’s The Sixteen Pleasures (1995) delivers another sumptuous, sensual story of love lost and found, again set in Florence but this time merging the facts of fictional and real-life publishing history.

ORPHEUS LOST
BY JANETTE TURNER HOSPITAL
NORTON, $24.95 (978-0-3930-6552-7).
Hospital explores how terrorism and its manifestations affect the lives of ordinary people. The story of Leela-May Magnolia Moore, her lover Mishka, and her old friend Cobb reveals a perfect storm of conflicted personal lives crashing against a run-amok world where individual identity has no value.

THE YIDDISH POLICEMEN’S UNION
BY MICHAEL CHABON
HARPERCOLLINS, $26.95 (978-0-061-89482-7).
Drawing on the conventions of the Chandlerian private-eye novel, Chabon creates an epic alternate history in which Alaska, not Israel, is the embattled Jewish homeland. Chabon manipulates his bulging plot masterfully, but what allows the novel to soar is its humor and humanity.

BILL OTT is the editor and publisher of ALA’s Booklist.
Solutions and Services

Brodart’s EasyView book truck has a pyramid shape and angled shelves designed for easy viewing of materials. The 16-gauge steel truck is available in a 36-inch-tall model that fits under work surfaces, or a 43-inch-tall version. It comes with 4-inch dual-wheel casters for maneuverability over a variety of surfaces.

Pop AdVisions offers Brightboard digital signs in wall-mounted, ceiling-mounted, or pedestal configurations. It comprises an LCD monitor that can present a looped series of words, pictures, and video. Brightboard has its own graphics and media player and requires no computer or network connection to operate.

Magnuson Group’s Titan series of wall-mounted or free-standing waste receptacles features an angular, slightly convex design that fits in compact spaces. It is made of stainless steel with a satin finish with anthracite-painted steel back plate and floor supports. Options include anodized aluminum lids and an all-weather outdoor model.

Mr. Wizard Studios has released 32 episodes each of Watch Mr. Wizard and Mr. Wizard’s World on DVD. Eight DVDs for each series, containing four episodes each, are available individually or as a boxed set. The studio also offers the seven-DVD set Mr. Wizard’s Science and Technology Reports, consisting of 293 90-second reports produced for the How About . . . series.

To have a new product considered for this section, contact Brian Searles at bsearles@ala.org.
First Research
www.firstresearch.com
First Research provides Industry Intelligence profiles on more than 700 industries for the benefit of job seekers, students, professors, researchers, sales professionals, and small business owners. Profiles include an industry overview and review of the competitive landscape, products, technology, finance and regulation, regional and international issues, HR, and state profiles.

www.vanguardid.com/librarycards.aspx
Vanguard ID Systems now offers RFID library cards. Each polyester-laminated card is custom made and individually tested, fully compliant with either ISO 14443 or ISO 15693 standards, and compatible with all automation systems. The RFID tags operate at 13.56 MHz.

www.stimaging.com
The ST200X microfilm viewer and scanner from S-T Imaging is capable of capturing images at 87X magnification and viewing materials at 96X magnification. The scanner grabs each image in less than a second and digitally corrects for scratched film, negative images, or dirt. It operates under ambient light and connects to a PC using standard USB connections.

CASE STUDY
RFID SYSTEM SPEEDS INVENTORY

In 2005, Norfolk (Mass.) Public Library had not conducted an inventory of its more than 61,000 items in five years. As a result, the library was unable to track stolen, missing, mislabeled, and misplaced materials. Random surveys showed that nearly 10% of materials were not accounted for as a result. But performing a full-scale inventory would require all 15 staff members and closure of the library for three days.

That year, the library moved to a building that is three times larger than its previous location. It used the move as an opportunity to install the Apex RFID system from Integrated Technology Group. For inventory, the system uses the PowerReader handheld wand, which scans multiple items simultaneously. The library also installed XpressCheck self-checkout kiosks and the Automated Materials Handling system with VistaReturns software to sort and track returned items.

Using these tools, the library discovered that 388 items with a total value of $5,841 were missing. It also located many items that had been misplaced or miscataloged. Inventory can now be taken by two staff members without closing the library.

NPL also reports greater efficiency in checking items out and in. “We rarely ever have a checkout line now,” said John Spinney, library reference/information systems administrator. “Patrons are using the self-checkout kiosks and they no longer have to wait in lines that are four or more people deep.”

The staff previously checked in more than 143,000 items by hand each year, but the automated system has reduced that number by about 80%. “The productivity gains are incredible,” said Director Robin Glasser. “We have cut routine tasks by a third to a half, which means I have a very talented, educated staff that can now provide more direct service to our patrons.”
ALA Annual Conference is the best place to advance your career, connect with colleagues and to learn new techniques that improve library services to your community. There is something for everyone at Annual!

PROGRAMS ON TOPICS INCLUDING:
- Blogs, web presence and making the most of the internet
- Cultural programs for any and all
- Advocacy and Fundraising
- New ways to serve teens and children
- Training and mentoring
- Cutting edge innovations in technology for library services
- Outreach to underserved populations

GREAT SPEAKERS INCLUDING:
- Don Borchert
- Dr. T. Berry Brazelton

EXCELLENT EVENTS INCLUDING:
- The Bookcart Drill Team World Championships
- Libraries Build Communities Volunteer Day
- The ALA/ProQuest Scholarship Event

Register early for low rates and great speakers, programs and events!

Early Bird Registration Begins January 2, 2008

For up-to-date information, check out www.ala.org/annual, or visit the Annual Conference Wiki at http://wikis.ala.org/annual2008 to network or learn about official and unofficial events happening during the Annual Conference.
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PHONE/FAX ________________________________
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS ____________________

MUSIC (CIRCLE ONE)  YES  NO
IF PROVIDING MUSIC (CIRCLE ONE)  RECORDED L________  LIVE________
IF RECORDED (CIRCLE ONE)  CASSETTE CD OTHER ________________________

REPRESENTING (LIBRARY, TOWN, ETC) ________________________________________
ADDRESS ________________________________________________________________
E-MAIL ________________________________________________________________
NUMBER OF TRUCKS NEEDED ____________________________________________

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ANALYZE 08

ANALYZE 08
AUDITORIUM SPEAKER SERIES

Additional speakers are being added to this series. Please check the Annual Conference website at www.ala.org/annual for updates.

Don Borchert
Sunday, June 29, 8:00 – 9:30 am

Don Borchert is a librarian in suburban Los Angeles. In his first book, Free for All: Oddballs, Geeks, and Gangstas In The Public Library, Borchert reveals why it’s necessary for even suburban libraries (like the one in Maplewood, New Jersey) to have lock-downs. Here’s how Borchert describes teenagers “storm surging” a library after school: “Even the homeless lose their nerve and bolt for the door…. Library employees have gone to graduate school and know how to recommend a good adventure novel and how to put together a bibliography, but none have been trained for anything like this. It’s like trying to take four conscientious adults and putting them in charge of crowd control for the French Revolution.”

Free for All reveals a lot more than the storm surges. It’s a portrait of contemporary America, of day-to-day life in a public library. Said Booklist: “Borchert never ceases to wonder at the great cross section of the American population that crosses the library’s threshold. All the pleasures and pains, the comedy and tragedy of public library work appear here – angry patrons, latchkey kids, befouled backdrops, Internet porn, bomb threats, drug dealing – the characters and incidents that make library services a roller-coaster adventure.”

Don Borchert lives in Lomita, California, and still enjoys working at the public library. This is his first book.

ALSC President’s Program Featuring T. Berry Brazelton, MD
Monday, June 30, 8:00 – 9:30 am

A noted international expert on child development, Dr. T. Berry Brazelton is Clinical Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School and the Founder of the Child Development Unit at Children’s Hospital, Boston. He is also Founder of the Brazelton Touchpoints Center, which offers programs and services designed to shift the paradigm of care so that our service delivery systems are appropriately focused on discovering and meeting the needs of families.

Dr. Brazelton was President of the Society for Research in Child Development and the National Center for Clinical Infant Programs. In 1989, Congress appointed him to the National Commission on Children, where he advocated for disadvantaged children. One of Dr. Brazelton’s foremost achievements in pediatrics is his Neonatal Behavioral Assessment Scale (NBAS), published in 1973. Known as the “Brazelton”, this evaluation tool is used worldwide, clinically and in research, to assess not only the physical and neurological responses of newborns but also their emotional well being and individual differences.

Among Dr. Brazelton’s 40 books on pediatrics and child development are seven titles co-authored by Dr. Joshua Sparrow in the nationally bestselling “Brazelton Way” series (Sleep, Discipline, Calming Your Fussy Baby, Feeding Your Child, Toilet Training, Understanding Sibling Rivalry, and Mastering Anger and Aggression). Touchpoints Three to Six also co-authored by Dr. Sparrow, and Touchpoints 0-3, which has reached nearly a million families. It has just been revised with Joshua Sparrow, MD and republished in 15th year anniversary edition. Dr. Brazelton has made a three-part videocassette on Touchpoints, and his television show, “What Every Baby Knows,” ran for twelve years and won two Emmy awards.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Don’t miss these great events during the Annual Conference. To register, add these events on your registration form.

ALA/ProQuest Scholarship Bash
Saturday, June 28, 7:00 – 11:00 pm

Grab your Mouse Ears, we’re going to Disney! Every year the ALA Scholarship Bash is a rousing good time and this year will be no different, as the Bash heads to Disney’s California Adventure and Disney’s Magic Kingdom for a magical night. Don’t delay and get your tickets early! Remember, proceeds go towards MLS scholarships! Tickets are $40 in advance, or will be $45 onsite.

Libraries Build Communities
Friday, June 27, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Participate in this daylong community services efforts on Friday. Exact jobs to be determined as we work with the Anaheim Public Library and community service groups. All participants will be notified in advance of the various projects and be able to pick the one in which they wish to participate. Your registration fee will be contributed to local library funds. Lunch, transportation, and a participation T-shirt are included. Tickets are $10.
**TRAVEL INFORMATION**

**General Information**

Experient is ALA’s travel management company for both hotel and airline reservations. As an ALA attendee or exhibitor, you are eligible for special airline and hotel rates. To reach the ALA travel desk, please call 1-800-974-9833 or 847-282-1629 and identify yourself as an attendee or exhibitor of the ALA Annual Conference. The ALA travel desk is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm CST. You may also make hotel reservation by mailing or faxing the housing reservation form located in this section. In addition, you can make your hotel reservations online through the ALA home page at http://www.ala.org/annual. Choose “Travel & Hotels” and follow the directions. The housing reservation form features SSL encryption to ensure the privacy of your information.

**Hotel Reservation Deadlines and Information**

Hotel reservation requests will be accepted until May 27, 2008, subject to availability. A list of selected hotels and their rates is included in this section. Rates are quoted for the room, not per person, and all rooms are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Special rates are available only when you book directly with the ALA travel desk. All rooms are subject to applicable tax. In addition to state and local taxes, hotel may charge a per night resort fee and California Tourism per night fee. All requests must include six choices. Make sure to give accurate dates of arrival and departure for everyone occupying the requested room. Please note that the ALA travel desk does not assume the responsibility of pairing guests for double occupancy or in multiple housing units. After May 27, 2008, the ALA travel desk will continue to make reservations on a space available basis only (i.e., book early to get the hotel of your choice).

**Hotel Confirmations, Cancellations or Changes**

Confirmation of the room reservation will be acknowledged by the travel desk and sent within 72 hours. If you have any questions regarding your reservation, or to make changes or cancellations, contact the ALA Travel Desk at 1-800-974-9833 or 847-282-1629, not the hotel. One night’s room and tax guarantee in a credit card is required to hold hotel reservations. Your first night’s deposit is refundable if you cancel within your hotel’s cancellation policy. Check your confirmation for details on your hotel’s cancellation policy.

**Airline Reservations and Discount**

United Airlines is offering special meeting discounts for attendees of the ALA Annual Conference. Simply call the United Special Meeting Desk at 800-521-4041 and refer to Meeting ID Number 500CR to receive a 2-10% discount off applicable fares, including First Class. If you purchase your ticket at least 30 days prior to travel, you will receive an additional 5% discount. This special offer applies to travel on domestic segments of all United Airlines, United Express, TED and United code share flights (UA*) operated by US Airways, US Airways Express and Air Canada. There are no fees to use the 800 number. International attendees will receive a 10% discount off the lowest applicable fare (excluding First Class), or a 15% discount off the fully refundable, unrestricted coach fare when they call their local United Airlines reservation number and refer to meeting ID number 500CR. An additional 5% discount will apply when tickets are purchased at least 60 days in advance of your travel dates. Discounts apply to United and Lufthansa (code share) flights.

You can also make your reservation online at www.united.com, using ALA ID 500CR.

Experient will serve as the official travel coordinator for the 2008 ALA Annual Meeting. Experient will provide custom itineraries with the lowest applicable air fares and best journey time. To receive the discounts, call Experient toll-free, 1-800-621-1083 (847-940-1176, outside the U.S. and Canada) from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm CST, Monday through Friday. $22.00 service fee per airline ticket issued. Save $5.00 when you book online.

To book online travel through Experient, go to www.travelport.net/registration. You will be asked to register. The Company Name is ALA. The Pin Number is QABSC93. Please enter the information, as instructed, which will grant you access to book your flights on-line, anytime. Helpful hints: Once you are prompt-ed to “Go To Travelport”, you will be sent to our Welcome page. The New User ID is your email address (that you entered on the registration page). The Password is the password you provided on the registration page. For security measures, you will be asked to change your password.

**Airport Transportation and Information**

Anaheim is served by four major airports. John Wayne Orange County Airport in Santa Ana and Los Angeles International Airport in Los Angeles are the major airports that serve the area. Anaheim is also served by Long Beach Airport in Long Beach, CA, and Ontario International Airport in Ontario, CA.

Details on transportation to Anaheim from all four airports is available at: http://anahaimoc.org/Articles/Archive/Webpage10258.asp.

**Public Transportation in Anaheim**

Anaheim offers the Anaheim Resort Transit (ART) Service, a visitor shuttle system that provides access to dining, shopping and attractions. The ART provides access to the Disney parks, the Anaheim Convention Center, and several hotels in the ALA hotel block and other locations in the area. Passes are available for $3 for a day, or a five day pass is available for $12. Details are available at: http://anahaimoc.org/Articles/Archive/Webpage10985.asp

**Train and Bus Travel to Anaheim**

**Amtrak:** Anaheim is served by the Pacific Surfliner line at the station at 2150 East Katella Ave. Connections from other Amtrak lines can be made in Los Angeles. Amtrak offers a 10% discount off the lowest available rail fare to Anaheim, CA between June 23, 2008 – July 5, 2008. To book your reservation call Amtrak at 1-800-872-7245 or contact your local travel agent. Please refer to Convention Fare Code X5OR-928 when making your reservation to receive the 10% discount. Conventions cannot be booked via Internet. This offer is not valid on the Auto Train. Offer valid with Sleepers, Business Class or First Class seats with payment of the full applicable accommodation charges. Fare is valid on Amtrak Regional and Acela service for all departures seven days a week, except for holiday blackouts.

**Greyhound:** All Greyhound buses arrive and depart from the station at 100 W Winston Rd. For information, contact Greyhound at 800-229-9424 or go online at www.greyhound.com.

**Rental Cars**

ALA has negotiated exclusive rates with Avis for rental cars during the meeting. For rates and reservations call 800-331-1600 or access the website for this event at http://www.avis.com. You must mention the Avis World Wide Discount Number (AWD), D005980, when calling to receive the special discount.

**ALA Shuttle Bus Service**

Free shuttle buses, sponsored by Gale Cengage Learning, will operate between all participating hotels and the Anaheim Convention Center during the conference. Service will also be provided for attendees with disabilities. Shuttle bus service schedules (including daily pickup times, locations and destinations) will be published in Cognotes (the daily show newspaper available during the conference) and will be available onsite. Complimentary bus service is provided by Gale Cengage Learning. Don’t forget to stop by their booth and say thanks for the lift!
## Hotel Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Number</th>
<th>Hotel Name</th>
<th>Single/Double</th>
<th>Triple/Quad</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Marriott Anaheim (HQ)</td>
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<td>Anabella Hotel</td>
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<td>Concierge</td>
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<td>Best Western Park Place</td>
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<td>Best Western Pavilions</td>
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<td>Best Western Raffles Inn</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Courtyard Marriott</td>
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<td>Crowne Plaza Anaheim</td>
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<td>Desert Palm Hotel</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Holiday Inn Hotel &amp; Suites</td>
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<td>Homewood Suites</td>
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<td>Hotel Menage</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Howard Johnson Anaheim</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Hyatt Regency</td>
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<td>$169/$209</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Marriott Suites</td>
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<td>Portofino Inn &amp; Suites</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>$159/$159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Suite</td>
<td>$159/$159</td>
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<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Ramada Maingate</td>
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<td>$129/$129</td>
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<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Ramada Plaza Anaheim Resort</td>
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<td>$129/$129</td>
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<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Red Lion Maingate (formerly called Anaheim Maingate)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Sheraton Garden Grove</td>
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<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Sheraton Park Hotel Anaheim</td>
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<td>$199/$209</td>
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<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Super 8 Anaheim</td>
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<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Travelodge International</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Please note - several hotels offer “standard” and “deluxe” or “suite” rooms, which have different rates. Please specify which type of room you are requesting on your form.

**Key:**
- h=handicapped accessible rooms
- nsh=non-smoking hotel
- sa=Smoking Room Available
- f=fitness center
- ip=indoor pool
- op=outdoor pool
- cb=continental breakfast included
- hb=hot breakfast
- fb=full breakfast included
- at=complimentary airport transportation
- rs=room service
- bc=business center
- ia=internet in room
- wi=wireless internet access
- hs=high speed internet access
Housing Request Form
JUNE 26-JULY 2, 2008 – ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION, ANAHEIM, CA

Deadline for Submission: May 27, 2008

Instructions: Please complete this form in its entirety to insure speedy processing. All hotels require a one night + tax credit card guarantee to hold your room. Complete the credit card portion of the form for the first night’s deposit to be billed automatically upon receipt by hotel. DO NOT SEND DUPLICATE FORMS - If sharing room(s) designate one person to send request. Be sure to include your E-Mail address. Reservations can also be made on the ALA Annual Conference Website at: http://www.ala.org/annual

Confirmation will be sent to:

Last name of person requesting rooms and confirmation ___________________________ First Name ___________________________

Name of Company or Firm ______________________________________________________

Street Address or P.O. Box number ______________________________________________

City ___________________________ State ____________ Zip ______________

Country ___________________________ Phone ___________________________ Fax ______________

Email Address ____________________________________________________________________

please print clearly to receive electronic confirmation

Arrival day/date ___________________________ Departure day/date ___________________________

Occupant(s)
(Please do not duplicate. If sharing a room, designate one person to complete form.)

1 ___________________________ 2 ___________________________

3 ___________________________ 4 ___________________________

5 ___________________________ 6 ___________________________

Hotel Choices
(Please print name and number of hotel as listed on Hotel Locator Map)

1 ___________________________ 2 ___________________________

3 ___________________________ 4 ___________________________

5 ___________________________ 6 ___________________________

Important notes:
• Rooms are assigned on a “first come/first served” basis and room availability for your arrival/departure.
• Photocopy this form if more than one room is required. Please do not request multiple rooms on one form.
• The ALA travel desk will send a confirmation within 72 hours of receipt.
• All changes and/or cancellations prior to June 17, 2008, must be made through the ALA travel desk. Last minute changes and cancellations must be made in writing to the hotel at least 7 days prior to check in.
• Above the hotel room rate, hotels charge state and local taxes, and may also charge a per night resort fee and a California Tourism per night fee.

Room preference
Bedding requests are based on availability. Every effort will be made to accommodate requests.

☐ Single (one person/one bed)
☐ Double (two people/one bed)
☐ Double/Double (two people, two beds)
☐ Triple (three people/1-2 beds)
☐ Quad (four people/two beds)
☐ Requires handicap room (check one)

☐ Mobility
☐ Hearing impaired
☐ Visually impaired

Mail or Fax to:

ALA Travel Desk/Experient
108 Wilmot Rd. Ste 400
Deerfield, IL 60015-5124
Fax: 1-800-521-6017 or 847-940-2386

Credit Card Guarantee—first night+tax

Please guarantee my reservation to (check one): ☐ Visa ☐ Amex ☐ Mastercard

Card Number ___________________________ Expiration Date (must be 1/08 or later) ___________________________

Authorized Signature ___________________________ Date ___________________________
GENERAL INFORMATION

Conference Location
Due to the size of the ALA Annual Conference, the event takes place in a convention center and several hotels. For the 2008 Annual Conference, the exhibits, keynote speakers, and many meetings and programs will be held in the Anaheim Convention Center, located at 800 West Katella Avenue. Directions (driving and public transit) are available at www.anaheimconventioncenter.com. Two hotels are designated “Headquarters” hotels, and will host many meetings, programs and special events. Several more hotels will host some events, and many additional hotels will be part of the ALA hotel block to include sleeping rooms.

Special Needs
If you have a special physical or communication need that may impact your participation in this meeting, please check the appropriate box on your registration form and append a statement specifying your special need. While every effort will be made to meet attendees’ needs, we cannot guarantee the availability of accommodations in response to requests received after May 16, 2008. Based upon availability in each city, we maintain a limited number of wheelchairs and scooters on a first come, first served basis. Please contact Anne Weglewski at 800-545-2433, ext. 3220 as soon as possible to reserve a wheelchair or scooter, for use in the convention center only, or if you wish to discuss any other special needs.

Child Care and Camp ALA
Make this year’s annual meeting a family affair. Once again, ACCENT on Children’s Arrangements, Inc. has planned a great children’s activity center for ALA attendees’ children. ACCENT is a nationally recognized professional childcare company organized to provide quality on-site children’s activities in a nurturing, safe, educational environment. ACCENT’s counselors are fun-loving professionals with plenty of experience with children. The camp will operate at Washington Convention Center from Friday, June 27 through Tuesday, July 1, 7:30 am to 6:00 pm daily. Children must be between 3 months and 17 years of age.

ALA will reimburse the charges expended on Camp ALA child care in the amount of $32 per day, per child to a maximum of $64 per day, per family to any fully-registered parent for each day of the Annual Conference week, June 27–July 1, 2008. The total cost of the care per child, per day is $80, with $48 paid by the parent member, and $32 paid by the Association. This covers only child care in the ALA day care center, Camp ALA. ALA will not reimburse child care expenses to delegates who live within the Anaheim area that would be paid to a regular provider whether the parent was attending the Annual Conference or not.

Registration for Camp ALA will be available on the Annual Conference website.

Poster Sessions
The ALA Conference Poster Sessions will be displayed on June 28, 29, and 30, 2008, at the Anaheim Convention Center. Poster sessions provide an opportunity for individual librarians or libraries to share graphic representations of current research, programs or creative solutions to library problems. Accepted presenters are given a time block during the conference to present posters, answer questions, and give away handouts relating to the session. Poster Session topics and times are listed in the Annual Conference Program. Applications will be accepted between November 1, 2007 and January 31, 2008. For information or to apply, please visit http://www.lib.jmu.edu/org/ala/default.aspx

Placement Services
Provided by the ALA Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment (HRDR), the Placement Service will be available at the Annual Conference. Job seekers should register and search for jobs on the JobLIST website at http://www.joblist.ala.org/. All services are free to job seekers. Registration is not required, but is recommended. Registration will give employers who choose the Placement Service subscription access to your resume information. It will also allow for direct communication between job seekers and employers.

Employers who want to post positions should post them on the JobLIST website at http://www.joblist.ala.org/. Employers who want to use the interviewing facilities must have an active ad placed on JobLIST at the time you schedule an interview. Employers who want to review resumes of registered job seekers should purchase the Placement Service subscription after placing an active online ad on JobLIST. Employers who want a booth in the Placement Center should contact Beatrice Calvin at 800/545-2433 ext. 4280.

Meals
Meals are not included with regular Conference registration. Some preconferences and banquets include meals as part of an additional ticket price. This information is included with the description of the event.
Join ALA and Save!
Non-Members and Former Members of ALA are invited to join the association to receive both the member registration discount as well as ongoing benefits to your career and professional knowledge that come from membership. First, go to www.ala.org/membership to join/re-join and start taking advantage of new and improved benefits like: AL Direct, our weekly email edition of American Libraries that keeps you on the cutting edge of news that affects all types of libraries; discounts on continuing education through Element K, our online skills building site; and your members-only discount on ALA Editions and Graphics products for you and your library. Then, go to www.ala.org/annual and register for Conference at a substantial savings. If you have questions about which membership is right for you, email John Chrastka, Manager of Membership Development at jchrastka@ala.org.

Early Bird Registration
To register in advance, print or type and complete all sections of the form that follows. You may register for all listed events and pay with one check. Use one form per person for full registration or exhibit badges only. Registration forms must be postmarked or electronically submitted by March 7, 2008 to receive the Early Bird rates. After March 7, Advance rates will apply. Mail early to meet the deadline. Onsite registration begins Thursday, June 26. Bring your membership card or proof of dues payment, and photo ID. Secure online registration with your credit card is also available at www.ala.org/annual.

Exhibits Only Registration
Visit the exhibits only, for $25 in advance, by completing the registration form on the next page. Visit the exhibits and attend the Opening General Session, for only $35, or visit the exhibits, and attend the Opening General Session and all the Auditorium Speaker Series sessions, for $50. Exhibit only badges will also be available on site. No refunds for “Exhibits Only”, “Exhibits Plus” and “Exhibits Supreme” registration. Use one form per person for exhibit only badges. Requests for multiple exhibit only badges will not be honored if sent on only one form.

Payment
Include full payment with your registration. Make checks payable to the American Library Association or charge your VISA, MasterCard or American Express. Fees in U.S. dollars. If sending a wire transfer payment, it is necessary to reference your name, company and registration category on the transfer. Please note: we will no longer accept purchase orders as payment on-site. If paying by purchase order, they must be received prior to the conference.

Confirmation
The ALA Registration office will e-mail or mail a registration confirmation to your home address. If you have questions about which membership is right for you, email John Chrastka, Manager of Membership Development at jchrastka@ala.org.

Refunds and Cancellations
Substitutions are welcome at any time, made in writing. Otherwise, registration cancellations must be made in writing and postmarked or faxed by May 16, 2008. Cancellations will result in a full refund less a $25 processing fee. No phone cancellations will be accepted. No refunds for cancellations postmarked after May 16, 2008. No “Exhibits Only” or “Exhibits Plus” refunds. Refunds will be processed after July 1, 2008.
EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION FORM
JUNE 26-JULY 2, 2008 – ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION, ANAHEIM, CA

Registrant Information: All mailings concerning the Annual Conference will be sent to you at the address provided below:

☐ Mr.  ☐ Ms.  ☐ Mrs.  ☐ Dr.  ☐ I am a first time registrant of the ALA Annual Conference

Member Number __________________________________________________________

Name: First _______________________________________________ Last __________________________

Position Title ________________________________________________________________

Organization Name _____________________________________________________________

Address __________________________________________________________________________

Address Line 2 ________________________________________________________________

City __________________________ State ________ Postal Code __________

Country __________________________ Is the above mailing address:
☐ home  ☐ work

Daytime Phone __________________________ Fax Number __________________________

Email ________________________________

Attendees may receive exciting information from exhibitors like invitations, contests and other hot news.

Count me in! ☐ Yes  ☐ No

Badge Information: Complete the information below, abbreviating as needed. Write clearly and please do not exceed the maximum characters.

First Name ___________________________ (15 characters)

Last Name ___________________________ (15 characters)

Institute/Organization ___________________________ (25 characters)

City __________________________________________ State __________

(25 characters)

If you have a physical or communication need that may affect your participation in conference activities, please contact Conference Services at the number given below. We cannot ensure the availability of appropriate accommodations without prior notification of need.

☐ I have a special physical or communications need and will contact Anne Weglewski, at 800-545-2433, ext 3220 or aweglewski@ala.org to discuss accommodations, no later than May 16, 2008.

Instructions:

Both Pages must be completed and returned with payment (U.S. funds) or credit card information, postmarked or electronically submitted by March 7, 2008 to receive the Early Bird rates. Forms postmarked after March 7, 2008 will be processed at the Advance rate.

THREE WAYS TO ADVANCE REGISTER:

By Mail:
Send form and payment to:
American Library Association,
Box #77-6565, Chicago, IL 60678-6565.

By Fax:
To pay with a credit card, fax completed form to 312-280-1538. DO NOT mail in faxed form.

Online:
Access the ALA Annual Conference 2008 homepage at: http://www.ala.org/annual and select “Registration.”

Nonmembers and former members are invited to join ALA at http://www.ala.org/membership prior to registering for maximum savings.


PLEASE COMPLETE THE SURVEY BELOW, CIRCLING ONE ITEM PER CATEGORY:

01 Principal Product Interest (circle one)
01 Book, Periodicals, Documents
02 Library Automation
03 Equipment, Furniture, Shelving
04 A/V Equipment/Materials
05 Services
06 Other Products and Services

02 Purchasing Decision-Making Role (circle one)
01 Final  03 Recommend
02 Specify  04 No Role

03 Purchase Plans Next 12 Mos. (circle one)
01 $0-49,999  04 $350-499,999
02 $50-99,999  05 $500-999,999
03 $100-249,999  06 $1 million +

04 Operating Expenditures (circle one)
01 $0-49,999
02 $50-999,999
03 $1 mil-1,999,999
04 $2 mil-4,999,999
05 $5 mil +
## I. Annual Conference Registration:

Please check off your selection and insert the appropriate fee in "Amount Enclosed."

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Note: Nonmembers and former members are invited to join ALA at http://www.ala.org/membership prior to registering for maximum savings.

### Payment Information:

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- American Express

Your payment indicates that you agree to the terms to the right.

**Please Note:**

- **Cancellation Policy:** Written requests for refunds must be postmarked by May 16, 2008. Cancellation of registration will result in a handling fee of $25 per item cancelled. No phone cancellations. No refunds after May 16, 2008. No refunds given for "Exhibits Only", "Exhibits Plus" or "Exhibits Supreme" badges. Refunds will be processed after July 1, 2008.
- **Photography:** Attendance at this event constitutes permission for your photograph to be taken at the event and used for ALA purposes.
ALA

Competencies For Your Staff: From Implementation to Integration
Friday, June 27, 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

CLENERT
Ensuring that staff members have the training and skill sets needed to do their jobs to the best of their abilities is crucial to the success of any library. Developing a set of core competencies that covers a wide range of job duties from customer service to technology skills is an important first step. Equally important is finding methods to implement the competencies and make them integral to your staff development plan. Presenters at this preconference will discuss both the process for developing staff competencies and standards as well as share their experiences in successfully bringing these competencies to implementation.
Speakers: Thomas W. Gaiante, Library Director, Queens Library; Betha Gutsche, Curriculum developer, WebJunction; Lori Reed, Training specialist, Public Library of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County; Catherine Vaughn, Continuing Education Coordinator, Lee County Library System; Pat Tavis, Consultant, Pat Tavis Consulting
Tickets: CLENERT Member: $110; ALA Member: $130; Non-Member: $180.
Event Code: (For this Preconference Only) CL1

Implementing A Staff Development Plan
Friday, June 27, 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

CLENERT
In today's environment, library staff have to work harder than ever to stay informed and keep up with changes. How can libraries encourage all staff to continually develop their skills? A systematic staff development plan can address the learning needs of library staff and increase their effectiveness on the job. This half-day session is a step-by-step introduction to the process of addressing the needs of staff development from needs assessment through planning. Do you need a staff development plan?
Speakers: Cal Shepherd, SOLNET
Tickets: CLENERT Member: $110; ALA Member: $130; Non-Member: $180.
Event Code: (For this Preconference Only) CL2

Full Day CLENERT Preconference
Friday, June 27, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

CLENERT
Attend both CLENERT half-day preconferences for one low price. These sessions are listed above - Competencies For Your Staff: From Implementation to Integration (Morning Session) and Implementing A Staff Development Plan (Afternoon Session). To register for both these sessions at a discounted price, use the Event Code below.
Tickets: (For both CLENERT Preconferences)
CLENERT Member: $198; ALA Member: $234; Non-Member: $324.
Event Code: CL3

Diversity Leadership Institute: Fundamentals of Diversity
Thursday, June 26, 8:00 am - 5:30 pm

Diversity
Are you on the road to success with your diversity initiatives? Whether you need a new game plan, or want to make sure all your bases are covered, join us for this exciting day-long intensive workshop on the fundamentals of diversity. Experts in the field will coach you to break-through success with sessions on effective planning for diversity, benchmarking and assessment, achieving organizational buy-in, designing an effective recruitment plan, and creating partnerships for change.
Tickets: Advance: ALA Member: $175; Non-Member: $200; Student/Retired Member: $130. Onsite: ALA Member: $200; Non-Member: $225; Student/Retired Member: $150.
Event Code: D1

Careers in Federal Libraries
Friday, June 27, 8:30 am - 2:30 pm

FAFLRT
Did you know the average annual salary for all librarians in the Federal Government was $74,630 in 2005? Want to find an exciting career where you can serve citizens in a meaningful way? Join us at this preconference event to learn the acronyms, gather tips on applying for a federal job, and network with federal librarians over lunch. Then work with resume and interview experts to improve your “game” and your chances to land that federal job!
Tickets: This event is free, but registration is required to attend.
Event Code: FA1

Collaboration and Resource Sharing in the Digital Age: IRRT Preconference
Friday, June 27, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

IRRT
Speakers from several prominent organizations that exemplify international collaboration and resource sharing solutions will talk about their successes with projects aimed at narrowing the digital divide throughout the world and discuss ideas for librarians interested in resource sharing at local and global levels.
Tickets: $75
Event Code: IR1

The Advocacy Institute
Friday, June 27, 8:30 am - 3:30 am

Office for Library Advocacy
Looking to improve your advocacy skills? Want to meet fellow library supporters from across the country? Get the tools to become an effective library advocate at the Advocacy Institute. Break-out sessions will focus on budget presentations, crisis communications, and passing bond issues/ referenda. Core advocacy skills, such as message development and coalition building, will be covered in the morning. Registration will include a collaborative luncheon with the Young Adult Library Service Association featuring a panel discussion on fostering advocacy at the young adult level. Attendees will leave with an action plan that they can implement in their communities or campuses.
Event Code: OA1

Mobile Libraries: Driving Library Services Into the Future
Sunday, June 29, 10:30 am - 1:00 pm

OLOS
This session is designed to provide inspiration and practical ideas about current mobile library service. Whether you are already mobile, or considering a new service, hear about modern community interaction and participate in round table discussions on planning, maintenance, collection management, marketing, or staffing of a contemporary mobile library. The content-filled program will conclude with an inspirational lunch presentation by Masha Hamilton, author of “The Camel Bookmobile”.
Speakers: Masha Hamilton, Author, Camela Bookmobile
Tickets: $25
Event Code: OL1

AASL
Eating Elephant 2.0 One Bite at a Time: Using the Read-Write Web in Classrooms and Libraries
Friday, June 27, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

New web-based tools are opening exciting collaborative learning opportunities for educators. Find out how teachers and librarians are using wikis, blogs, feed readers, social book marking
sites, and other Web 2.0 tools to increase student engagement in this new workshop.

Speakers: Doug Johnson, Director of Media and Technology; Markato (MN) Area Public Schools
Tickets: AASL Member: $79; ALA Member: $129; Non-Member: $184
Event Code: AA4

**ACRL**

**Assessment of Academic Library Effectiveness: Using ACRL Standards for Continuous Evaluation**
Friday, June 27, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Learn about the 2004 ACRL Standards for Librarians in Higher Education as a framework for assessing any academic library. Discover how to apply learning outcomes, user satisfaction and service quality data to assess your library. Discover how to incorporate performance indicators and outcomes assessment measures for assessing the impact of librarians and libraries on student learning. The workshop will employ an ACRL workbook and supplement as tools for understanding the assessment process.

Speakers: Bill Nelson, Augusta State University; Robert Ferrekes, Georgia Southern University
Tickets: ACRL Member: $235; ALA Member: $295; Non-Member: $325; Student/Retired Member: $95
Event Code: AC3

**ALCTS**

**Collection Development: Policy, Planning, and Fiscal Management**
Thursday, June 26, 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

Presented by Peggy Johnson, attendees of this half-day preconference will gain an understanding of the role and importance of planning, collection development policies, and budgets and the budget process as essential tools in collection development and management.

Tickets: Advance: ALCTS Member: $129; ALA Member: $159; Non-Member: $189; Student/Retired Member: $50. Onsite: ALCTS Member: $159; ALA Member: $189; Non-Member: $219; Student/Retired Member: $50.
Event Code: (For this Preconference Only) AS1

**Collection Analysis: Assessment and Evaluation**
Thursday, June 26, 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Presented by Peggy Johnson, attendees of this half-day preconference will learn about the reasons for collection analysis, the types of collection analysis, and how to conduct an analysis project. The preconference combines brief lectures with group interaction and activities.

Tickets: Advance: ALCTS Member: $129; ALA Member: $159; Non-Member: $189; Student/Retired Member: $50. Onsite: ALCTS Member: $159; ALA Member: $189; Non-Member: $219; Student/Retired Member: $50.
Event Code: (For this Preconference Only) AS2

**Full Day of Collection Preconference**
Thursday, June 26, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Attend both ALCTS “Collection” half-day preconferences for one low price. These sessions are listed above - Collection Development: Policy, Planning, and Fiscal Management (Morning) and Collection Analysis: Assessment and Evaluation (Afternoon). To register for both these sessions at a discounted price, use the Event Code below.
Tickets: Advance Only: ALCTS Member: $199; ALA Member: $249; Non-Member: $289; Student/Retired Member: $99
Event Code: (For both ACRL Collection Pre-conferences) AS3

Metadata and Digital Library Development: an ALCTS and Library of Congress Workshop
Thursday, June 26 AND Friday, June 27, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
In an applied, exercise-based context, this two-day preconference introduces practicing catalogers to metadata implementation considerations and processes in a digital library development context. The goal of the workshop is to prepare attendees to serve as metadata specialists in digital library projects. Topics covered will include data and functionality; Metadata conversion and mapping; creating data workflows; and digital library development teams. This workshop is part of the “Cataloging for the 21st Century” continuing education series, which offers practicing catalogers instruction in bibliographic control practices that will help them continue to play a significant role in shaping library services in the emerging digital information environment.
Tickets: Advance: ACCTS Member: $339; ALA Member: $389; Non-Member: $429; Student/Retired Member: $150. Onsite: ACCTS Member: $389; ALA Member: $439; Non-Member: $489; Student/Retired Member: $150.
Event Code: AS4

Electronic Serials Cataloging: an ALCTS/Library of Congress SCCTP Workshop
Thursday, June 26, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
This one day preconference is designed as a hands-on training course for cataloging electronic serials distributed through the Web. This workshop is based on Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules (AACR), 2nd edition. Presented Margaret Mering, this preconference incorporates key revisions of Chapter 9, “Electronic resources” and Chapter 12, “Continuing resources” that apply to electronic serials, but is not a comprehensive course on serials cataloging. The course is also based on Library of Congress Rule Interpretations, the MARC 21 format, and CONSER specific policies and practices set forth in the CONSER Cataloging Manual and CONSER Editing Guide.
Tickets: Advance: ACCTS Member: $199; ALA Member: $249; Non-Member: $289; Student/Retired Member: $99. Onsite: ACCTS Member: $249; ALA Member: $299; Non-Member: $339; Student/Retired Member: $99.
Event Code: AS5

Electronic Serials 101: What I Wished I’d Known Before I Got in Over My Head
Friday, June 27, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Electronic information has come of age, yet many organizations have yet to fully appreciate the new skill set needed to successfully cope with the complex nature of electronic information, particularly e-serials. This one-day preconference is designed to provide survival tips for those who find themselves drowning in e-information overload. Everyday problems such as workflow and organizational structure will be covered, as will the roles of the various players in the e-serials information chain.
Tickets: Advance: ACCTS Member: $199; ALA Member: $249; Non-Member: $289; Student/Retired Member: $99. Onsite: ACCTS Member: $249; ALA Member: $299; Non-Member: $339; Student/Retired Member: $99.
Event Code: AS6

Cataloging Cultural Objects in Libraries
Friday, June 27, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Designed for use by professionals in libraries, archives, and museums with visual resource collections, Cataloging Cultural Objects: A Guide to Describing Cultural Works and Their Images (CCO) is a published standard for describing, documenting, and cataloging cultural works and their visual surrogates. The primary focus of CCO is art and architecture, including but not limited to paintings, sculpture, prints, manuscripts, photographs, built works, installations, and other visual media. This workshop will offer an overview of CCO and the evolving landscape of shareable metadata standards and will engage participants in practical exercises involving the application of CCO to the cataloging of library, archives, and digital library resources.
Tickets: Advance: ACCTS Member: $199; ALA Member: $249; Non-Member: $289; Student/Retired Member: $99. Onsite: ACCTS Member: $249; ALA Member: $299; Non-Member: $339; Student/Retired Member: $99.
Event Code: AS7

ALSC
Summer Reading Survivor: Overcoming the Challenges
Thursday, June 26, 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm AND Friday, June 27, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Fight summer reading fatigue! Be re-energized, and learn something new too! Meet poet, author and folklorist, Judy Sierra who is Wild About Reading on Thursday evening. Friday will feature illustrator Harry Bliss, who will help you “Catch The Reading Bug” and literacy educator Stephen Krashen will remind you why summer matters to kids. Breakouts and panel discussions will focus on collaboration, partnerships, promotion, and online programs. Finally, award-winning author Pam Munoz Ryan will have you shouting “Hooray! Ole! We love reading!”
Speakers: Judy Sierra, Author; Harry Bliss, Illustrator; Stephen Krashen; Pam Munoz Ryan, Author
Tickets: Advance: ALA Member: $199; ALA Member: $200; Non-Member: $250; Student/Retired Member: $175. Onsite: $300.
Event Code: SC1

LAMA
An Inside Look at Leadership
Friday, June 27, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Success is the result of knowing where you want to go and the changes you need to make to get there. This one-day LAMA preconference, developed in partnership with The Pacific Institute (http://www.pac-inst.com/) is for everyone in leadership positions as well as those moving towards a leadership role within their organizations or lives. Attendees will: Improve effective thinking skills; Heighten self-confidence; Increase self-motivation; Attain goals that were once thought out of reach; Understand paths to career growth.
Tickets: LAMA Member: $225; ALA Member: $275; Non-Member: $375; Student/Retired Member: $195.
Event Code: LA1

From Castles to Coasters to Experience and Green (A Tale of Two Libraries)
Friday, June 27, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
LAMA BES
A pre-conference bus tour of the City of Cor- ritos Public Library, considered the first “Experience Library,” and Santa Monica’s “Gold Certified Green” Main Library. Two libraries, two different designs, and two philosophies behind their design.
Tickets: LAMA Member: $75; ALA Member: $125; Non-Member: $200; Student/Retired Member: $60.
Event Code: LA2

Living the Balanced Scorecard
Friday, June 27, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
LAMA MAES
Balanced Scorecard (BSC) experienced presenters will take attendees through a day-long case study enabling them to apply BSC’s three broad strategies: customer intimacy, operational excellence and innovative services. Beginning with an overview of theory and practice of BSC, and followed by case study work in small groups, participants will work with data sets from academic and public libraries, and will leave with the knowledge and skills needed to implement BSC in their own libraries.
Speakers: Joe Matthews, Matthews & Associates, Carlsbad, CA; Susanna Pathak, Virginia Commonwealth University; Donna Tolson, Uni-
LITA

Datagrid Technologies and Libraries
Friday, June 27, 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
This pre-conference will be a panel presentation featuring librarians and storage administrators from the UC San Diego Libraries and the San Diego Supercomputer Center that will cover various aspects of datagrid technologies for use in libraries, the repositories, digital libraries, and digital preservation systems within libraries and will look specifically at case studies of the UC Libraries and the SDSC based Chornopolis digital preservation data-grid. Most of the tools for these systems are open source and with very minimal instruction can become an important collaborative network for use with academic bandwidth such as the Internet2 Abilene network for sharing large collections of born-digital material and escaping proprietary hardware lock-in on large scale or mass digitization initiatives.

Speakers: Ardyz Kozbial, UC San Diego Libraries; Declan Fleming, UC San Diego Libraries; Reagan Moore, San Diego Supercomputer Ctr; David Minor, San Diego Supercomputer Ctr; Robert H. McDonald, San Diego Supercomputer Ctr; Chris Jordan, San Diego Supercomputer Ctr

Tickets: LITA Member: $235; ALA Member: $315; Non-Member: $380
Event Code: L11

Getting Started With Drupal: An Open Source Web Content Management System
Thursday, June 26, 9:00 pm - 5:00 am
This pre-conference will be hands-on introduction to setting up and running a Drupal Web Content Management System, as seen at the Ann Arbor District Library and at Florida State University Libraries.

Speakers: Gary Gordon, President, Cherry Hill Company

Tickets: LITA Member: $235; ALA Member: $315; Non-Member: $380
Event Code: L12

Library-wide IT Proficiency
Friday, June 27, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Library IT staff need to stay abreast of the technological advances that can enhance library operations and simultaneously help all library staff maintain a level of competence and confidence in not only using current IT resources, but also learning new ways of working smarter.

Speakers: Grace Sines, National Agricultural Library; Brenda Chawmer, Victoria University of Wellington; Gary K. McCone, National Agricultural Library

Tickets: LITA Member: $235; ALA Member: $315; Non-Member: $380
Event Code: L13

RUSA

Business Librarianship 101: Core Competencies for Business Librarians
Friday, June 27, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
RUSA BRASS

This full-day interactive educational workshop is designed for beginning business librarians, generalists who have assumed responsibility as business librarians, or any academic, public, or special librarian interested in the field of business reference.

Speakers: Mark Andersen, Division Chief, Business, Science & Technology Division, Chicago Public Lib; Babray Bordelon, Pniny Fish Librarian of Economics and Finance, Princeton University

Tickets: Advance: ALA Member: $95; Non-Member: $140; Student/Retired Member: $57; Onsite: ALA Member: $135; Non-Member: $170; Student/Retired Member: $97.
Event Code: RU1

Genealogy Boot Camp
Friday, June 27, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
RUSA HS

Learn the basics of ancestry research and genealogy reference skills during the Genealogy Boot Camp. Whether you are a new librarian or one interested in refreshing your skills, this full-day workshop provides the tools you need for giving successful genealogy reference help.

Tickets: Advance: ALA Member: $99; Non-Member: $140; Student/Retired Member: $57; Onsite: ALA Member: $135; Non-Member: $180; Student/Retired Member: $97.
Event Code: RU2

Reinvented Reference 4: Emerging Technologies for Reference Service
Friday, June 27, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
RUSA MARS

The preconference speakers will identify emerging technologies that can be used to enhance and extend traditional reference services. New models for chat reference, blogs, podcasts, and videocasts for outreach services will be discussed.

Tickets: Advance: ALA Member: $125; Non-Member: $185; Student/Retired Member: $65; Onsite: ALA Member: $165; Non-Member: $235; Student/Retired Member: $105.
Event Code: RU3

YALSA

Got Tweens? Serving Younger Teens and Tweens
Friday, June 27, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Join us for this exciting program that looks at who younger teens and tweens are, the issues surrounding them, and how to reach them in your library. You’ll meet authors who write for this audience, gain exposure to literature for them through booktalks, hear from a panel of experts in the field on programming for younger teens and tweens, and learn about professional resources to aid in providing library service to this group in your school and public library. Lunch included.

Tickets: YALSA Member: $195; ALA Member: $235; Non-Member: $285; Student/Retired Member: $195.
Event Code: YA1

Turn Teens on to Reading through Booktalks
Friday, June 27, 12:30 pm - 5:00 pm
Looking for ways to boost your circulation statistics? Booktalks are a simple, effective way to get teens excited about reading. Attendees will learn effective tips for developing short, snappy booktalks that will get teens excited about reading. Then get ready to take booktalking to the next level as presenters share information and resources about incorporating youth participation and the latest technologies into your booktalking.

Tickets: $125
Event Code: YA2
special events

ALA

ALA/ProQuest Scholarship Bash
Saturday, June 28, 7:00 – 11:00 pm
Grab your Mouse Ears, we’re going to Disney! Every year the ALA Scholarship Bash is a rousing good time and this year will be no different, as the Bash heads to Disney’s California Adventure and Disney’s Magic Kingdom for a magical night. Don’t delay and get your tickets early! Remember, proceeds go towards MLS scholarships!
Tickets: Advance: $40. Onsite: $45
Event Code: AL1

Inaugural Banquet
Tuesday, July 1, 7:00 pm – 12:00 am
Join us in celebrating the inauguration of Jim Rettig as he assumes the role of American Library Association President. The night will also recognize the incoming Divisional presidents and new board members. Dinner and entertainment will round out the evening.
Tickets: $89
Event Code: AL2

Libraries Build Communities
Friday, June 27, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Participate in one or both of these daylong community services efforts on Friday and Tuesday. Exact jobs to be determined as we work with the Anaheim Public Library and community service groups. All participants will be notified in advance of the various projects and be able to pick the one in which they wish to participate. Your registration fee will be contributed to local library funds. Lunch, transportation, and a participation T-shirt are included.
Tickets: $10
Event Code: AL3

ALA-APA Angels Reception: Celebrating Five Years of Progress
Friday, June 27, 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm
The ALA-APA is celebrating its 5th anniversary by honoring the people and organizations that have helped it grow and flourish over the last five years. Come celebrate our past achievements and be a part of our bright future. ALA-APA was established to certify individuals in specializations beyond the initial professional degree and support of pay equity initiatives to improve the salaries and status of librarians and other library workers.
Speakers: Michael Gahick, emcee
Event Code: AP1

Orientation for Chapter Leaders
Saturday, June 28, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm
Chapter Relations Committee
This workshop includes information on: financial management of associations; how to further your commitment to diversity in your association; how chapter councilors work for the chapters; navigating your way through ALA. Join the "hot topic" discussions on board meetings, budgets, conference planning, diversity, legislative issues in Chapters, membership and working with staff. This event requires advance registration and includes a full breakfast. No onsite registration.
Tickets: ALA Member: $45; Non-Member: $65.
Event Code: CR1

Many Voices, Many Nations: Anaheim
Friday, June 27, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Diversity
Presenting a special Many Voices event showcasing Native voices and respecting the presence of indigenous nations as sovereign nations, brought to you with support from ALA President Dr. Loriane Roy. Writers from across the land will weave a tapestry of spoken word expressing our varied ethnic, cultural, and lifestyle traditions while celebrating our fundamental unity within the global human family. If you’ve experienced a MVoN, you know this is an unforgettable conference kick-off.
Tickets: $10
Event Code: D12

Coretta Scott King Book Awards Breakfast
Tuesday, July 1, 7:00 am - 9:00 am
EMIERT
Celebrate the 39th annual presentation of the Coretta Scott King Book Awards, where culturally sensitive works of African American authors and illustrators are highlighted.
Tickets: $50
Event Code: EM1

Tour of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton Libraries
Monday, June 30, 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
FAFLRT
Board the charter bus for a trip to Camp Pendleton. Camp Pendleton contains the largest undeveloped portion of coastline in Southern California. The ecosystem includes beaches, bluffs, mesas, canyons, mountains and Southern California’s only free-flowing river. There are more than 1,000 species of plants, fish and animals, some of which are either threatened or endangered. MCB Camp Pendleton, the Corps’ largest West Coast expeditionary training facility, encompasses more than 125,000 acres of Southern California terrain, is the largest employer in North San Diego County for more than 60 years. Bring your lunch money!
Event Code: FA2

International Librarians Reception
Monday, June 30, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
LSSIRRT
Come join LSSIRRT for an evening at Buca di Beppo Restaurant and enjoy dinner with your colleagues.
Tickets: $37.50
Event Code: LS1

LA Annual Conference & Exhibition 2008 EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION
now in its 17th year. Browse or purchase selections focusing on local, regional and major alternative publishers that may not be found in the main exhibit hall. Sponsored by the Alternative Media Task Force. Enjoy desserts and a cash bar while you celebrate media diversity.

**Tickets:** $15
**Event Code:** SR1

**AASL**

**AASL Awards Luncheon**
**Monday, June 30, 2008, 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm**
Celebrate the accomplishments of your colleagues and enjoy lunch at the presentation of the 2008 AASL Awards, including the prestigious National School Library Media Program of the Year Award. Don’t miss guest speaker Wendy Mass, author of *A Mango Shaped Space*, and winner of numerous awards including Bank Street Books top 35 children’s books of the last 35 years. Immediately following the Awards Luncheon is the AASL President’s Reception providing the opportunity to meet and greet the AASL President, Board Members and other member leaders.

**Tickets:** $49
**Event Code:** AA5

**Independent School Section (ISS) School Tour**
**Friday, June 27, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm**
ISS School Tour, including boxed lunch.

**Tickets:** $50
**Event Code:** AA6

**Independent School Section (ISS) Tea**
**Sunday, June 29, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm**
ISS Tea

**Tickets:** $29
**Event Code:** AA7

**ALSC**

**Newbery-Caldecott Awards Banquet**
**Sunday, June 29, 6:00 pm - 11:00 pm**
Join us for this gala evening to celebrate the Newbery and Caldecott Medalists and Honorees, authors and illustrators of the year’s most distinguished books for children. Cocktails (cash bar) available prior to dinner; doors open at 6:45 pm. Tickets are $89 and will be available at the Online Registration Counter until the event is sold out, or noon Friday, whichever occurs first. No tickets will be available at the door.

**Tickets:** $89
**Event Code:** SC2

**ALTA**

**Specialized Outreach Services (SOS) Luncheon: “Failure is Motivating, Success is Paralyzing” - Directors working with Staff cohesively**
**Sunday, June 29, 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm**
How can Directors get the very best from their staff? This question is a 2-way street. Our speaker will give methodologies to encourage, reward, and stimulate staff to give their best. The program will give the most rigid director suggestions to aid in acceptance of employee ideas, and criticisms for better services. Our program will rejuvenate, motivate and stimulate Trustees, Directors and Staff to keep the focus which is Service, Service, Service.

**Tickets:** $50
**Event Code:** AT1

**LAMA**

**ALA/IIDA Library Interior Design Awards Reception**
**Monday, June 30, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm**

**LAMA BES**
Co-sponsored by the International Interior Design Association (IIDA) and the Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA), these awards are presented every other year to interior designers and architects for excellence in interior design of libraries.

**Tickets:** LAMA Member: $50; ALA and Non-Member: $65; Student/Retired Member: $25.
**Event Code:** LA4

**RUSA**

**Literary Tastes: A Notable Books Breakfast**
**Sunday, June 29, 8:00 am - 10:30 am**

**RUSA CODES**
Come join this annual celebration of the best writing our time. Authors have been selected from the 2008 Notable Books Council’s “List for America’s Readers,” an annual list of 25 outstanding fiction, nonfiction and poetry books for adult readers (www.ala.org/rusa). The writers will read from their work or talk about an aspect of the writing process while attendees enjoy breakfast. They will be available to sign books and for further discussion after the breakfast. Tickets are $36 per person, and are available at the Onsite Registration Counter until 11:00 am on Saturday. No tickets will be sold at the door.

**Tickets:** $36
**Event Code:** RU5

**YALSA**

**Margaret A. Edwards Luncheon**
**Saturday, June 28, 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm**
The Margaret A. Edwards Award honors an author’s lifetime achievement for writing books that have been popular over a period of time with young adults. The annual award is administered by YALSA, the fastest growing division of ALA, and sponsored by School Library Journal magazine. It recognizes an author’s work in helping adolescents become aware of themselves and addressing questions about their role and importance in relationships, society, and in the world. Join us for lunch and listen to the Margaret A. Edwards Award winner speak about their writing.

**Tickets:** $59
**Event Code:** YA3

**YALSA’S Young Adult Author Coffee Klatch**
**Sunday, June 29, 9:00 am - 10:00 am**
Enjoy coffee and conversation featuring YALSA award winning authors! This informal coffee klatch will give you an opportunity to mingle with authors that appear on YALSA’s Best Books for Young Adults Lists!

**Tickets:** $19
**Event Code:** YA4

**Michael L. Printz Program and Reception**
**Monday, June 30, 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm**
Come listen to the Michael L. Printz winning author and honor book authors speak about their writing, followed by a dessert reception. The Michael L. Printz Award is an award for a book that exemplifies literary excellence in young adult literature. The annual award is administered by YALSA, the fastest growing division of ALA, and sponsored by Booklist magazine.

**Tickets:** Advance: $29, Onsite: $35
**Event Code:** YA5
Place a Job Ad
Visit JobLIST.ala.org to establish an institutional account in order to place Web-only ads, print ads in American Libraries and C&RL News, or any combination. Print ads in American Libraries cost $7.50 per line, $5.50 for ALA institutional members. Display ads range from $125 to $2,340. Print ads may be posted on JobLIST for 60 days for an additional $75, $65 for ALA institutional members. Complete rate and size information at JobLIST.ala.org.

Print Deadline
February 5 for the March issue, which mails February 25. Ads received after the 5th will be published as space permits through February 15.

Contact
E-mail joblist@ala.org or call 800-545-2433. Jon Kartman, ext. 4211. Career Leads, American Libraries, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; fax 312-440-0901.

Consultants or Classifieds
“Librarians’ Classifieds” and “ConsultantBase” are convenient and economical ad sections that put your products and services in front of more than 100,000 readers. See print ad rates above. Discounts for multiple insertions: 2–5 months, 5%; 6 months or more, 10%. ConsultantBase appears in the January, April, June, and October issues. Contact information below.

Advertising Policies
A salary range is requested for all job recruitment ads per ALA guidelines. The ALA Allied Professional Association endorses a minimum salary for professional librarians of not less than $40,000 per year. Job applicants are advised to explore “faculty rank” and “status” carefully. ALA opposes residency requirements and loyalty tests or oaths as conditions of employment. Job titles should reflect responsibilities as defined in ALA personnel guidelines. ALA requires that organizations recruiting through the Association’s publications or placement services comply with ALA antidiscrimination policies. Policy 54.3 states that the Association “is committed to equality of opportunity for all library employees or applicants for employment, regardless of race, color, creed, sex, age, physical or mental handicap, individual life-style or national origin.” By advertising through ALA services, the organization agrees to comply with the policy. Ads are edited only to conform to standard style. Acceptance of an advertisement does not constitute endorsement. ALA reserves the right to refuse advertising.

Billing
Invoice and tear sheet mailed to the advertiser following publication. Cost of ad furnished upon request.

Placement Services
America’s leading placement service for the library profession. Each year, we place more professional librarians with public libraries and college libraries, special libraries, and academic libraries than any other service.

ALA reserves the right to refuse advertising.

Academic Library
Assistant Professor/Reference Librarian, University Libraries, Murray State University. Full-time, tenure track position to begin July 2008. Qualifications: ALA-accredited master’s degree required. Second degree or experience in subject specialty, and familiarity with SFX, ILLiad, Blackboard, and information literacy theory preferred. Responsibilities: Serves at reference desk; teaches for-credit information literacy course and course-related presentations campus-wide; acts as liaison with academic college in support of collection development, faculty and student research; works with online only and distance education classes; participates in statewide, regional, and university level professional groups; and any special duties as assigned by the head of reference. The Murray State University library system, under new leadership, is expanding its public services department to meet new initiatives, including a planned new library complex. Application deadline: Feb. 15. To apply: Submit a letter of application, vita, names, addresses, email addresses, and telephone numbers of 3 references to: Nancy Jones, Reference Librarian Screening Committee Secretary, 205 Waterfield Library, Murray State University, Murray KY 42071-3307. New graduates welcome; women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Murray State University is an equal education and employment opportunity, M/F/D, AA employer.

Business and Economics Librarian, Western Washington University is searching for a forward-thinking, service-oriented librarian with a strong business background to work with a team of librarians to develop a user-centered reference and instruction program and build the library’s collection. The business and economics librarian provides a broad range of library and information services for the faculty and students of the college of business and economics, provides reference services, and participates in credit and non-credit library instruction and collection development and acts as a liaison between the library and the college of business and economics. This librarian will be part of a team working together to serve all library patrons by exploring and encouraging the use of new technologies to plan, implement, and deliver new and traditional library services related to reference, research consultation, instruction and collection development. The librarian will also serve on the reference desk including some weekend and evening hours, and participate in library management groups as appropriate. Required qualifications:
CAREER LEADS | Academic Library

Eastern Michigan University

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
CATALOGING/METADATA LIBRARIAN

Eastern Michigan University Library is looking for a knowledgeable and highly motivated librarian to provide leadership in the provision of resource description and access that helps users discover, identify, locate, and access content in a diverse range of formats. Supervises, trains and manages Cataloging operations to meet changing library needs. Works closely with public services, systems, and university archives to facilitate effective access to library's print, media, and digital collections. Serves as backup ILS systems administrator.

Minimum Qualifications: ALA-accredited master's degree in library or information science. Prior experience in copy, original and complex cataloging of print and electronic resources on local integrated library systems. Demonstrated working knowledge of cataloging standards (AACR2, USMARC, LCSH, and LC classification). Experience with cataloging applications and software (OCLC Connexion, MarcEdit and MARCpro). Knowledge of current and emerging trends in cataloging, digital access and metadata standards such as EAD, MARC21, and Dublin Core. Experience with relational databases such as MySQL, Oracle, or MS Access. Strong organization and project management skills. Supervisory experience. Potential to meet established library criteria for promotion and tenure, including professional service and published research. Preferred Qualifications: Experience with Ex Libris Voyager ILS. Familiarity with Dublin Core or comparable digital repository system. A second graduate degree.

This is a full-time tenure track faculty appointment at the rank of Instructor or Assistant Professor. The full advertisement may be viewed at http://www.emich.edu/hr/funds.html Review of applications will begin January 25th, 2008 and will continue until the position is filled. Please send a curriculum vitae, and names of at least three references either by postal mail at the address listed below or by email to academic_hr@emich.edu. (To avoid receiving duplicate materials, please choose one method of submitting materials).

Eastern Michigan University is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Educator that is strongly committed to achieving excellence through cultural diversity. The University actively encourages applications from women, persons of color, and applicants with disabilities, veterans, and members of other underrepresented groups.

For full description and application procedures see www.usc.edu/libraries/jobs.

Government Documents Librarian (#243)
University of Southern California

USC Libraries seeks an energetic, innovative, and committed Government Documents Librarian (#229C). Successful candidate will engage in a full range of reference, instruction, collection development and management, and outreach activities relating to federal, state, and international government documents.

REQUIREMENTS: At least 2 years of experience working with government documents, MLS from ALA-accredited program, and knowledge of Federal Depository Library Program regulations. Hiring range starts at $50,000 p.a. The University of Southern California values diversity and is committed to equal opportunity in employment. AA/E OE.

For full description and application procedures see www.usc.edu/libraries/jobs.

Associate Dean for Digital Futures
San José State University Library

San José State University Library invites nominations and applications for the Associate Dean for Digital Futures position. The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library is a shared University/ Public Library providing a vibrant intellectual center for SJSU and the community.

SJSU, a rich multicultural campus with 30,000 students, is part of the California State University system. We are located in the San Francisco Bay Area within a rich milieu of cultural, recreational, and educational resources.

The Associate Dean will lead King Library in developing digital initiatives and utilizing emerging technologies to better serve students. This position will shape the academic library of the future.

A Master's degree in Library and Information Science (ALA accredited) or equivalent, experience leading an IT unit and utilizing emerging technologies in providing access to collections and instructional services is required. Excellent salary and benefits.

First screening: February 1, 2008
SJsu is an EO/AA Employer.
Requisition #12233

www.sjsu.edu/hr/jobopps
Dean of University Libraries

The University of Southern Mississippi invites applications and nominations for the position of dean of university libraries. The university seeks a creative individual with a clear vision for the future of academic research libraries and a knowledge of trends in higher education. Working as the primary advocate for the university libraries, the dean provides leadership for the goals of the University Libraries which support the mission of the university. The successful candidate will have the exciting and unique opportunity to work with a new university administration to advance university libraries to new levels of growth and service.

Responsibilities

The dean of university libraries administers the operations, direction, development, implementation, and evaluation of all aspects of library services. Library services are provided at the Joseph Anderson Cook Library and the William David McCain Library and Archives on the Hattiesburg campus; the Gulf Coast Library, Gulf Coast Student Services Center Library, Gunter Library at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, and several teaching site libraries on the Gulf Coast. The dean of university libraries serves as a member of the deans’ council and reports to the provost. In addition, the dean consults with areas of the university community including, but not limited to, the library services committee, faculty senate, and the student government association regarding the formulation and implementation of library policies and services. The dean is expected to foster professional growth for faculty and staff and to successfully negotiate consortia agreements and collaborative projects.

Qualifications

REQUIRED: An ALA-accredited MLS (or international equivalent) and evidence of successful administrative and leadership organizational experience; a commitment to student learning; effective support of university research; outstanding oral and written communications skills; the ability to meet the university’s tenure requirements with evidence of scholarly activity at the Associate or Full Professor level; a record of increasing managerial responsibility; and proven leadership in strategic and fiscal planning including budget management.

DESIRABLE: An additional master’s or doctoral degree (terminal degree preferred) and demonstrated abilities in a multiple-campus setting. Also desirable is a record of experience in implementing and advancing the use of emerging technologies; securing external funding for the library and library services; effectively developing and implementing programmatic and financial plans; developing and sustaining collaborative relationships with diverse communities including students, staff, faculty, and administrators; and serving as an effective advocate for the libraries and their educational missions at the campus, community, state, national, and international levels.

About the Libraries

The university libraries employ 28 FTE staff librarians and 50 FTE staff members and has an operating budget of just under $7 million. The library houses over 1,200,000 volumes, subscribes to 149 online databases, and provides access to more than 59,000 electronic books and journals. The university libraries play a leadership role in the multi-institutional Mississippi Digital Library initiative. The special collections department in the McCain Library and Archives houses materials relating to the history of Mississippi and its people; rare books, historical manuscripts, university archives, the digitization lab, and the internationally renowned de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection.

About the University of Southern Mississippi

The University of Southern Mississippi is a comprehensive doctoral and research University. The main campus in Hattiesburg and the Gulf Coast campus at Long Beach-Gulf Park, Southern Miss is the only comprehensive university in the state to have been designated dual-campus status by the Mississippi IHL Board of Trustees. With these 2 primary sites and 5 other teaching and research sites along the Mississippi Gulf Coast, Southern Miss serves nearly 16,000 students. A new Gulf Coast campus has been approved by the Board of Trustees to augment facilities severely damaged by Hurricane Katrina.

To be assured full consideration, applications should be received by Dec. 15. Appointment is effective summer 2008 or as negotiated. Application materials must include a letter of interest, a curriculum vitae, a 3-4 page vision statement, and the names, addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of 5 references. Materials should be sent to:

Dr. Jeanne Gillespie
Chair, Search Committee for Dean of University Libraries
118 College Dr. 35002
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001
jeanne.gillespie@usm.edu

Desirable:

- American Libraries | January/February 2008

- Electronic Resources Management Librarian, Assistant or Associate Professor. The Robert B. Greenblatt, M.D. Library invites applications for an electronic resources management librarian, a position responsible for integrated acquisitions, management, access, and delivery of electronic resources. The

- With all library employees in the course of performing duties, AN IDEAL CANDIDATE WILL HAVE strong analytical skills, a strong commitment to service, and the flexibility to adapt to an evolving environment. The University of Idaho Library is an Enhance library for books format and a member of NACO. As a member of the Washington and Idaho Network (WIN) consortium, the library shares an online system with 3 other northern Idaho academic libraries. RESPONSIBILITIES: Create original records and work with complex copy cataloging in a variety of formats (including electronic), in a variety of languages and subject areas following national cataloging standards such as AACR2r, LCRI, LCSH, LCC, US MARC, OCLC’s Bibliographic Formats and Standards, and other format-specific cataloging guidelines as appropriate; may use DACS, Dublin Core, or other metadata schemes to organize and provide access to library collections, including digital resources. Share in the maintenance of the quality of the library’s database in a Voyager system by contributing new bibliographic records to OCLC’s WorldCat database; improve the quality of that database by correcting, reporting errors; maintain and enhance the quality of the local Voyager integrated library system; may contribute name authority records to the Library of Congress name authority file through the Idaho NACO funnel. Participate in problem-solving and policy-making activities and committee work; serve as a person resource to library employees for questions concerning cataloging, database maintenance, and workflow; work with the head of technical services to develop and implement unit procedures and goals; share with library colleagues relevant information gained from professional activities, and use that knowledge to improve departmental operations. As a member of the University of Idaho faculty, the successful candidate is expected to participate in planning and governance, to be able to work comfortably in a shared decision-making environment, and to be active professionally in service and research. Starting Date: April 2008. Salary and benefits: Appointment will be at the Assistant Professor rank; $38,500. Benefits include standard state life and health insurance, generous annual leave and retirement. See the ATS online system: 10003725 Catalog Librarian under the Academic Faculty category. Chair of the Search Committee is Barbara C. Greenblatt, Search Committee Chair at bgreer@uidaho.edu or 208-885-2510. To enrich education through diversity, the University of Idaho is an equal-opportunity, affirmative-action employer. University of Idaho: Open Space. Open Minds.

- Electronic Resources Management Librarian, Assistant or Associate Professor. The Robert B. Greenblatt, M.D. Library invites applications for an electronic resources management librarian, a position responsible for integrated acquisitions, management, access, and delivery of electronic resources. The
### Staff Training and Development Coordinator

**Princeton University Library**  
Princeton, New Jersey  
Requisition # 0700818

The Princeton University Library, one of the world’s most respected research institutions, serves a diverse community of 7,200 students and 1,100 faculty members, with more than 6 million printed volumes, 5 million manuscripts, and 2 million nonprint items. The holdings in its central library and 15 specialized libraries range from ancient papyri and incunabula to the most advanced electronic databases and digital collections. The library employs a dedicated and knowledgeable staff of more than 300 professional and support personnel, complemented by a large student and hourly workforce. More information can be found at the library’s website: libweb.princeton.edu.

**Available Immediately**

**DESCRIPTION:** This position is responsible for all staff training and development programs for over 350 employees including library professionals and unionized staff in an academic library setting. The Princeton University Library comprises a large central library and 15 specialized libraries that are heavily used by an academic community that includes 6,400 students and 1,100 faculty members. To support the diverse needs of its users, the library holds some 6 million printed volumes, ranging from incunabula to current imprints, and provides access to many other records of human knowledge, such as ancient papyri and cylinder seals, 19th literary manuscripts, and recently produced electronic databases and journals.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** The staff training and development coordinator is responsible for:
1. Works collaboratively with multiple constituents including department heads, managers, supervisors and library staff members to design, develop, coordinate, market, and implement training and development programs that speak to the diverse needs of the staff.
2. The incumbent is responsible for tracking Library staff participation in training programs and for annually assessing the effectiveness of the same.
3. The incumbent is responsible for leading the Library Education and Training Committee (LETC) and running the library’s new employee orientation program.
4. The incumbent is expected to work collegially with both internal university resources (i.e. OIT, university human resources, the ombudsman, EEO, employee health and safety) and external organizations (i.e. PALINET, the Association of Research Libraries) to achieve results.
5. Special projects—including maintaining and updating the library HR website and working with supervisors and employee health and to coordinate ergonomic site assessments.

**Qualifications:**

**REQUIRED:** Bachelor’s degree required. A minimum of 5 years of previous experience as a training professional in an academic library or higher education setting required. Demonstrated ability to work effectively with a variety of people at all levels in the organization. Must have superior oral and written communication skills. Previous supervisory experience required.

**PREFERRED:** Prior experience working with diversity programs and initiatives preferred. Master’s degree in human resource management, organizational development or adult education preferred.

**DESIRABLE:** Certification as a human resources professional (PHR) desirable. Compensation and benefits: Compensation will be competitive and commensurate with experience and accomplishments. Any paid holidays, Annuity program (TIAA/CREF), group life insurance, health coverage insurance, disability insurance, and other benefits are available.

**Rank:** This is an Administrative position, grade ADM 050; 100% duty time; work schedule: Monday-Friday, 8:45 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

**Nominations and applications:** Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled. Nominations and applications (cover letter, resume and the names, titles, addresses, and phone numbers of three references) will be accepted only from the Jobs at Princeton website: www.princeton.edu/jobs.

Princeton University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. For information about applying to Princeton, please link to www.princeton.edu/jobs.

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### Islamic Manuscript Cataloger

**Princeton University**  
Princeton, New Jersey  
Requisition # 0700906

The Princeton University Library, one of the world’s most respected research institutions, serves a diverse community of 6,600 students and 1,100 faculty members with more than 6 million printed volumes, 5 million manuscripts, and 2 million nonprint items. The holdings in its central library and 15 specialized libraries range from ancient papyri and incunabula to the most advanced electronic databases and digital collections. The library employs a dedicated and knowledgeable staff of more than 300 professionals and support personnel, complemented by a large student and hourly workforce. More information can be found at the library’s website: libweb.princeton.edu. Available: Immediately. Two-year professional position, with extensions possible.

**Description**

As part of the Princeton University Library’s Islamic Manuscripts Cataloging and Digitization Project (a grant-funded initiative) the library seeks a Near Eastern studies specialist. The library holds approximately 9,500 Islamic manuscripts, and 2 million nonprint items. The holdings in its central library and 15 specialized libraries range from ancient papyri and incunabula to the most advanced electronic databases and digital collections. The Library employs a dedicated and knowledgeable staff of more than 300 professionals and support personnel, complemented by a large student and hourly workforce. More information can be found at the library’s website: libweb.princeton.edu. Available: Immediately. Two-year professional position, with extensions possible.

**Qualifications**

**REQUIRED:** Candidates must have excellent reading knowledge of Arabic and a strong academic background in classical Near Eastern Studies. Candidates must be able to apply ALA-LC romanization tables. Demonstrated ability to meet production deadlines and to work collaboratively.

**PREFERRED:** MA or PhD in Near Eastern studies or equivalent education and experience, including scholarly or bibliographic work with pre-modern Islamic manuscripts. Familiarity with classical Islamic texts and paleography is highly desirable. Knowledge of Persian and/or Ottoman Turkish is desirable, as is work experience in a research library.

**Compensation and Benefits**

Compensation will be competitive and commensurate with experience and accomplishments. Twenty-four (24) vacation days a year, plus eleven (11) paid holidays. Annuity program (TIAA/CREF), group life insurance, health coverage insurance, disability insurance, and other benefits are available.

**Nominations and Applications**

Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled. Nominations and applications (cover letter, resume and the names, titles, addresses, and phone numbers of three references) will be accepted only from the Jobs at Princeton website: www.princeton.edu/jobs.

Princeton University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. For information about applying to Princeton, please link to www.princeton.edu/jobs.
A position assumes a leadership role in managing resource access, monitors current trends in access and electronic resource management, and administers use of electronic resource management systems and tools, especially Verde and MetaLib. The librarian serves as a resource expert for access and management of electronic resources and shares responsibility for training and oversight of staff involved in e-resource support. The successful candidate must have 2 years of experience that includes utilizing, managing, and administering an electronic resource management system, reporting statistics and analyzing data, and working with publishers and vendors of electronic resources in licensing and shared electronic resource agreements. Review of applications will begin Jan. 15, 2008, and continue until the position is filled. Minimum salary is $42,000. For a full description of responsibilities and qualifications, see www.lib.mcg.edu/about/positions/emrl.php. Send application letter, resume, and the names of 3 references to: Marianne Brown, Head Library Business Services, Greenblatt Library, AB-217, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, GA 30912-4400; 706-721-4677; fax: 706-721-2018; email marbrown@mail.mcg.edu. AA/EEO/ equal access/ADA employer.

HEAD OF ACQUISITIONS. Tulane University. Howard-Tilton Memorial Library seeks a creative and team-oriented professional to join the technical services division. The division consists of four departments: Acquisitions, cataloging, database management, and stacks management. The complete list of position duties is available at library.tulane.edu/staff/employment.php. This position oversees acquisitions functions for an ARL-level library with an annual materials budget of approximately $6 million. This position reports directly to the director of technical services and oversees seven paraprofessional staff members. RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE management of serials and monographs acquisitions, ordering and invoicing for digital resources, processing and tracking fund expenditures, vendor relations, and staff supervision. Acquisitions is a key function in the library and this department head works collaboratively with many other librarians outside the technical services division including some 20 bibliographers for the general collections and those purchasing materials for special collections. The Howard-Tilton Memorial Library is a rapidly changing environment and its head of acquisitions is expected to develop expertise with emerging technologies and lead and/or participate in innovative library projects. REQUIREMENTS: ALA-accredited MLS; minimum 3 years of library acquisitions experience with increasingly responsible work assignments and supervisory responsibilities; ability to multitask and manage detail; strong oral and written communication skills; and a demonstrated skill in fostering cooperation, building consensus, and developing partnerships among a wide variety of constituents and strong interpersonal, oral and written communication and presentation skills. Applicants should send a letter of interest, CV or resume, and a list of references to David Bellshaw, Beverly Brady, and Regan Gough at 3486@imsearch.com. Email correspondence is strongly encouraged. All correspondence will be held in strict confidence. Please direct nominations and general inquiries to this electronic address as well. Additional contact information is as follows:

Isaacson, Miller 649 Mission Street, Suite 500 San Francisco, CA 94105 Phone: 415.655.4900 Fax: 415.655.4905

The University of California does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, veteran status, medical condition, ancestry, or marital status.
CAREER LEADS | Academic Library

Gerontontology Librarian (#243)
University of Southern California

USC Libraries is seeking an energetic, innovative, and committed Gerontontology Librarian (#243), with secondary responsibility for one or two other social science areas. The librarian will participate in providing a full range of services, including reference, instruction, collection development and management, outreach, and services to distance learners. They will partner closely with the Davis School of Gerontology and the Andrus Gerontology Center.

**Requirements:** BA in a social science discipline, MLS from an ALA-accredited program, and at least two years of experience in an academic or research library. USC is an EO/AA employer.

For full position description and application procedure, see www.usc.edu/libraries/jobs/librarians.

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Networked Information Services Librarian
University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Jackson Library

The university libraries is seeking an enthusiastic individual to provide creative and innovative leadership for its networked information and distance education programs and initiatives. This position will provide core technical, public service, and program support for the library's growing array of electronic information. As a member of the electronic resources and information technology department, this position has primary responsibility for instructional technology, electronic books, federated search, proxy server administration, vendor database support, and Open URL linking. He/she will actively participate as a member of a large, innovative technology unit that develops regional and national library technology applications and services. Position requires an ALA-accredited MLS or equivalent. This is a 12-month, tenure-track faculty position. Demonstrated professional achievement, service, and scholarly/creative activity are required for reappointment and tenure. Standard benefits include state or optional (including TIAA/CREF) retirement plans, state health plan, and 24 vacation days per year. Preference will be given to applications received by Jan. 4. Position will remain open until filled. Starting date is negotiable. EEO/AA. Please see http://provost.uncg.edu/Academic/EPA_Personnel/JobLists/ for responsibilities, required qualifications, preferred qualifications of the position, and application procedures.

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Post-MLS Diversity Residency Librarian
University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Jackson Library

The university libraries seeks a post-MLS graduate for the position of diversity resident, which is a new program developed to foster an individual's professional growth, while further increasing the library staff's diversity. This is a 2-year program in which the resident will work in 3 functional areas and gain valuable experience in multiple service areas of academic librarianship. This position will also participate in the diversity initiatives for both the library and the university. REQUIRED: ALA-accredited master's degree in library science, communication skills; strong critical thinking skills; accounting experience; experience with vendor relations; knowledge of ILS systems and EDI; potential for leadership in a collaborative setting; productive, attitude and enthusiasm for an innovative and changing environment.

**Preferred:** Accessions experience in a mid-to-large academic or research library. Environment: Tulane University is an AAU institution located in picturesque uptown New Orleans. Howard-Tilton Memorial Library is the university's main library, an ARL research collection supporting programs in the humanities, social sciences, and the sciences. Compensation: Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience. Librarians have academic status, without tenure or faculty rank, but in other respects receive the benefits of faculty members. Review of applications will begin immediately, and continue until the position is filled. Qualified candidates should submit a letter of application, resume, and names of 3 professional references. Applications may be submitted electronically to abacino@tulane.edu or mailed to: Howard-Tilton Memorial Library, Attn.: Andrea Bacino, Tulane University, 7001 Freret St., New Orleans, LA 70118-5682. Tulane University is an AA/EO/AA/EO employer. Women, minorities and veterans are encouraged to apply.

**INFORMATION LITERACY/REFERENCE LIBRARIAN.** Clarion University Libraries seeks an experienced librarian for a 9-month, full-time, tenure-track position starting August 2008 at rank of Instructor or Assistant Professor depending on qualifications. Salary competitive and commensurate with academic preparation and experience with range from $41,817-$61,820 for Instructor and $48,409-$71,565 for Assistant Professor. **THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE will assist in the continued development and administration of a comprehensive program of information literacy instruction and provide reference service for the university community. REQUIRED: ALA-accredited MLS; minimum 3 years of relevant professional library experience; strong service orientation and ability to work cooperatively; excellent communication skills; and demonstrated experience in providing reference service and information literacy instruction. Completion of a successful interview. Priority given to applications received by Jan. 25. For more information and to apply for this position, please visit https://jobs.clarion.edu.**

**METADATA LIBRARIAN, Assistant or Associate Professor.** The Robert B. Greenblatt, M.D. Library invites applications for a metadata librarian, a position that provides leadership in cataloging and metadata creation, and in management and quality assurance for bibliographic and digital projects and databases. The metadata librarian streamlines workflows in support of print and digital initiatives, creates digital collections and databases. Working within the team environment, the metadata librarian oversees staff performing copy cataloging and serves as a resource expert for metadata, cataloging, historical collection and preservation, and digital databases. **THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE MUST HAVE knowledge of metadata formats and standards and at least 2 years of experience that includes working with a major integrated library management system, cataloging resources in a variety of formats, and managing library databases. Familiarity with...**
Durham County Library is recruiting for the following positions. Visit our booth at the 2008 ALA Midwinter Meeting for more information.

Available Positions

**Deputy Director**
Marketing Manager
For information, contact Joyce McNeill at 919-697-3207 or jmcmill@co.durham.nc.us

**Administrative Librarian II** (North Regional Library Manager)
Closing date for these positions is Jan. 25.

Durham County Library, 300 N. Roxboro Street, Durham, NC 27701
Visit our website at: [www.durhamcountylibrary.org](http://www.durhamcountylibrary.org)

with current trends, best practices and emerging issues in metadata, metadata management, cataloging, digitization, preservation, repositories, and scholarly communication is expected. Review of applications will begin Jan. 15, 2008, and continue until the position is filled. Minimum salary is $42,000. For a full description of responsibilities and qualifications, see [www.lib.mcg.edu/about/positions/metadata.php](http://www.lib.mcg.edu/about/positions/metadata.php). Send application letter, resume, and the names of 3 references to: Marianne Brown, Head, Library Business Services, Greenblatt Library, AB-217, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, GA 30912-4400; telephone 706-721-4677; fax 706-721-2018; email marbrown@mail.mcg.edu. AA/EEO/equal access/ADA employer.

**PUBLIC SERVICES LIBRARIAN.** Sowela Technical Community College seeks a technology savvy, service-oriented public services librarian for a full-time, 12-month position. DUTIES: Provide high quality, proactive reference service; develop and coordinate library instruction program; collaborate with faculty to design and implement course-integrated library instruction; create subject guides, bibliographies and handouts; maintain library webpage; develop library programs and activities for students; and liaison to all teaching departments. REQUIREMENTS: ALA-accredited master’s degree in library science or equivalent degree in library and information science; reference and instruction experience in an academic library; knowledge of online databases and Internet resources; familiarity with trends in information literacy; excellent oral and written communication skills; and a willingness to work a flexible schedule. To request an official application and copy of the position description, email barbara.bordelon@sowela.edu. Send application, cover letter, resume, and copy of transcript(s) to: Director of Human Resources, Department of Human Resources, Sowela Technical Community College, PO Box 106950, Lake Charles, LA 70616-6950; fax 337-491-2135. Accepting applications until position is filled.

**TECHNICAL SERVICES LIBRARIAN/ SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR.** Illinois College seeks a librarian to manage our integrated library system and periodical databases, supervise cataloging, and participate in outreach to students and faculty. Will work cooperatively with library colleagues, faculty, and information technology department. We are looking for enthusiasm, willingness to learn, and contribution to a vision for use of emerging information technologies. Affinity for small liberal arts colleges would be advantageous. MLS or pending MLS from an accredited program required. Illinois College is a member of I-Share, a consortium of 71 academic libraries. Letter of application, resume, undergraduate and graduate transcripts, contact information for three professional references, and statement of library philosophy to: Martin H Gallas, Library Director, Illinois College, 1101 W. College Ave., Jacksonville, IL 62650; email gallas@ic.edu. Review of applications begins Feb. 4. Minorities and women encouraged to apply. See [www.ic.edu/aboutus/employment.php](http://www.ic.edu/aboutus/employment.php).

**REGIONAL SALARY GUIDE**

Listed below are the latest minimum starting salary figures recommended by ALA for professional library posts in these states. The recommendations are advisory only, and ALA has not adopted them for minimum salaries. Leads advises job seekers and employers in these states to consider the recommended minimums when evaluating professional vacancies. For additional information on librarian salaries, contact ALA Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Minimum Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>$40,158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>$47,235.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>$26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>$45,107*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>$45,107*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>$32,775*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>$32,432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>$33,748*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>$41,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>$32,775*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>$30,554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>$37,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>$33,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>$32,700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

‘* Rather than establish one statewide salary minimum, some state associations have adopted a formula based on variables such as comparable salaries for public school teachers in each community, or the grade level of a professional librarian post. Before applying for a library post in one of these states, Leads recommends that job seekers contact the state association for minimum salary information.

**MEDICAL LIBRARY**

**LIBRARY SUPERVISOR,** Valhalla, New York. Provides daily management and supervision of the access services department of health sciences library. Supervises services and staff of the department. Maintains departmental manuals and documentation. Master degree required. Please fax resume to 914-594-3171, New York Medical College, Health Science Library.

**LAW LIBRARY**

**CATALOGING LIBRARIAN.** The George Washington University Law Library is reopening its search for a cataloging librarian with foreign language skills to perform original descriptive and subject cataloging and to edit shared cataloging copy for older legal materials in a variety of foreign languages. Additional information and application instructions are available on the law library’s website, [www.law.gwu.edu/Burns/About/jobs.htm](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Burns/About/jobs.htm). The George Washington University is an equal-opportunity, affirmative-action employer.

**PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**ASSISTANT LIBRARY DIRECTOR,** Marion Public Library. REQUIREMENTS: ALA-accredited master’s of library science with 2-4 years of public library experience. Position oversees libraries computers and adult programming. Minimum salary is $52,254. Visit the library website for a complete job description.
Interested applicants should submit a letter of application, resume, and references to: Susan Kling, Marion Public Library, 1095 6th Ave., Marion, IA, 52302. Application deadline: Feb. 1.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR. An exciting opportunity is awaiting the next director of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library. The library trustees are seeking a creative, energetic and dedicated director to head the newly completed $15 million facility which serves a growing community of 50,000, with a staff of 90 (40 FTE), and $3.6 million budget. Appropriate candidate will have had prior success working with a library board, library personnel and community leaders, budget, public relations, short- and long-term planning, and excellent verbal and written communication skills. Master’s degree in library science, or equivalent, from an ALA-accredited institution, or one recognized by the New York State Department of Education, 6 or more years of satisfactory professional library experience in a library of recognized standing, 2 or more years of which must have been in an administrative capacity. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Eligibility for a New York State Public Librarian’s professional certificate at time of application for appointment. Salary range: $75,000-$95,000. To ensure consideration submit cover letter, resume, and contact information for 3-5 professional references by Feb. 8 via email to jpiracci@sals.edu or by mail to: Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library, 475 Moe Rd., Clifton Park, NY 12065. Questions may be directed to Jo Piracci, at 518-371-8622 or jpiracci@sals.edu.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR. Progressive, fast growing White County, Arkansas, is seeking energetic, experienced public library system director. Director will oversee and assist with planning all phases of library services for 7 branches with 15 FTEs; will work with a 13-member regional board and 5-member county board; will be responsible for budget preparation and represent the library to the public and governmental agencies. APPLICANTS MUST HAVE an MLS from an ALA-accredited school, at least 5 years of administrative experience, excellent verbal and written skills, cooperative spirit, political experience, technological knowledge, and a public library background. Experience with construction projects a plus. Basic salary range between $50,000 to $60,000 based on experience. Retirement and health care provided. Letters of application, resumes and references should be sent to: Susie Boyett, White County Regional Library System, 113 E. Pleasure Ave., Searcy, AR 72143. For complete information please visit www.wcrls.org.

SENIOR LIBRARIAN, City of Monterey Park, Calif. $58,332-$74,616 annually. REQUIRE MLS plus 2 years of experience. Closes Jan. 18. For required city application visit www.ci.monterey-park.ca.us or call 626-307-1334. EOE.

(state library)

Permanent and temporary part-time librarian positions available with the County of Los Angeles Public Library. People with bilingual skills and/or interest in children’s services especially needed. Monthly salary: $3,891-$4,836. Go to www.colapublib.org for job announcement and standard application. Contact human resources at 562-940-8434 for interview appointment. MLS required.

@joblist.ala.org

For More Job Listings Go To

HRDR
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American Library Association

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American Library Association would like to thank its 2007-2008 Library Champions

As ALA’s highest level of corporate membership, Library Champions provide not only essential funding through their support of ALA’s national advocacy and awareness initiatives, our library - The Campaign for America’s Libraries, but also an example for all ALA’s members, partners and friends. By supporting ALA at this high level, our Champions show their commitment to ALA and all of America’s libraries – a commitment that is vital to our efforts to speak to the value of libraries and librarians in the 21st century.

In today’s ever changing world, libraries must struggle to upgrade aging computer hardware and software, support high speed Internet connectivity, and expand their collections to include new formats and media like DVDs and graphic novels, while still providing traditional services. The advocacy programs supported by Library Champion dues have become even more important as libraries strive to expand into these areas to provide new and necessary services for all Americans.

Library Champions’ support of the ALA and libraries sets an example, not only to ALA members, but to anyone who supports libraries as information, learning, and community centers. Please visit www.ala.org to learn more about our forty-seven Library Champions and their role at ALA and in the future of America’s libraries.

For over 53 years 3M has been partnering with libraries to help them successfully meet the changing needs of their customers and to create a more ‘human’ library for them. In addition to providing innovative security, productivity and information management solutions that free librarians to be librarians by allowing them to spend more time helping customers, we strive to give back to libraries some of the support they’ve given us these many years.

As a Library Champion, and as a founding partner of the “@yourlibrary®” campaign, 3M is also committed to helping increase public awareness of the vitality and value of today’s libraries globally.

FOUNDED: 1902
CONTACT: Shelly Nieder 651.733.8141
www.3M.com/us/library

Baker & Taylor is a leading provider of information and services. Its customers include public, school, corporate, and special libraries worldwide. Baker & Taylor’s products and services are designed with the customer in mind. We have over 179 years of experience serving libraries around the world. Since 1828, we have brought libraries the widest range of product offerings in the industry, as well as value-added and customized services to meet your needs, and ultimately, the needs of your patrons. Today, we are committed to developing new programs and services that are in-step with today’s technology and the changing needs of you and your patrons. By providing superior service and support, we are helping to ensure that your library remains a champion in your community.

FOUNDED: 1872
CONTACT: Information Services 800.775.1800 or info@btinfo.com
www.btinfo.com

Bob Silbert, President
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Joe Largen, President & Chairman of the Board
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For over 85 years our company has put children’s books in our unique binding so they are durable enough to withstand the heavy circulation they get in schools and public libraries. Our company’s mission is to help librarians put quality books in their libraries has not wavered since my grandfather founded the company.

Bound to Stay Bound has tried to support ALA, librarians and libraries in other ways through the years. Since 1985 we have sponsored several scholarships a year for students trying to become children’s librarians. Since 2001 we have sponsored ALA’s Robert E. Sibert Award for informational children’s books. Being a Library Champion is, we feel, just one more good way to strengthen our country’s national treasure, it’s Libraries.

FOUNDED: 1939
CONTACT: Julie Carson 203.233.6567
www.brodart.com

Ann M. Callanan, President
BOWKER

NEW CHAMPION
Pamela Smith, Senior Vice President
BWI/FOLLETT LIBRARY RESOURCES

BWI and Follett Library Resources are proud to support the American Library Association’s advocacy efforts through the Library Champions program. As Follett Corporation companies, we are committed to helping to inspire and empower learners of all ages by providing books, audiovisual materials, and related services to public libraries and schools around the world. Our mission is to anticipate and exceed our customers’ needs and provide you with gold-standard personal service, superior selection, and the best overall value – in short, a world-class experience from start to finish.

FOUNDED: 1873
CONTACT: BWI 800.888.4478
www.follett.com
Follett Library Resources 800.511.5114
www.titleswave.com
At Candelwick Press, we dedicate ourselves to creating the highest quality books for young readers. Located in Cambridge, Massachusetts, we are America’s largest employee-owned children’s publisher. Our independence allows us to pursue a wide range of creative choices while we serve our young “constituents” from infancy to adulthood. We honor librarians, who give as much care and attention to the health of connecting readers and books as we try to give to each detail of the publishing process.

From the very beginnings of our U.S. company, we have been privileged to work closely with the American Library Association. We now are especially proud to support their advocacy efforts and the mission of allowing young people from all backgrounds equal opportunity to learn that libraries—and books—are “for life.”

FONDED: 1991
CONTACT: Sharon Hancock 617.661.3330
www.candelwick.com

At DEMCO, we strongly believe in the role of the American Library Association in strengthening libraries and the library profession and are pleased to demonstrate this belief by supporting the Library Champions program of ALA. Additionally, the people of DEMCO demonstrate their commitment to diversity in the profession by supporting the ALA Diversity Fair as well as diversity programs and awards administered by state chapters. We believe strongly in the value of libraries and library service and recognize that our mission is to anticipate your current and future needs and to supply products and services that support libraries and help to make them more attractive and user-friendly.

FONDED: 1905
CONTACT: John Ivan 608.241.1201
www.demco.com

Dun & Bradstreet (D&B) - Library Champion since 1992 – proudly renew its association with the ALA. With over 160 years of leadership in the information field, our Internet, CD-ROM, and directory products offer the quality information your patrons and students need for market research, industry analysis, job searching and more – all in easy-to-search and easy-to-use format.

Our information is backed by DUNSRight®, our patented pending quality process designed to increase the accuracy, timeliness and completeness of all our data. DUNSRight features over 2,000 quality control checks, 1.5 million daily updates, and five quality drivers to ensure the library community receives top-quality data on local, national and global markets.

D&B is honored to be a Library Champion and seeks to nurture our nation’s most valuable information resource by providing high-quality, cost-effective solutions.

FONDED: 1880
CONTACT: Davies Menefee, Director Library Relations
American.d.menefee@elsevier.com
www.elsevier.com

Elsevier is proud to be an active advocate of libraries worldwide. Today, Librarians and Elsevier are partnering in new ways that support our common goal of making genuine contributions to the science and health communities. Librarians play a primary role in the development of our electronic products as well as providing valuable advice and insights through Elsevier’s various advisory boards.

Through our combined efforts, together we are working to improve scholarly communication and facilitate the mission of researchers and faculty around the globe.

Elsevier, we recognize and value the diverse contributions of libraries everywhere and look forward to continuing our collaboration. We never underestimate the importance of a librarian.

FONDED: 1880
CONTACT: Davies Menefee, Director Library Relations
American.d.menefee@elsevier.com
www.elsevier.com

CheckPoint Systems, Inc. has been dedicated to the library marketplace since the company was established in 1969 with the Free Library of Philadelphia as its debut technology client. Checkpoint’s initiatives continue to evolve in conjunction with today’s library challenges, supporting their continued growth in our communities.

Our role at CheckPoint is to enable our library clients to serve their customers creatively and effectively. With our new library marketing service, Checkpoint enables libraries to communicate library program offerings and resources to their customers in a platform that “engages their customers one at a time.”

We salute the work of libraries as they continue their role as information calendars in new ways within their communities.

FONDED: 1969
CONTACT: Robin Barrett Wilson at 800.257.5540
Robin.Wilson@checkpoint.com
www.checkpointlibrary.com

Dollar General’s commitment to literacy spans the life of our company and remains strong because of the significant need in our nation. Our co-founder, J. L. Turner, was functionally illiterate when he started the company recognized today as Dollar General. We understand that sometimes various circumstances in life prevent individuals from achieving their educational goals. Wherever the circumstances that initially prevented someone from experiencing educational success, we believe it is never too late to learn. We also believe that learning to read, receiving your GED or learning the English language is an investment that opens new doorways for personal, professional and economic growth for individuals and families.

During 2006, Dollar General awarded 1,000 grants across our 35-state market area totaling more than $7.7 million. In addition to cash grants, Dollar General’s Learn to Read program provided 6,062 literacy referrals. The Learn to Read program is a free literacy referral program offered in the “Reading is Easy than You Think” brochures displayed on our stores’ checkout counters.

FONDED: 1939
CONTACT: Dollar General Literacy Foundation
615.855.5201
www.DollarGeneral.com

EBSCO proudly acknowledges the library community and the good works being accomplished by librarians worldwide.

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Thank you for the opportunity to work together.

FONDED: 1944
CONTACT: Rebecca C. Widden 205.980.6794
www.ebsco.com

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FONDED: 1986
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Thanks in part to funding from ALA’s Library Champions, ALA was able to place a print public service announcement (PSA) featuring Ben Roethlisberger in national magazines to promote Library Card Sign-up Month. Roethlisberger is the quarterback of the Pittsburgh Steelers and helped lead the team to a Super Bowl Championship in 2006. The PSA appeared in regional and national issues of Sports Illustrated, Sports Illustrated for Kids and Entertainment Weekly. As a result, nearly 9 million readers saw the ad with ALA messages. To purchase the ad space would have cost approximately $315,000. All the magazines donated the space.

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Gaylord Bros. has helped librarians meet the needs of their patrons, students and staff for over 100 years. Through the continual development of innovative and quality products, we’ve endeavored to make the library environment and processes more inviting and user friendly. Gaylord has also focused on providing expert guidance in library layout as well as custom products that meet the specific demands of individual libraries.

Gaylord is proud to participate in the ALA Library Champions program as a means of enhancing the essential role that school, college and neighborhood libraries play in assisting people of all ages in the pursuit of literacy, research and community involvement.

FOUNDED: 1896
CONTACT: Amanda Rose 315-634-8440
www.gaylord.com

Google

Librarians and Google share a goal: to organize the world’s information and make it universally accessible and useful. We support librarians who work each day to further that mission, enriching our lives by providing access to knowledge, culture, literary and learning. We’re excited to collaborate with librarians in the quest to connect people and information, and we’re proud to be an ALA Library Champion.

FOUNDED: 1998
CONTACT: Bethany Poole 650.253.7171
www.google.com

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FOUNDED: 1956
CONTACT: Deonna Walter 920.563.9571
www.highsmith.com

H.W. Wilson Company

H.W. Wilson is proud to support ALA as a Library Champion. We’re happy to help broaden the reach and impact of America’s libraries, and enhance the services available to library users.

Support for the Library Champions program is just one dimension of H.W. Wilson’s 130 years of commitment to libraries worldwide. Our most important mission—providing the highest quality access and the most relevant information for researchers—remains as vital as ever, and complements our desire to advance other aspects of library service.

Our editorial integrity assures libraries in connecting with more patrons on-site and on the web. The dedication of the editors of libraries on the Wilson staff is highlighted with every WilsonWeb search at new publications around the country. The Wilson name and subject fields—the most consistent, precise, and reliable you’ll find anywhere—help make even the broadest periodicals collections more accessible and valuable for researchers.

The connection between America’s libraries and library users is the foundation of H.W. Wilson’s success, and we look forward to continuing our support of the Library Champions program in strengthening that connection.

FOUNDED: 1898
CONTACT: Frank Daly 718.588.8400
www.hlwilson.com
American Library Association 2007-2008 Library Champions

Why is Ingram a Library Champion? The reason is simple—we’re in libraries every day and our company is dedicated to serving the needs of librarians. Our services are developed to enable you to provide your patrons with the best possible book and audiovisual selections. Being a Champion is more than just another way to say thank you for all you do in your communities—we consider it a privilege as well.

FOUNDED: 1970
CONTACT: Michael Edwards 800.937.5300 ext. 35736
www.ingramlibrary.com

JanWay Company is proud to support ALA as a Library Champion. Librarians play a key role in the development of educational and economic opportunities within their communities. We hope our contribution will help sustain the long-term health of libraries, our country’s most valuable information resource.

JanWay Company holds the unique position in the library world of being the largest full-service provider of custom printed promotional and fundraising products. Our specialties include items for promoting reading programs, Library Week, literacy, the Smartest Card in your Library®, anniversaries, new construction, conferences and Internet/online services. Some popular products are canvas, nylon and plastic bags, library hour mugsers, mouse pads, bookmarks, pens/pencils and silicone gel bracelets.

As a Library Champion, JanWay is committed to helping librarians in their efforts to promote vital services to the community.

FOUNDED: 1981
CONTACT: Janene H. Stibbins 800.877.5242, ext. 101
www.janway.com

The LexisNexis Government and Academic team serves the information needs of academic, secondary schools, and public libraries, as well as government markets. We offer a wide array of printed indexes, microform collections, electronic databases, and digital archives, such as the U.S. Serial Set and Congressional documents—all designed to make vast information sources completely manageable and accessible.

We design products with the goal of simplifying and ensuring successful research for students, faculty, knowledge workers, and librarians. In our quest to create truly useful products, we rely on librarians for their support, candor, and feedback. We hope that librarians realize they can rely on us, too, supporting the ALA Library Champions program is merely one way we hope to demonstrate our unwavering commitment to the profession.

FOUNDED: 1974
CONTACT: Marica Azeriah 800.638.8380
www.lexisnexis.com/academic

Marquis Who’s Who has been providing libraries and individuals with trusted biographical information since the first edition of Who’s Who in America was published in 1899.

The librarian’s role of guiding people to authoritative and accessible sources of information is just as important today as it was over 100 years ago. Marquis Who’s Who is committed to helping libraries achieve this goal by providing world-class directories and databases that are constantly evolving to appeal to today’s researchers.

Marquis Who’s Who is proud to support the library community and serve as an ALA Library Champion

FOUNDED: 1899
CONTACT: Michael Neer 800.473.7020. ext. 1044
www.marquiswhoswho.com

Julie Andrews Named Honorary Chair of National Library Week
Academy Award-winning actress Julie Andrews has been named the honorary chair of National Library Week (April 13-19, 2008). As part of this role, Andrews has lent her image to a print public service announcement (PSA). “Thanks in part to funding from ALA’s Library Champions, ALA will be able to place the PSA in national publications. She has also recorded radio and television PSAs which will be sent out nationally, as well as made available to local libraries.
INVESTING IN AMERICA'S LIBRARIES

The Ninth Annual Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture
ALA Library Champions have contributed to underwriting the Ninth Annual Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture. This popular Midwinter program features jazz violinist Regina Carter, who will perform on Saturday, January 12, 2008, at 1:30 p.m. at the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

The American Library Association’s Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture series is one of the highlights of the association’s annual Midwinter Meeting. The Curley Lectures are attended by approximately 500 people each year and are known to many thousands.


The Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture, inaugurated in 2000, has consistently reflected Curley’s role as a champion of the arts and intellectual freedom and his belief - shared by ALA - that the library has an important role in building culturally rich and diverse community resources. Reflecting Curley’s broad and diverse interests, the series has ranged far and wide in its choice of presenter and subject.

MARSHALL CAVENDISH
Since 1970 Marshall Cavendish has been a highly regarded publisher of illustrated reference books for school and public libraries. In recent years, we have significantly expanded our publishing program to meet reader demands, and in 2006 launched Marshall Cavendish Digital, which brings our award-winning print titles into digital form, in order to meet the new challenge of information technology.


The Library Champion program offers Marshall Cavendish the opportunity to help ALA in its mission of advocacy for American libraries. As proof of its belief in the invaluable role, now and forever, of libraries, Marshall Cavendish is proud to offer its support to the advocacy efforts of ALA.

FOUNDED: 1970
CONTACT: Walter Harvey 914.432.8888
www.marshallcavendish.us

MERGET, INC.
Mergent is a proud member of the Library Champion family, and is pleased to support the American Library Association.

Mergent, Inc. has been transforming data into knowledge for more than a century. Our unique history has enabled us to be an innovator in the creation of easy-to-use, powerful information tools that combine research functionality with the latest in technology. Mergent offers academic professionals a full range of research tools through data feeds, print, and desktop applications. Our databases contain detailed information on over 15,000 U.S. public companies, 20,000 non-U.S. public companies and 17,500 municipal entities, as well as extensive corporate and municipal bond, UBT, and dividend information.

FOUNDED: 1984
CONTACT: 866-215-2509
libraryservices@morningstar.com
www.mergent.com

MORNINGSTAR
It is a pleasure to partner with an organization that looks for better ways to serve people. We at Morningstar are proud to be Library Champions and to support the American Library Association. Morningstar, Inc. is a leading provider of independent investment research in the United States and in major international markets. Our goal is to offer products that improve the overall investment experience for individual investors, financial advisors, and institutions. Founded more than 20 years ago, we continue to evolve and expand our products. We’re committed to delivering world-class investment research and services to people around the globe.

FOUNDED: 1984
CONTACT: 866-215-2509
libraryservices@morningstar.com
www.mergent.com

NEW CHAMPION
Jonathan Worrall, CEO
MORNINGSTAR

MORNINGSTAR®

NEW CHAMPION
Loren Greenwood, CEO
MIRORSTONE

MIRORSTONE
At Mirorstone, we are dedicated to offering books that will turn reluctant readers into lifelong readers. We publish fantasy series fiction for young readers and readers who are young at heart. From the New York Times best-selling A Practical Guide to Dragons and A Practical Guide to Monsters, to the adventurous Time Spies chapter book series by acclaimed author Candace Ransom to the spine-tingling YA series Balladsworn by Tiffany Trent, our books have turned many young readers on to a lifetime of fantasy reading. For the past four years, we have supported libraries by offering a free Reluctant Reader Kit, full of tips and programming ideas. We are proud to extend our support by becoming a sponsor of ALA and the Official Corporate Sponsor for Teen Read Week 2005.

FOUNDED: 1967
CONTACT: Bob Murphy 800.848.5678
www.oclc.org/home

OCLC Online Computer Library Center
OCLC strongly supports the Library Champions program and its commitment to library advocacy and the vital efforts of librarians around the world. Since 1967, OCLC and its member libraries have been working together for the public good. Each day, the OCLC community of librarians in more than 54,000 institutions in 199 countries uses OCLC cooperative services to help people find the information they need. Each day, these Library Champions help us to advance research, scholarship and education. We at OCLC are proud to be advocates for libraries and librarians and the ideals they embody.

FOUNDED: 1967
CONTACT: Bob Murphy 800.848.5678
www.oclc.org/home

POLARIS LIBRARY SYSTEMS

POLARIS LIBRARY SYSTEMS
Today’s libraries are looking for better ways to serve their patrons and streamline staff workflow. And that’s precisely what we do at Polaris Library Systems. As a forward-thinking library automation company, our goal is to keep you at the leading edge of technology, helping you to maximize resources, reduce costs and improve patron satisfaction.

Our mission at Polaris is to help libraries better serve their communities. The ALA Library Champions program is an opportunity for us to support libraries in their ongoing efforts to maintain positions of strength and relevance within their communities.

FOUNDED: 1973
CONTACT: William Schickling, 800.272.3414 ext. 4580
William.Schickling@polarislibrary.com
www.polarislibrary.com

NEW CHAMPION
Jay Jordan, President & CEO
OCL ONLINE COMPUTER LIBRARY CENTER

Regina Carter
LIBRARY CHAMPIONS

At ProQuest, “Library Champion” is a title we strive to earn everyday. To us, being a Library Champion means investing in library education, honoring great educators and supporting schools with free resources. It means sharing our libraries’ marketing expertise and our research. It means understanding the core tenets of librarianship, standing shoulder to shoulder with librarians in support of intellectual freedom.

Our business is service to libraries and it’s built on a foundation of respect for the role of the library to illuminate, educate and excite its community, no matter its composition. We happily give back to an industry that has done so much for us. We’re honored and humbled to be called Library Champions.

FOUNDED: 1938
CONTACT: Tara Taylor 734.761.4700 x2540
www.proquest.com

LIBRARY CHAMPIONS

Librarians stand at the forefront of the information revolution, and SAGE stands with them. For more than 40 years, SAGE has tailored our publishing programs to meet the ever-changing needs of patrons and the librarians who serve them. We share librarians’ passion for access to the information that shapes and betters our world. Through our Library Advisory Group at the ALA’s Annual Conference, we exchange ideas, discuss initiatives, and plan strategies for the future that enhance the library experience for the millions who depend on these connections. SAGE values the critical role that libraries play in promoting literacy, learning and culture. SAGE’s publishing philosophy is that engaged scholarship lies at the heart of a healthy society, and we are honored to further this vision as a Library Champion.

FOUNDED: 1965
CONTACT: Tam Taylor, VP of Marketing and Sales
805.499.0721
www.sagepublications.com

LIBRARY CHAMPIONS

If the future of world civilization lies with education, then it is unacceptable that any country should fail to educate its children (and in some cases adults) to read and write and to introduce them to the pleasures of gaining knowledge and experience through reading.

Libraries reinforce teaching and open wide horizons to all, irrespective of their background. As a time of budget cuts and economic difficulties, it is critical for the ALA to maintain its support for The Campaign for America’s (and the World’s) Libraries.

I am only too delighted that Severn House’s contribution demonstrates our ongoing willingness to support library advocacy via the Campaign program, which in turn helps to produce a balanced society and its future leaders in the community.

FOUNDED: 1974
CONTACT: Jill Lessor 212.388.4042
www.severnhouse.com

LIBRARY CHAMPIONS

Bright future for STM ebooks
New communication technology has dramatically changed the way research is conducted, collected, published, sorted and used. Libraries play a decisive role disseminating research results within the scientific research community as quickly and as effectively as possible.

Springer, one of the leading STM publishers in the world, is working continuously to improve its services and functionalities. One of its most innovative products, Springer ebooks, has been widely accepted by prominent libraries. A recent survey revealed that enhanced user access, functionality and additional categories of content all were highly in areas in which ebooks provide clear advantages over print publications. The SpringerLink eBook program offers 447 access to simultaneous users, a wider selection, and immediate updates to materials. University libraries benefit from back-end efficiencies, such as lower storage requirements, reduced maintenance costs, and reduced staffing time for physical handling and processing of print books. The future is bright for ebooks in the STM sector and Springer will continue to be at the forefront.

FOUNDED: 1842
CONTACT: George Scotts 212.466.5179
www.springer.com

FINANCIAL ADVISORY

Give the Power of Accurate Research to Your Patrons
ReferenceUSA is the Number One online source of information on businesses and people. Librarians and library patrons nationwide use ReferenceUSA’s detailed information to conduct market research, find and study businesses, search for jobs, locate people and more! ReferenceUSA’s newest modules include New Homeowners & New Movers, New Businesses and Employment USA.

FOUNDED: 1992
CONTACT: Steve Laird 866-361-4996
library@referusa.com

PUBLIC LIBRARY

SirsIDynix is the global leader in strategic technology solutions for libraries – vital institutions whose primary mission is to make sense of the vast world of information for people and communities. This is an exciting role as libraries assist people in discovering and using knowledge, resources, and other valuable content for their educations, jobs, and entertainment.

In concert with key industry partners, SirsiDynix supports this strategic role for libraries by offering a comprehensive integrated suite of technology solutions for improving the internal productivity of libraries and enhancing their capabilities for meeting the needs of people and communities. SirsiDynix has approximately 4,000 library and consortia clients, serving more than 300 million people through more than 30,000 library outlets in the Americas, Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia-Pacific.

FOUNDED: 1979
CONTACT: Tom Gates, 800.917.4774
www.sirsidynix.com

PUBLIC LIBRARY

SirsIDynix is the global leader in strategic technology solutions for libraries – vital institutions whose primary mission is to make sense of the vast world of information for people and communities. This is an exciting role as libraries assist people in discovering and using knowledge, resources, and other valuable content for their educations, jobs, and entertainment.

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FOUNDED: 1979
CONTACT: Tom Gates, 800.917.4774
www.sirsidynix.com

PUBLIC LIBRARY

Scholarly is proud to once again join the ALA in championing the important role school libraries play in providing all children access to books, research, and technology.

As a long-time supporter of ALA, we believe in the importance of libraries as an essential resource for improving student achievement. Through Scholastic Classroom & Group Library, we continue to respond to the needs of libraries with exciting and relevant print materials through Scholastic Library Publishing and the well-regarded Grolier, Children’s Press, Franklin Watts imprints, and with the engaging Grolier Online learning portal and the newly launched BookFlix, for children in grades Pre-K to 3. We are proud to provide libraries with the resources they need to prepare our children for the future.

FOUNDED: 1920
CONTACT: 800.621.1115
www.scholastic.com/librarypublishing

PUBLIC LIBRARY

3rd Edition of the Library Advocates Handbook Released
Among the most popular advocacy tools available from ALA, the Library Advocate’s Handbook provides advocates with tips and information to create successful advocacy efforts. From speaking out and developing an action plan to working with decision makers and the media, this handy book will give library advocates the tools they need to effectively communicate the value of libraries. The 3rd Edition will be released at the 2008 ALA Midwinter Meeting. Available for purchase from the ALA Office for Library Advocacy ($5) or as a free download from www.ala.org/issues&advocacy.
American Library Association 2007-2008 Library Champions

INVESTING IN AMERICA’S LIBRARIES

STANDARD & POOR’S

Stan Foss, Product Manager; NetAdvantage

Standard & Poor’s is thrilled to support library advocacy through the Library Champions program. We hope to ensure that children and adults throughout the country continue to benefit from the wonderful services and programs that libraries offer.

In keeping with the McGraw-Hill/Standard & Poor’s tradition of fidelitas et superioritas, we have reflected a net growth in NetAdvantage product suites to better meet customer needs.

NetAdvantage has recently increased coverage with the addition of Global Industry Surveys, and Global Reports, including Annual Reports, Directories, and Corporate and Social Responsibility (CSR) Reports. Other new features include: Computer Excel Analyses and International Fundamental Reports (exclusive for the Academic Library Market).


All of these enhancements were added to meet increasing public demand and better serve our customers.

FOUNDED: 1860
CONTACT: Enza Messina
www.netadvantage.standardandpoors.com

THOMSON SCIENTIFIC

By delivering critical information to the right people at the right time, Thomson Scientific, part of Thomson Corporation, helps our customers break boundaries, forge ahead with discoveries and drive innovation.

The changing information climate has brought new developments in collecting, storing, sharing, and disseminating information. For libraries, this has meant new opportunities in providing education, research and access to an increasing number of collections.

Just as the library is committed to educating the public they serve, Thomson is committed to providing the research and information community with the highest quality content, the most advanced technology, and the most valuable analysis tools and applications.

Academic, corporate, and special libraries have supported us in this aim, and we hope that our contribution as a Library Champion will help libraries and librarians continue their vital professional functions.

FOUNDED: 1948
CONTACT: Allison Hogan 215.823.1023
www.scientific.thomson.com

VERIZON FOUNDATION

Patrick Gasson, President

In 2006, Verizon Foundation awarded more than 800 literacy grants totaling more than $13.9 million to deserving nonprofit organizations.

Improving basic literacy skills in the United States and abroad is among the foundation’s major priorities because of its enormous impact on education, health and economic development. Here in the United States, nearly 20 percent of the population has low or very low literacy skills and more than 30 million American adults have basic or below average literacy skills.

Literacy is a fundamental skill – a basic requirement to participate in the digital age. Without it, millions of people are forced to exist on the periphery of our society as we advance with new technologies. So it’s not simply about teaching non-readers to read. It’s about helping people develop the skills necessary for jobs in the 21st century.

FOUNDED: 2000
CONTACT: Verizon Reads/Verizon Foundation
877.483.READ (7323) or 800.360.7955
www.verizon.com/foundation/verizonreads.net

WORLD BOOK, INC.

Paul Gazzolo, President

World Book is a leading publisher of reliable reference and learning materials for use in classrooms, libraries, and homes. Our mission is to help students and families explore their world through our print and online reference and classroom publications. We acknowledge the crucial roles libraries and schools play in their communities as sources for learning and self-fulfillment. We acknowledge, too, the work of the American Library Association and their affiliate organizations as advocates for their members and the populations served by their members. The company is proud to have continuously supported the American Library Association since 1960. We at World Book are honored to champion ALA, librarians, teachers, and readers of all ages in their efforts to facilitate reading and broad, equal access to materials.

FOUNDED: 1917
CONTACT: Chris Senger 312.729.5800
www.worldbookonline.com

SWETS

Jose Luis Andrade, President

Serving the library and information industry for over 100 years, Swets recognizes the central role that libraries play in providing access to relevant, timely information that is vital to the success of their patrons. In addition to traditional print resources, the ever growing and complex demands of accessing and managing electronic information makes the librarian’s role more important than ever. As a partner for the acquisition, access and management of scholarly, business and professional information, we aim to provide libraries with the innovation, services, and support they need to successfully meet the growing needs of their customers.

FOUNDED: 1901
CONTACT: Shawn Herman, 800.645.6595, ext. 2142
www.swets.com

TUTOR.COM

NEW CHAMPION
George Giplete, Founder & CEO

Tutor.com is proud to be a new Library Champion. We are aligned with the mission of libraries to reach out with the knowledge, information, and resources that enable all members of their community to live the American Dream. To that end, Tutor.com offers Live Homework Help—the one-to-one, on-demand tutoring service that enables all kids to compete for the schools and the careers of their choice. More than 2,000 certified and screened tutors are available, through our Online Classroom, to offer help when kids are frustrated and parents are baffled. Don’t you wish you had that when you were young? Please stop by to meet us, or visit www.tutor.com/library!

CONTACT: Mary Ann Young, 466.619.8284
contactsales@tutor.com
www.tutor.com

Library Champions make it possible to increase awareness and advocate the value of libraries and librarians across the country and around the world. To learn how you can become a Library Champion and help ALA speak up and speak out for libraries, please contact the ALA Development Office, at 800.545.2433 ext.5050 or via email at development@ala.org.
It All Stacks Up

Unplugged research is still one of my favorite things

by Will Manley

It feels a bit off kilter to be back in the 21st century after spending the last 12 months examining the 100-year history of this magazine decade by decade. My disorientation is heightened by the fact that, oddly enough, I am more at home with the issues, ideas, and aspirations of 1907 than I am with the professional problems of today.

My guess is that I am like a lot of librarians of my generation. We grew up in the ’50s and ’60s and were drawn to the process of bringing books and people together. That ideal began to diminish the closer we got to the 21st century. Now the average 3rd-grader can do a better, quicker, and more complete reference search on the internet than I could do in 1971 with my MLS and a decent-sized public library reference collection at my disposal.

Is my feeling of personal obsolescence anything like what a blacksmith felt like in 1908 after the advent of the Model T Ford?

Past, perfect
For me personally, last year’s research was more than just an examination of the historical issues of the American Library Association as presented by American Libraries. It was also a physical journey into the past.

By chance, the main library of Arizona State University in Tempe, just a few miles from my house, contains a full run of AL from its inception in 1907, hidden away in a far corner of the library’s basement catacombs. I’m pretty sure that someone had forgotten to weed them because they showed absolutely no signs of recent use (meaning, within the past 20 years).

Each month I would devote a weekend to my research. I would locate the proper shelf, take down the dusty buckram binders of whatever decade I was working on, clean them off with a paper towel, and tote them over to a lone study carrel in an obscure corner to peruse. My little niche space was consistently quiet and uninhabited. I was alone to revel in the touch, smell, and feel of very old magazines.

Ironically, I felt young again. I thought back to the research I had done 40 years earlier in high school and college, which was just like this: I was a history major accustomed to going through old newspapers or journals to work on this paper or that. It felt good, real good.

I was 18 all over again.

Present, tense
One late Saturday afternoon when I approached my cozy little corner of the universe, lo and behold, a young undergraduate woman was sitting two carrels away from my accustomed spot. Hunched over in deep concentration, she was the first sign of intelligent life that I had seen down in the bound periodicals repository.

My heart gladdened and my spirit lifted at the vision of a young person doing old-fashioned research. This meant that there was still a glimmer of life in the traditional librarianship that I represent.

Future, problematic
Reality, however, is often not what it seems. It turned out that the young woman was working away on a laptop computer.

She looked up at me. “I hope I’m not bothering you,” she said as though I were an audio-animatronic artifact in a historical museum. “It’s just that this is the quietest spot in the entire building.”

ASU’s library basement was no longer my retreat from things electronic. The unfortunate reality was that her incessant keyboard pecking was quite annoying. She had one of those techniques that resembled Van Cliburn at the piano playing Beethoven. Then her phone rang to the sprightly tune of “How Dry I Am.” She answered it and began to engage in a mindless conversation about her dog’s recent head cold.

I no longer felt 18. I felt 80.

WILL MANLEY has furnished provocative commentary on the library profession for over 25 years. He is the author of nine books on the lighter side of library science.
Databases Used Most Often:

- **14 Million U.S. Businesses**
  Select by yellow page heading, type of business, number of employees, SIC and NAICS, estimated sales volume & more!

- **120 Million U.S. Households & 210 Million U.S. Residents**
  Includes household income and home value; contains “Map It” and “Show Neighbors” features.

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  Do a search on over 835,000 physicians, surgeons and dentists!

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- **American Manufacturers Directory**
  Contains every manufacturer in the U.S. with 20 or more employees — more than 641,000 listings!

- **American Big Businesses Directory**
  Includes America’s largest companies, more than 210,000 companies that employ 100 or more people. Also includes 720,000 top executives and directors.

- **State Business Directories**
  Contain virtually every business within each state. Available in all 50 states plus Washington D.C.

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Look what **THE WALL STREET JOURNAL** has to say:

Most libraries subscribe to several commercial databases. One such database is ReferenceUSA. This powerful market-research tool contains data on millions of consumers and businesses, combined with lifestyle records and census information. Business owners and sales executives can obtain information on all pet stores that are in Brooklyn, NY including address, sales volume, surrounding residents’ that own dogs and their income levels.

One entrepreneur used the manufacturer database to locate motorcycle dealers because he wanted to market his motorcycle-detailing kit. Using ReferenceUSA, he researched their credit rating scores and created a targeted mailing list of dealers with top credit ratings.

“Putting that kind of information together can help people make more knowledgeable decisions,” states Susan Phillis, director of the Brooklyn Public Library’s Business Library.

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