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MARCH/APRIL 2011

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## American Libraries' Transition

by Don Chatham

Associate Executive Director for Publishing

Welcome to the March/April 2011 issue of *American Libraries*. While a national search moves ahead for a successor to former Editor and Publisher Leonard Kniffel, George Eberhart and Beverly Goldberg will share the role of interim editor-in-chief. We look forward to communicating with you through these editorials and to hearing your feedback.

This is a transitional time for *American Libraries* in many ways. As noted in earlier editorials, the print magazine has expanded into a multi-platform experience. Are you taking advantage of the range of content channels *American Libraries* offers? Here's how you can now

*American Libraries* has expanded into a multi-platform experience. Take advantage of the range of content channels we offer.

get national and international news, expert analysis, the latest information about professional issues, and peer perspectives on library-related developments:

■ americanlibrariesmagazine.org, an enhanced, comment-enabled website where the staff of *American Libraries* publishes a wide

range of content daily and interacts with you, the reader

■ the award-winning weekly e-newsletter *American Libraries Direct*, which boasts an open rate that is twice the standard measure for successful electronic newsletters

■ six combined print issues of *American Libraries* a year, which are also provided in full-text versions online

■ an average of four digital supplements annually on such topics as international issues and e-learning

■ a growing family of blogs including "Inside Scoop," "Ask the ALA Librarian," and Jason Griffey's "Perpetual Beta"

■ webinars covering major trends such as new technologies, e-gov documents, and privacy

■ select video coverage of conferences and events, interviews, profiles, and more at *American Libraries Focus*.

Leonard's legacy offers exciting possibilities, and we are eager to guide *American Libraries* into an even more robust combination of print and digital content delivery in keeping with major publishing trends. We stand at a turning point in a rapidly evolving environment and look forward to new leadership to continue identifying, integrating, and developing the many opportunities ahead.

Please add your voice: What do you want your member magazine and related suite of products to be? We're eager to hear from you. ■

—Don Chatham  
dchatham@ala.org

# american libraries

THE MAGAZINE OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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▲ ▲ **Dallas Public Library's Lochwood Branch gleams** as part of the online Library Design Showcase, featuring more than 60 of the best in new and renovated library buildings. Special sections highlight green buildings, innovative renovations and adaptations, unique material usage, spaces dedicated to serving children and teens, and much more. [americanlibrariesmagazine.org/librarydesign11](http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/librarydesign11).

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## INSIDE scoop

▲ ▲ **Pushing library doors back open, one at a time** Angelenos say yes to \$50 million to rescue Los Angeles Public Library.

**On, Wisconsin librarians** In "A Capitol Weekend in Wisconsin," librarians gather in Madison to join protesters rallying for the protection of collective-bargaining rights. Follow the links for an eyewitness report about the Madison mayor bonding with sign-carrying librarians, as well as an impassioned op-ed by a Madison librarian who proclaims, "I'm Not Your Scapegoat."

**Lining up our digital ducks** Librarians brainstorm at the first planning meeting for the National Digital Public Library of America.

## PERPETUAL beta

▲ ▲ **Plugging into the ecosystem** Associate Editor Sean F. Fitzpatrick is inspired by Chicago's 2011 DrupalCon to envision technology driven by Drupal as greater than its features, and influencing how—and where—librarians and patrons interact online.

>>> **NEW! Stay current** with *American Libraries' Currents* column, which is now a part of the *American Libraries* website. Read about the profession's most recent appointments, retirements, awards, and obituaries to keep yourself current at all times.

# Transforming Libraries

Meeting the needs of members and their institutions

by Roberta Stevens

A key goal of the 2011–2015 ALA strategic plan is to provide leadership in the transformation of libraries and library services for today's dynamic and increasingly global digital information environment. Virtually every media interview I've had during the past seven months has been an occasion to illustrate how libraries, the people who work in them, and the services offered by them reflect the remarkable changes in communications and information access during the past two decades. My mantra is: Libraries have been and are continuing to transform themselves to be responsive to the needs of the populations they serve.

Reporters are often surprised to learn about the soaring circulation of materials. "Yes," I say, "People are still checking out books. In fact, more books than ever. And, by the way, we have e-books!" It's hard to resist asking media representatives if they have actually been in their local library recently. If so, they certainly would have seen that people are often waiting to get on the computers to access online databases and e-government services, file job applications, send e-mail messages, or conduct research related to their small businesses. Libraries are busy because they are central to the lives of millions of families, students, older adults, entrepreneurs, and those who require assistance in weathering the eco-

nommic challenges of the past few years.

To support the ongoing transformation of libraries, ALA is committed to adding opportunities for its members to share innovative practices and obtain training in the areas that will keep them ahead of the demands of library users. Whenever and wherever we gather, either for an online webinar or on-site at ALA's Annual Conference or the Midwinter Meeting, we are preparing for or participating in the transformation of libraries for the 21st century.

Just as our libraries and our services are being transformed, so has the Midwinter Meeting. A document describing the changing vision for Midwinter was broadly distributed for comment prior to January's meeting in San Diego. We know that conference calls, e-mail, social networking, and virtual meeting spaces have meant that a greater amount of the "business" of the Association could occur without being face-to-face. In a quiet and natural way, the purpose of Midwinter was gradually being reframed.

Our members have created a Midwinter experience that works for them. Will there be business meetings at Midwinters of the future? Of course. However, even those will



**Libraries have been and are continuing to transform themselves to be responsive to the needs of the populations they serve.**

change as we extend the conversation through virtual capabilities.

Midwinter is being transformed into a venue for flourishing discussion groups to share information and ideas on the latest developments, research, initiatives,

and grants.

More emphasis will be placed on continuing education programs and preconferences. Leadership and career development, supported by ALA's divisions and round tables, will grow. Networking, always a reason for being at the Midwinter Meeting, will remain as strong and vital an incentive as ever.

Our data shows that between 25% and 40% of those who attend Midwinter are from the region where it is being held. Unlike Annual, whose size limits the number of potential locations, we are able to move Midwinter around the country and increase the awareness and availability of what ALA offers its members.

Contrary to comments about its demise, Midwinter has evolved into a renewed learning opportunity for 21st-century libraries and library staff. ■

---

ALA President **ROBERTA STEVENS** is on leave from the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. Visit [robertastevens.com](http://robertastevens.com). E-mail: [rstevens@ala.org](mailto:rstevens@ala.org).

# Engaging Young Members

Executive Board tackles business during Midwinter Meeting

by Keith Michael Fiels

**A**LA Executive Board meetings in San Diego focused on how to engage younger members, the ALA Membership Meeting, and the Midwinter Meeting itself.

At the top of the list was a report from the Young Professionals Task Force, chaired by Laurel Bliss. The task force has been reaching out to younger members and is working on a series of recommendations on how the Association can best engage young professionals. Subgroups are specifically looking at membership, conferences, divisions and round tables, library schools, and elections. Established last year by 2009–2010 President Camila Alire, the task force was charged with looking at how ALA can engage young professionals and newer members. This is particularly important because member engagement is one of the five goal areas in the Association's new 2015 strategic plan. This goal includes:

- Increasing innovation and experimentation in the creation of new opportunities for face-to-face and virtual engagement.
- Identifying and eliminating barriers to participation.
- Developing new models to acknowledge member contributions in a changing environment.
- Continued enhancement of ALA's web presence to engage members and the public.

Given the opportunities presented by new communication and social networking tools, we're starting to think about a future association (and

not the distant future) where 80%, 90%, or even 100% of all members are engaged and benefit from the Association on a daily basis.

A good deal of discussion focused on the White Paper on the Future of the Midwinter Meeting, which looks at the Midwinter Meeting and how it will change as more and more Association business can be conducted electronically. The paper cites the steady growth in attendance over the last decades. It acknowledges the growth of hundreds of grassroots discussion groups as a major focus of activity in addition to committee meetings and emphasizes the value of Midwinter in making the conference and exhibits experience available to regional audiences. The paper concludes that Midwinter continues to serve the Association and its members well even as face-to-face committee meetings no longer serve as Midwinter's sole focus.

Groups at Midwinter were generally supportive of the concepts in the paper, and many offered additional comments, suggestions, and/or areas for further exploration. A follow-up paper incorporating these suggestions and discussing next steps will be circulated this spring, once we've heard from everyone who is interested in commenting.

The board also approved some



**We're starting to think about a future Association (and not the distant future) where 80%, 90%, or even 100% of all members are engaged.**

changes in the skeleton schedule for Annual Conference. This year, we will hold a single Membership Meeting in New Orleans, June 25 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. In addition to this face-to-face Membership Meeting at Annual, a second virtual

Membership Meeting will be held in May or June. The Committee on Membership Meetings is working on planning the virtual meeting and is currently surveying ALA members to find out what date and time will work best for them. We'll keep you apprised as plans are set for this first-ever virtual Membership Meeting.

Corporate sponsorships and corporate support are important to the Association and its work, and ALA is interested in working with companies that share our values. To this end, the board reviewed a list of socially responsible companies as potential prospects for the coming year. Each year, the board approves approximately 1,000 companies listed in the Domini and TIAA-CREF portfolios of "Socially Responsible Companies" as potential corporate partners, sponsors, and donors.

For more information on board discussions, the White Paper on the Future of the Midwinter Meeting, the Young Professionals Task Force, and other fast-breaking issues at ALA, visit [ala.org](http://ala.org). ■

# Comment Enabled

## ALA and WikiLeaks

One of the key problems of our time is a lack of government transparency that restricts access to public information in the United States. The ongoing WikiLeaks disclosures highlight the need to protest these policies. Several of the American Library Association's core values are directly relevant: "access," "democracy," "the public good," and "social responsibility."

With this in mind, the Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT) put forward two resolutions at the 2011

If we congratulated the *New York Times* and *Washington Post* for publishing the Pentagon Papers, why would we not do the same now for WikiLeaks?

ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego. Both resolutions were discussed at an informal Council forum and were immediately tabled when they came up on the ALA Council agenda. Instead, the Council passed a weak

substitute, "Resolution on Access to and Classification of Government Information" (ALA Council Document#19.1) that did not even mention WikiLeaks in its resolved clauses.

In making this substitution, Council abdicated its responsibility concerning both the process and the content of the two SRRT resolutions. During my 10-year service as an ALA Councilor (1999–2009), the tactic of tabling resolutions without discussion on the Council floor was never used. SRRT's

first resolution (ALA CD#37) called for the amendment of Executive Order 13526, concerning "Classified National Security Information," as well as all other such orders and regulations to exclude publicly available information, and to follow the example of the Library of Congress, which unblocked the WikiLeaks site after a few days.

SRRT's second resolution (ALA CD#38) supported the right of WikiLeaks to publish leaked government documents, commended WikiLeaks for its public service and for expunging material deemed potentially harmful to innocent people, urged libraries to link to WikiLeaks sites, and condemned the harassment of WikiLeaks volunteers. If civil liberties advocates congratulated the *New York Times* and *Washington Post* for publishing the Pentagon Papers, why would ALA not do the same now for WikiLeaks? We should expect ALA Council to be just a little bit courageous.

Al Kagan

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

## Labor Practices at Midwinter

I am lodging a formal complaint to ALA's leadership about its choice to use the Manchester Grand Hyatt in San Diego for Midwinter. It is a hotel that organized labor is asking people to boycott due to labor practices. I spoke to union activists outside the Hyatt and heard them say that they asked ALA to not use the premises. It is certainly one thing to be ignorant of a labor dispute, but to knowingly go

there with that knowledge is incredibly frustrating to me.

I am a union employee in a public library and I would imagine a good number of ALA members are in unions. As a person of color and an activist, I am part of a political tradition that believes in not just my union, not just my safety, but working towards that for everybody.

I don't know what the future holds for ALA and its conferences in terms of labor solidarity. I am not complaining as much as expressing the hope that ALA can do better in the future. It would send a great message to ALA members and the public if we refused to use hotels that are exploiting workers.

Gregory Hom

San Francisco

## Food for Thought

Joseph Janes gave his readers much food for thought in his Internet Librarian column "Sunrise, Sunset: When Google Gets It Wrong" (AL, Nov./Dec. 2010, p. 29). I believe that the lesson Mr. Janes wished to impart, even if left unsaid, is that we should not become too comfortable with digital information retrieval methods. A corollary to that lesson is that print reference still fulfills an important function in the librarian's daily life.

In taking the liberty of consulting what I consider to be a gold standard work in the field of geography, namely *The Columbia Gazetteer of the World* (2nd edition, Columbia University Press, 2008), I not only discovered that such a place exists, but that it's a "major office and commercial center" that lies eight miles west of Fort Lauderdale in Broward County, in Southeastern Florida.

The editors welcome letters about recent contents or matters of general interest. Letters should be limited to 300 words. Send to [americanlibraries@ala.org](mailto:americanlibraries@ala.org); fax 312-440-0901; or *American Libraries*, Reader Forum, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611-2795.



The internet may not be making us stupid, as some have suggested, but I do think it's making us lazy. Lugging a book the size, shape, and weight of a concrete slab to a table and flipping through page after page of type the size of sand grains takes more effort than tapping a few buttons on a keyboard, but the results are so much more satisfying, thus rewarding the extra effort.

The real issue is this: Do we want just any answer or do we want the right answer to our questions? As information professionals, we owe it to our patrons to help them draw that distinction. Print reference is there to help us do so.

Mike Bemis

Washington County (Minn.) Library

## The Culture of Libraries

Thank you Elizabeth Martinez for your article, "Chicano Librarianship" (*AL*, Nov./Dec. 2010, p. 40–43), highlighting an often-overlooked event in U.S. history.

Forty years ago the Chicano Moratorium in East Los Angeles mobilized not only those marching down Whittier Blvd., but young people throughout the country. Its rallying cry may have been to protest the disproportionate number of Latinos getting shipped off to war and dying in Vietnam, but it was foremost a protest against injustice and discrimination. As someone personally affected by this movement, which subsequently led to my chosen career, I was proud and pleased to learn that there was a library contingent at that historical march, a little-known fact that has escaped most written Chicano histories.

Martinez's historical account of "changing the culture of the libraries" at Los Angeles County brought back memories of the same struggles I experienced in Chicago. As a librarian working the front lines of public service in predominantly Latino neighborhood branches of Chicago Public Library for 30 years, it seems like a large part of



those years were spent in a battle of some form to improve services for Latinos. Much was accomplished, but when I left CPL to retire recently, there was still a lot more to be done.

As more of my generation reaches retirement, and as another article, "Wait! You Can't Retire Without Sharing That with Us" (p. 36–38), in that issue points out, we need to pass on our knowledge for future generations. The struggle for improved library services is never-ending. Fortunately there is much to glean from history lest the early struggles be in vain.

Cristina Vital

Hickory Hills, Illinois

## "Feeling for Books" Misleads

I am deeply concerned about the alarmist and misleading piece on bibliotherapy in Jennifer Burek Pierce's Youth Matters column "A Feeling for Books" (Nov./Dec. 2010, p. 48).

Bibliotherapy's place in librarianship is not a new issue; librarians have been debating it since its first use by a trained librarian in 1904, when E. Kathleen Jones used it with patients in a mental hospital. The field really caught on in the 1930s when it was practiced primarily with individual patients in medical hospitals; teams of librarians and doctors provided

information about illnesses and outcomes in a service we now call patient education.

In 1939, ALA established its first Committee on Bibliotherapy, giving it official status as part of librarianship.

By the 1970s, librarians in prisons and mental hospitals (and in public libraries that provided outreach services to residential institutions) were also using bibliotherapy. At that time, we talked about three types of bibliotherapy: institutional, clinical, and developmental. The last type was used primarily by librarians, teachers, and others to promote normal development and self-actualization in students and others in the community from the 1960s on.

Pierce's article did not define the type of bibliotherapy under discussion. It also neglected to mention the bibliotherapy training and certification available to librarians (and others).

In the 1980s, the ALA bibliotherapy unit worked with the National Association of Poetry Therapy to develop standards and training to practice bibliotherapy. A number of professional librarians (myself included) became certified practitioners after completing a stringent process with a mental health mentor. This "license" was not mentioned in the article. Currently, the National Federation of Biblio/Poetry Therapy awards three different credentials: Certified Applied Poetry Facilitators, Certified Poetry/biblio Therapists, and Registered Poetry/biblio Therapists.

Rhea Joyce Rubin

Oakland, California

**CORRECTION:** *The Year in Review* (Jan./Feb., p. 16) listed an incorrect date for the January 12, 2010, earthquake in Haiti. AL apologizes for the error.



Continue the conversation at [americanlibrariesmagazine.org](http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org)

# President Obama's Budget Strips FY2012 Funding

**A**LA President Roberta Stevens is asking Congress to restore support for America's libraries after President Barack Obama proposed a 9% cut to the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) in his FY2012 budget proposal. The budget requested \$194 million for assistance to libraries to be administered by IMLS, approximately \$20 million below the current funding level.

"The president's budget proposal strips funding away from one of our greatest resources for lifelong learning—our libraries," Stevens

said in a February 15 statement. "During this difficult recession, libraries rose to the challenge of helping Americans get back to work through vital assistance with online job searches and applications as well as résumé development. In addition, many libraries hold classes to teach the critical 21st-century digital literacy skills that are essential to thriving in today's global economy."

In a report to the Association's governing Council, Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels said the president's proposed budget is "dead on arrival" in a Republican

House, which is expected to propose even deeper cuts.

Fiels added that major grassroots initiatives were underway by ALA's Washington Office as well as other offices and divisions within the Association.

President Stevens and ALA's Association for Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends, and Foundations are also mobilizing their various networks of authors to help advocate for full funding for the Library Services and Technology Act as well as the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

## Scott Turow Stands Up for Nation's Libraries

**I**n the wake of deep library budget cuts taking place in communities across the country, author Scott Turow expressed his views regarding the value of our nation's libraries in a February 15 opinion piece in the *Huffington Post*.

"While our economy seems to be slowly staggering back to its feet, state and municipal governments remain hard-hit as the result of lost tax revenues, lost stimulus money, and pension fund payments that have grown to monstrous size to make up for the market losses of 2007 and 2008," stated Turow, who also serves as Authors Guild president.

He provided recent examples of budget cuts, such as California Gov. Jerry Brown's proposed budget that, among other things, decreases general fund assistance for public libraries by \$30.4

million, and a proposal to completely eliminate several programs that have either provided direct aid to libraries or created irreplaceable resources such as shared databases.

"I count myself as one of millions of Americans whose life simply would not be the same without the libraries that supported my learning. We cannot take that opportunity away from so many Americans who need that help urgently now," Turow wrote.

Visit [huffingtonpost.com](http://huffingtonpost.com) to read the complete article.

Turow is a participant in ALA's "Our Authors, Our Advocates" initiative, one of ALA President Roberta Stevens's key presidential initiatives. For more information and PSAs, visit [lovelibraries.org/ourauthorsouradvocates](http://lovelibraries.org/ourauthorsouradvocates).

## FINRA Foundation Grants Awarded

Grants totaling \$1.4 million have been awarded to 20 libraries in the Smart Investing @ your library initiative, sponsored by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority's (FINRA) Investor Education Foundation. The program is administered jointly by ALA's Reference and User Services Association and the FINRA Investor Education Foundation.

Grantees will partner with community organizations, schools, universities, and local governments to expand the impact of the services and resources the grants enable.

"Smart investing @ your library allows libraries to establish, test, and share models that other libraries can adopt or adapt for their own communities, helping people to arrive at a brighter financial future," said ALA President Roberta Stevens.

The program funds library efforts

to provide patrons with effective, unbiased financial education resources. Now in its fourth year, the program has awarded more than \$4.6 million to public libraries and library networks nationwide.

Visit [smartinvesting.ala.org](http://smartinvesting.ala.org) for a listing of participating libraries.

## COA Announces Accreditation Actions

ALA's Committee on Accreditation (COA) announced accreditation actions taken during the 2011 ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego.

Initial accreditation status was granted to the following program: master of library and information science offered by St. Catherine University in St. Paul, Minnesota. The next comprehensive review visit is scheduled for 2017.

Continued accreditation status was granted to the following programs: master of science in information science offered by the University at Albany, State University of New York; master of science in library science offered by Clarion University of Pennsylvania; master of science in library and information science offered by Drexel University in Philadelphia; master of science in library and information science offered by Simmons College in Boston; and master of library and information science offered by the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee.

The next comprehensive review visit at each institution is scheduled for 2017.

Visit [ala.org](http://ala.org) and search “ALA Accredited Programs.” Individuals who would like more information about a particular program should contact the program.

## Apply to Host 2012 Arbuthnot Lecture

Applications are currently being accepted to host the 2012 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture, featuring well-known children's illustrator

# APRIL LIBRARY PROMOTIONS

## GETTING BUSY @ YOUR LIBRARY

The month of April will find libraries nationwide busy with promotions geared to specific library users.

It begins with **School Library Media Month**, a celebration each April of school librarians and their programs, sponsored by ALA's American Association of School Librarians. [ala.org/aasl/slm](http://ala.org/aasl/slm).

ALA has joined with the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago for the 10th observance of **Money Smart Week® @ your library**, April 2–9, an effort to promote personal financial literacy. [moneysmartweek.org/ala](http://moneysmartweek.org/ala).

**National Library Week (NLW)**, April 10–16, is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries—school, public, academic, and special—and librarians, and to promote library use and support. [ala.org/nlw](http://ala.org/nlw).

**National D.E.A.R. Day (Drop Everything and Read)**, April 12, sponsored in part by ALA's Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), is designed to remind and encourage families to make reading together on a daily basis a family priority. [dropeverythingandread.com](http://dropeverythingandread.com).

The American Library Association–Allied Professional Association sponsors **National Library Workers Day** April 12, the Tuesday of NLW, which is designed to recognize all library workers, including librarians, support staff, and others. [ala-apa.org/nlwd](http://ala-apa.org/nlwd).

New materials are available for **National Bookmobile Day** April 13, also held during NLW to celebrate the more than 800 bookmobiles and bookmobile staff. Author and illustrator Audrey Niffenegger is honorary chair. [ala.org/bookmobiles](http://ala.org/bookmobiles).

**Support Teen Literature Day** April 14, also held during NLW and sponsored by ALA's Young Adult Library Services Association, is designed to raise awareness that young adult literature is a vibrant, growing genre with much to offer today's teens. [ala.org/yalsa](http://ala.org/yalsa).

**Preservation Week** marks its second anniversary April 24–30, sponsored by ALA's Association for Library Collections and Technical Services, in partnership with the Library of Congress and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. It was developed to promote the understanding and importance of care for personal and community cultural heritage collections. [ala.org/preservationweek](http://ala.org/preservationweek).

Award-winning children's author Pat Mora will join ALSC for the national kickoff 15th-anniversary celebration of **El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day)**, also known as Día, at the Valencia branch of Pima County (Ariz.) Library System April 30. Día is an annual celebration of children, families, and reading that culminates on April 30. [ala.org/dia](http://ala.org/dia).

Peter Sis, by the 2012 Arbuthnot Honor Lecture Committee of ALA's Association for Library Service to Children.

The Arbuthnot Lecture, an annual event whose guest lecturer is announced during ALA's Midwinter Meeting, features an author, critic,

librarian, historian, or teacher of children's literature who presents a paper that makes a significant contribution to the field. A library school, department of education in a college or university, or a children's library system may apply to host the lecture.

Host site application forms are available online at [ala.org/alsc](http://ala.org/alsc) and are due May 1.

## ACRL To Explore Value of Libraries

More than 3,000 librarians and staff from college and university libraries around the world will meet in Philadelphia March 30–April 2 for the 2011 Association of College and Research Libraries conference.

Themed “A Declaration of Interdependence,” ACRL 2011 will explore the interdependency that

exists in academic and library communities and the changing nature and role of academic and research librarians. Keynote speakers include award-winning filmmaker, activist, and Webby Awards founder Tiffany Shlain; activist, academic, and author Raj Patel; computer scientist, internet pioneer, and author Jaron Lanier; and renowned fashion expert Clinton Kelly. More than 200 exhibitors will feature state-of-the-art products and services for academic and research libraries.

The Virtual Conference, designed to complement the face-to-face conference, will feature podcasts, live webcasts, slidecasts, PowerPoint presentations synced with real-time audio from every contributed paper, and a Cyber Zed Shed presentation. Also, ACRL is partnering with Clean the World to recycle used soaps from the Philadelphia Marriott to help fight the cholera outbreak in Haiti. Visit [ala.org/acrl](http://ala.org/acrl).

## Support Staff: Apply for Certification Grants

As part of a grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services, the American Library Association–Allied Professional Association’s Library Support Staff Certification (LSSC) Program is offering Registration Assistance Awards of \$175 to library support staff—half of the fee to register to become a candidate for library support staff certification.

The awards are being offered jointly by the LSSC Program, several state library agencies across the U.S., and ALA’s Library Support Staff Interests Round Table.

To be eligible for assistance, applicants must have a high school degree or its equivalent and have worked for the equivalent of one year or 1,820 hours as a library staff member or volunteer within the last five years. Visit [ala-apa/lssc](http://ala-apa/lssc).

## Coupon Booklet Fundraiser Offered

ALA’s Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends, and Foundations (ALTAFF) is partnering with Entertainment Publications to offer a coupon booklet fundraiser to library Friends groups who are group members of ALTAFF.

Friends of the Library groups can raise funds with their own coupon booklet, customized with their library photo, logo, and name on the front cover. There are no upfront costs, and groups will earn up to \$10 per coupon booklet sold. Booklets feature 40 coupons specifically selected for each local group. In addition, those who purchase the coupon booklet receive access to the Digital Savings Club website, where they can print hundreds more offers in their area. Following approval, booklets are delivered in three to four weeks.

The back cover of the coupon booklets features ALTAFF’s national spokesperson, comedian and author Paula Poundstone, and her quote “If you haven’t been to your library lately, you’re overdue!”

To get started, complete the form available at [entertainment.com/library](http://entertainment.com/library), or call Entertainment at 866-686-1432. Visit [ala.org/altaff](http://ala.org/altaff).

## Petition Candidates Seek Council Post

In addition to the published ALA Council candidates (*AL*, Nov./Dec. 2010, p. 14–15), individuals who have petitioned to be included on the ballot are:

■ **Rosina Alaimo**, librarian, Maple West Elementary School, Williamsville, New York

■ **Mary Biblo**, librarian emeritus, Stony Brook, New York

■ **Eileen K. Bosch**, senior assistant librarian, California State University, Long Beach

■ **Irene L. Briggs**, associate

## CALENDAR

### ALA EVENTS

**May 1–7:** Choose Privacy Week, [privacyrevolution.org](http://privacyrevolution.org)

**May 9–10:** National Library Legislative Day, [ala.org/nlld](http://ala.org/nlld)

**June 23–28:** ALA Annual Conference, New Orleans, [ala.org/annual](http://ala.org/annual)

**Sept.:** Library Card Sign-Up Month, [ala.org/librarycardsignup](http://ala.org/librarycardsignup)

**Sept. 24–Oct. 1:** Banned Books Week, [ala.org/bbooks](http://ala.org/bbooks)

**Oct. 16–22:** National Friends of Libraries Week, [ala.org/altaff](http://ala.org/altaff)

**Oct. 16–22:** Teen Read Week, [ala.org/teenread](http://ala.org/teenread)

**Nov. 12:** National Gaming Day, [ngd.ala.org](http://ngd.ala.org)



# STORYTELLING WITH JERRY PINKNEY



Caldecott Award-winning artist Jerry Pinkney shares a laugh with a fan February 22 during a program, “A Story Worth Telling with Jerry Pinkney,” at the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art in Amherst, Massachusetts. Pinkney discussed his 50 years of making picture books, ranging from how he created his first sketches to winning the 2010 Caldecott Medal.

director for public services, Prince George’s County (Md.) Memorial Library System

■ **Shirley A. Bruursema**, trustee, Kent District Library, Comstock Park, Michigan

■ **Diane R. Chen**, library information specialist, John F. Kennedy Middle School, Antioch, Tennessee

■ **Diedre Conkling**, director, Lincoln County (Oreg.) Library District

■ **Jennifer Emanuel**, digital services and reference librarian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

■ **Alison Adams Ernst**, principal, Alison Ernst Associates, Pleasant Ridge, Michigan

■ **Ed Garcia**, information access librarian, Cranston (R.I.) Public Library

■ **Martin L. Garnar**, reference services librarian, Regis University, Dayton Memorial Library, Denver

■ **Gail Guidry Griffin**, library media specialist, Caddo Parish Schools, A. C. Steere Elementary, Shreveport, Louisiana

■ **Florante Peter Ibanez**, manager, library computer services, Loyola Law School, Rains Library, Los Angeles

■ **Wei Jeng-Chu**, technology division head, Worcester (Mass.) Public Library

■ **Darcel Jones**, community

library manager, Contra Costa County Library, Pittsburg, California

■ **Margaret L. Kirkpatrick**, elementary librarian, Unified School District 259, Wichita, Kansas

■ **Em Claire Knowles**, assistant dean for student services, Simmons College, Graduate School of Library and Information Services, Boston

■ **Catherine (Kate) Kosturski**, student, East Windsor, New Jersey

■ **Catherine E. Marriott**, director of technology/information services, Orchard Park (N.Y.) Central Schools

■ **Kirby McCurtis**, youth services librarian, San Diego Public Library

■ **Toni Negro**, librarian, Universities at Shady Grove, Priddy Library, Rockville, Maryland

■ **Bobbi L. Newman**, digital branch manager, Chattahoochee Valley Libraries, Columbus, Georgia

■ **Brenda Pruitt-Annisette**, coordinator, K–12 media services, Fulton County (Ga.) Schools

■ **Zora J. Sampson**, director, University of Wisconsin–Platteville Libraries/Archives and Museum

■ **John C. Sandstrom**, manager, Cielo Vista Library, El Paso (Tex.) Public Library, Branch Services

■ **Julie A. Schneider**, director, University of Wisconsin–Madison, Ebling Library for the Health Sciences

■ **Wendy Stephens**, librarian,

Buckhorn High School, New Market, Alabama

■ **Barbara K. Stripling**, director, School Library Services, New York City Department of Education Office of Library Services

■ **Eric Suess**, director, Marshall Public Library, Pocatello, Idaho

■ **James K. Teliha**, associate university librarian, Idaho State University, Pocatello

■ **Jennifer Wann Walker**, consultant, Mississippi Library Commission, Jackson ■

## KEY 2010 ELECTION DATES

**March 16:** Ballot mailing begins

**April 22:** Polls close at 11:59 p.m. (Central Standard Time)

**April 29:** Certification of election results by Election Committee

**April 29:** Candidates notified and election reports distributed

# Librarians Sing the E-book Blues

The biblioblogosphere, the Twittiverse, and even some traditional media erupted with indignation over a decision by publishing giant HarperCollins to change its terms of service for libraries' e-book lending rights.

It began with a February 24 e-mail from OverDrive CEO Steve Potash alerting customers that "publishers are expressing concern and debating their digital future where a single eBook license to a library may never expire, never wear out, and never need replacement" and that one firm (which turned out to be HarperCollins) had decided to solve the perceived problem by establishing "a checkout limit for each eBook licensed."

The magic number turned out to be 26, a checkout ceiling that HarperCollins President of Sales Josh Marwell defended March 1 on the Library Love Fest blog as balancing "the mission and needs of libraries and their patrons with those of authors and booksellers, so that the library channel can thrive alongside the growing e-book retail channel."

Three days later, New Zealand publisher Martin Taylor advised in the *Martin Taylor eReport*, "While libraries do a public good by expanding readership of an author's work, let's not overstate their success turning readership into income for authors and publishers." Some library officials wasted no time in telling their patrons that their library could no longer afford to buy HarperCollins e-books under the publisher's modified terms of service, and OverDrive announced March 1 that it was removing HarperCollins titles from its Library Marketplace catalog as of March 7.

As the arguments flew, the American Library Association began deliberations involving the Equitable Access to Electronic Content (EQUACC) and the E-book task forces, formed at the 2011 Midwinter Meeting. EQUACC met March 7–8 in Washington, D.C., to begin mapping a coordinated Association response. Its recommendations included: identifying and supporting

new and emerging model projects for delivering e-content to the public; partnering within and outside the profession to improve access to electronic information for all, particularly people with disabilities; and developing a national campaign that highlights the importance of libraries as essential access points for electronic content.

Thanking the library community "for speaking up," ALA President Roberta Stevens announced in the Washington Office's District Dispatch that a report from the task force is expected at the 2011 Annual Conference in New Orleans.

Curiously, few were acknowledging the documented impact libraries have on publishers' and booksellers' bottom lines, no matter the format. In a 2007 survey conducted for ALA, Harris Interactive found that, out of a sampling of several thousand randomly selected households, "two in five adults and 36% of youth have purchased a book after checking it out from the local library." The Harris survey tallied the per-person purchasing patterns as averaging eight books, eight CDs, and 13 DVDs over a year's time,

concluding: "This data shows the power of the library to influence purchase decisions . . . among key demographics to marketers such as those 18–34 and parents."

So why should it matter that a "single eBook license to a library may never expire, never wear out, and never need replacement"? Most print books last for years in library collections without affecting book sales; those loanable titles just whet the public's appetite to borrow and buy more. OverDrive concludes in its 2010 white paper, *How eBook Catalogs at Public Libraries Drive Publishers' Book Sales and Profits*, "Sales of e-books to public libraries provide publishers with incremental revenue to supplement retail sales of print and digital books."

For more information, visit [emergingissues.ala.org](http://emergingissues.ala.org), a joint endeavor of ALA's Office of Intellectual Freedom and Washington Office.

—Beverly Goldberg

Few are acknowledging the documented impact libraries have on publishers' and booksellers' bottom lines, no matter the format.

# Learning Terrace to Embed Library Throughout Drexel Campus

A new library facility at Drexel University in Philadelphia is “the first step toward embedding the libraries across campus,” according to Dean of Libraries Danuta Nitecki.

The 3,000-square-foot Library Learning Terrace will be located on the ground floor of one of the campus’s residence halls. The space is intended to facilitate learning, rather than just house information, Nitecki said. It won’t have any books or computers, but it will provide wireless internet access and electrical outlets for laptops and mobile devices; flexible seating options to allow up to 75 students to work individually or collaboratively; and a space for tutors, faculty consultations, and study groups. It will also include an outdoor space for use in good weather.

The Terrace will be open for students 24/7. Library staff will not work there during set hours, but they will announce service times at the site for individual projects. Also, some faculty have shown an interest in holding office hours in the Terrace.

## A 21st-century learning space

The concept for the Terrace grew out of a space assessment last year indicating that Drexel’s libraries, which include a main facility and two health sciences libraries, were undersized. At the same time, the library was trying to model what a 21st-century university library should be, particularly in an urban setting where real estate is quite expensive.

“The library is a learning enterprise,” Nitecki said.

“We’re motivated by thinking of students as intentional learners” who will take responsibility for their own educational needs.

The library solicited feedback for its plans on its blog, through the student newspaper, and at two student forums that each attracted more than 100 attendees.

“They weren’t there complaining or arguing—they had real interest in the issue,” Nitecki said.

Those meetings revealed that students did want more library space and they associated the library with study in a way that they didn’t with coffee shops or other third places. “Creating spaces and an environment that foster

that is a challenge. There’s a growing culture of being interested in what it takes to learn,” Nitecki said.

While there are no specific plans yet, the library is exploring the possibility of developing a network of library hubs like the Library Learning Terrace throughout the campus. Other sites have already been identified

as potentially suitable. In addition, “We think it will give us some insight into the kind of spaces that will help the students,” Nitecki said. The Terrace has already influenced the renovation of one of the floors of the main library into “a space that’s owned by the learner.”

The Library Learning Terrace is scheduled to open in May. Construction began in February, after the library finalized the decision to go forward with the project last September and identified a residence hall with space suitable to house it. The Terrace was designed by Erdy McHenry Architects, and total cost was less than \$900,000.

—Greg Landgraf

**“We think it will give us some insight into the kind of spaces that will help the students.”**

**Danuta Nitecki**

**Drexel University Dean of Libraries**



Architect’s rendering of the Library Learning Terrace.





# One Librarian's Takeaway from the Consumer Electronics Show

While ALA Midwinter 2011 was starting in beautiful San Diego, I was on a plane to a different, but equally sunny destination—Las Vegas—to attend the 2011 International Consumer Electronics Show . . . me, and 160,000 others. CES is the largest consumer electronics show in the world, with journalists, retail buyers, and manufacturers all coming together in the middle of the Nevada desert to do business and report on the gadgets of the coming year.

The reason that I've gone to CES for the last couple of years is some-

thing that I've said in a few presentations now: Experiences become expectations. The experiences that our patrons have with these gadgets and gizmos set their expectations for their interaction with information. We need to be watching the leading edge of the bell curve of technology so that by the time these things become embedded in our patrons' lives it doesn't take us a decade to find a way to provide library services that they recognize.

The gadget emergence that might have the most effect on libraries is the rise of the tablet as a consumer-favored computing device. The iPad has

been a runaway success (14.5 million sold in just about nine months) and every manufacturer who can is about to launch their own tablet. The vast majority will be running Android, the mobile operating system from Google. The upcoming 3.0 version of Android, codenamed Honeycomb, is designed specifically for tablets, and tablets from Motorola, LG, and the new Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1 will all be running Honeycomb when they launch in the next few months.

My vote for the coolest gadget at CES, though, definitely goes to the MakerBot 3D printer from MakerBot Industries. I've written about

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3D printing elsewhere (*ALA Tech-Source*, Feb. 14) but I think this technology has such interesting potential that it's something libraries should be watching. For just a bit over \$1,000, you can buy a MakerBot, load it up with plastic, and print your own *anything*. This technology is becoming more flexible, able to handle more diverse materials and finer details.

Another trend that will begin to affect libraries in the next 2–3 years is the rise of what are being called “superphones,” the step beyond a smart-phone. The first of these was announced at CES by Motorola, the Atrix. It's an Android-based phone with enough power under the hood to be a low-powered computer. It is being marketed with a dock that attaches to a keyboard and mouse, so you can use it much as you would a traditional desktop—albeit one that you can put in your pocket when you're done. Motorola is also selling a


laptop dock that is just a large battery, screen, and keyboard; the phone itself docks and does all of the processing.

The last thing that should be considered by libraries is the whole concept of an “ecosystem” of technology that communicates, updates, and is generally “aware.” There were a number of large companies at CES showing off a sort of “1960s World's Fair” version of this (“Your icebox will know when your milk is about to go sour, and ring your phone to tell you!”) that may or may not be successful in the marketplace. But the general idea of an “internet of things” is definitely on its way, consisting of objects that are not traditionally understood to be connected. If we can learn from these sorts of early experiments, we will be better positioned to provide truly amazing experiences to our patrons.

—Jason Griffey  
technologist and librarian



The 3D MakerBot Thing-O-Matic on display at CES. The device prints out custom-built objects made of plastic that is fed into the machine instead of paper.




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# Building a Culture of Literacy through Día

A group of children gather in the children's area to listen to a story. At first glance, this could be a program occurring any day of the week in any library across the country. However, it is April 30, and the children are enjoying books like *Book Fiesta!* by Pat Mora and *Sip, Slurp, Soup, Soup Caldo, Caldo, Caldo* by Diane Gonzales Bertrand. They are singing songs like "Juanito" along with a recording by José-Luis Orozco, and they are reciting poems like "Tortillitas" and "Chocolate." They are celebrating *El día de los niños/El día de los libros*, the

culmination of a year's worth of activities that promote and support bilingual literacy and reading in any—and every—language.

Día is an enhancement of Children's Day, which began in 1925 to bring attention to the importance and well-being of children. Fifteen years ago, author, poet, and literacy activist Pat Mora began talking to a few friends and colleagues about a celebration that would link children to languages, reading, books, and cultures. Her idea to celebrate bilingual literacy and children's books grew out of a conversation about Día del Niño, a Latin American holiday that celebrates children and their well-being, usually on April 30.

## Languages of love

Librarians such as Oralia Garza de Cortés, Veronica Myers, and members of Reforma immediately supported Día, and through a series of grants from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, ALA's Association for Library Service to Children continues to increase public awareness of Día.

According to U.S. Department of Education statistics, almost 11 million school-age children speak a language other than English at home. Research also shows the value of children having access to books that reflect their culture and the language spoken at home and endorses the idea that a child who is literate in one language can be literate in others. Día embraces these concepts, but of equal importance is its support of "bookjoy"—the sheer pleasure of sharing a book.

This year, more than a third of U.S. libraries are doing some type of programming. For instance, Kenton

County (Ky.) Public Library has volunteers read the same book one page at a time in all the languages represented in the county. KCPL uses books like *The Swirling Hijaab* by Na'ima bint Robert or *Splash!* by Flora McDonnell, which are available in multiple languages. If your library prefers a book that is not commercially available in a specific language, ask a volunteer reader to translate.

Día offers opportunities to develop partnerships, offer outreach services, and publicize the richness of the library's resources. Also, planners of successful Día programs remind us that we don't have to go it alone. Día programs are popular with parenting groups (especially those that support new immigrant families) and other organizations serving non-English speakers. Look for media outlets that reach bilingual or non-English speakers; many bilinguals in these communities have an interest in preserving their cultural language. Public and school libraries that host Día programs find that such partners not only help to build a community of literacy but also to support the library in general.

—Jeanette Larson, independent library consultant and trainer

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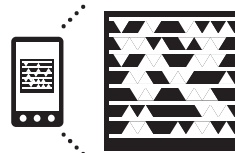
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# GLOBAL REACH



## CANADA ①

Students at the University of Calgary in Alberta face significant delays this spring and summer in accessing some books at the new \$180-million Taylor Family Digital Library because of a design flaw in the building's climate-control mechanism. Refitting the system will cause four floors of stacks to remain closed until the end of the summer, with staff locating and retrieving specific titles. The facility was due to open March 15.—*Calgary Herald*, Mar. 10.

## PERU ②

The National Library of Peru in Lima has begun a campaign to recover more than 600 titles that are missing from its rare book collection. The titles include books and manuscripts printed between the 16th and 19th centuries. Director Ramon Mujica announced February 22 that the rare books department would be closed for 90 days for an inventory, adding that he had already received calls from colleagues and collectors who have seen or bought books in various parts of Lima that were stamped with the National Library seal.—*Andean Air Mail and Peruvian Times*, Feb. 26.

## UNITED KINGDOM ③

Pressure is building on British Culture Secretary Jeremy Hunt over library closures, with the filing of several legal challenges. Campaign for the Book has launched a judicial review case through solicitors, arguing that Hunt failed to comply with his legal duty to supervise local authorities in providing proper library services to their residents. Two Lewisham residents have sent Hunt a formal request demanding that he intervene over the five libraries set for closure there on May 28. A court challenge was also launched in mid-February against two other councils.—*The Guardian (U.K.)*, Feb. 24, Mar. 1.

## CZECH REPUBLIC ④

The Vaclav Havel Presidential Library, now housed in two different locations, will move in 2013 into a renovated 16th-century palace in Prague. Havel said the aim of the library was not to build his personal memorial but to create "an epicenter of spiritual, social, and literary life in Prague."—*Czech News Agency*, Mar. 2.

## EGYPT ⑤

The Al-Bahr Al-Azam Library and the Shubra El-Kheima Library near Cairo were destroyed in January by vandals who stole the contents and left the buildings in ruins. Queens (N.Y.) Library, which partners with the Integrated Care Society that operates the network of public libraries in Cairo, has mounted a global campaign to help the libraries rebuild and reopen as soon as possible.—*Queens Library*, Mar. 4.

## TANZANIA ⑥

At a recent workshop of the Tanzania Library and Information Association, Mbeya regional official Moses Chitama admitted to attendees that the dearth of school libraries is due to the government placing "more emphasis on the construction of laboratories in each [secondary] school." Chitama urged district councils to work closely with the library community to create more school and public libraries.—*The Citizen (Dar es Salaam)*, Mar. 7.

## AUSTRALIA ⑦

In the wake of Cyclone Yasi making landfall February 3, most governmental districts in North Queensland became eligible for federal grants to repair libraries, schools, and infrastructure. Many Queensland schools reopened February 14 except for those in need of extensive repairs or that will have to be rebuilt, such as the flattened Tully State High School. Officials at the State Library of Queensland are urging residents to salvage such items as personal diaries, photo collections, home movies, organizational records, and digital files.—*Brisbane Courier-Mail*, Feb. 7; *Cassowary Coast Regional Council*; *State Library of Queensland*.

## NEW ZEALAND ⑧

A 6.3-magnitude earthquake that killed as many as 200 in the Canterbury region February 21 has damaged the Christchurch Central Library as well as a library in suburban Fendalton. The National Preservation Office is planning to collaborate with other heritage organizations across the country, so that conservators and curators will be ready to offer assistance.—*Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa*. ■

## NEWSMAKER: CHRISTINE WIGFALL MORRIS

Christine Wigfall Morris, affectionately known as Miss Chris, was hired by the City of Clearwater, Florida, in July 1949 as its first African-American librarian. Prior to working for the city, she had never been inside a public library because local segregation practices did not encourage African Americans to visit one. Now at 88, she has recapped her lifelong Florida history and her 33-year career as a librarian in *Christine Wigfall Morris: Stories of Family, Community, and History* (PublishAmerica, 2010), cowritten with local author Barbara Sorey. Morris helped to spearhead the opening of the facility designated as the Negro Library in April 1950, located in a storefront.



### American Libraries: Why did you decide to write this book?

**CHRISTINE WIGFALL MORRIS:** I had so much to put into the book and not all of it is in there. I also thought that it would be nice for other people to learn about the family and its history in the community.

### Was there a controversy when you were hired by Clearwater in 1949?

Before I was hired, Afro Americans, or blacks, could not go into the main library. You could take books back for some of the families, but there was no place for us to go. That was the reason why a number of concerned citizens went to the city commissioners.

**What about the reaction from the staff?** Some liked it and some did not. They had heard so much about Afro Americans. They wanted to feel my hair to see if it was kinky. There were certain things that they had read about Afro Americans, blacks,

or Negroes that wasn't true.

**What role did you play in the opening of the Negro Library in 1950?** I was everything: the sweeper, the keeper, the book checker, and the storyteller. And it was a joy to know that I could hold my head up and do some of these things.

**How important was your role in using the library as a place for voter registration, tutoring, and summer programs?** It was very important because it involved the whole community. We would host festivals and involve children from other cities. My two great-nieces started the program, and it really shone the lime-light on the city of Clearwater.

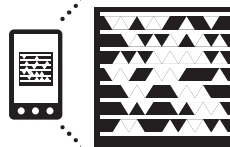
**How do you feel about the naming of the collection in your honor?** I feel good about it, though several people have said that it should have been the library that was named in honor of me. But the city commissioners said

that I had to be dead. It gives me more honor to see the collection than to be dead and not see the library.

**What is in the collection?** Information about the Civil Rights Movement and Martin Luther King, Afro-American cookbooks, spirituals, pictures, and CDs.

**What are some of your favorite sections in the book?** I don't have any favorite parts; all of it is good. What really impressed me about the book was to see the pictures of my family and my high school classmates, and to know that I have served all these years under so many presidents.

**What advice would you give young people of color about a career in librarianship?** I have one young lady, now living in Illinois, who said that I was one of the people who influenced her to go into library science. She was very impressed. And I know a couple other ladies who are in library science who have said that I pushed them into that, to see what the world is all about and to meet different people. ■



### READ MORE

You can read more on your phone or [americanlibrariesmagazine.org](http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org). If your phone has a Web browser and a camera, **download the free app at [gettag.mobi](http://gettag.mobi)** and scan this bar code.

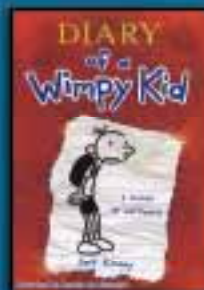
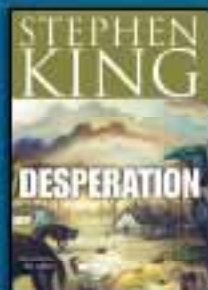




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# How the World Sees Us

"Locate two bookstores in a shopping mall and it is applauded as an example of the competitive marketplace at work. One presumes greater merchandise selection, better service, lower prices, etc. Locate two public libraries near each other, and howls about government waste would be on the six o'clock news."

JONATHAN LEWIS, founder and CEO of Opportunity Collaboration, in "Are Libraries Stacked Against the Free Market?" *Huffington Post*, Feb. 28.

"The library represents that branch of government that's like the smart kid—the teacher's favorite. And the library always wins. They get whatever they want. Everybody loves them—nobody can say anything. People who work in the library think they are so much better than everyone else. And what's really funny is we've been doing Q&As about our show, and people from local governments have said, 'You guys nailed it about the library.' We were just making it up as a joke on the show, but I guess everyone hates the library."

*Parks and Recreation* star AMY POEHLER, in response to the question, "How much does *Parks and Recreation* hate the library?" in the Q+LA column, *Los Angeles Times Magazine*, Jan.

"Although the turmoil in Egypt is a matter for the Egyptian people and their government to resolve, limiting internet access for millions of people is a matter of concern for the global community. It is essential to communication and to commerce. No one should be denied access to the internet."

Facebook spokesperson ANDREW NOYES, who declined to comment on the political specifics of unrest in Egypt that

inadvertently made the social-media giant a conduit for news updates through *Al Jazeera's* fan page, "Facebook Treads Carefully after Its Vital Role in Egypt's Anti-Mubarak Protests," *Washington Post*, Feb. 2.

"I tend to retrieve memory bits through 'topographical' or 'associative' connections. Like searching a library by classification. And just as a librarian takes time to fetch a reference book—if you are old enough to remember such a person—it takes me a while to make the connections."

Out and About columnist MICHAEL BARNES, on how memory works, "Trivia in the Library of the Mind," *Austin (Tex.) American-Statesman*, Jan. 23.

"And so Hermione Granger, that charming grind, still goes to the Hogwarts library and spends hours and hours working her way through the stacks, finding out what a basilisk is or how to make a love potion. . . . Now, having been stuck with the library shtick, she has to go on working the stacks in the Harry Potter movies, while the kids who have since come of age nudge their parents. 'Why is she doing that?' they whisper. 'Why doesn't she just Google it?'"

ADAM GOPNIK, "How the Internet Gets Inside Us," *The New Yorker*, Feb. 14.

"The HarperCollins [e-book lending] model now further calls into question just what it is that libraries do for what class of people and why so much of what they offer is free. This question only used to come up when libraries purchased significant collections of Hollywood VHS tapes and major-label music CDs, but very few people would

**"To save money by reducing library services . . . is like trying to save a bleeding man by cutting out his heart."**

Author PICO IYER, "Sanctuary in the Stacks," *Los Angeles Times*, Mar. 6.

ask the same question about books, which were seen even by skeptics and grouches as core mission materials, grandfathered in."

Change of Subject columnist ERIC ZORN, on the larger implications of HarperCollins capping e-book loans to 26 times per title license, "Libraries Facing the E-book Challenge," *Chicago Tribune*, Mar. 8.

"Free e-reader devices, if they worked with library e-book lending programs, could help increase access to books. . . . Maybe libraries could be everywhere, and open all the time. Hmm, maybe Amazon wouldn't like that so much. But if their e-book market was big enough, they probably wouldn't care."

AMY GAHRAN, "Why Amazon Would Be Smart to Give Away the Kindle," *CNN.com*, Mar. 4.

"Having three kids, I know how valuable things like music, P.E., and library are to a child's education. I would rather have a full education with 10 less days in the year than have my kids in a class of 32 where they are not getting enough attention or the broad spectrum of education they should be getting."

HEIDI GILBERTSON, a mother and teacher, in response to proposed cuts at Tigard-Tualatin (Oreg.) School District, "Proposed School Cuts Deep in Tigard-Tualatin School District," *Tigard Times*, Mar. 10 ■

# Must We Abide?

Libraries should push the license agreement envelope

by D. J. Hoek

**M**ore and more, publishers, database providers, and other corporate content proprietors are taking steps to replace the traditional benefits of ownership with the rigorously controlled provisions of licensing. Known as terms of sale (TOS) or end-user license agreements (EULAs), these licenses uniformly stipulate who can (and can't) use a certain product and how that product can (and can't) be used. Such restrictions place alarming limitations on libraries' ability to develop meaningful collections and to provide access in ways most suitable to their communities. Even more alarming, however, is the fact that we are doing nothing about it.

In her In Practice column, "Read the Fine Print" (*AL*, Nov./Dec. 2010, p. 30), Meredith Farkas calls attention to the TOS used by Netflix and Amazon to control how their services and products may be used. She rightly observes that libraries currently circulating Netflix DVDs or Kindle e-books are in clear violation of TOS parameters. Warning that such lending puts libraries (as well as the school districts, colleges and universities, companies, and municipalities they are a part of) at risk of legal action, she stresses, "In

considering a new technology, it is imperative that a library understand what rules it must abide by."

This cautionary advice is well warranted, and libraries that haven't been reading license agreements definitely should be. But are these terms acceptable? How can a profession purportedly committed to providing unfettered access to information resources simply "abide by" restrictions that compromise our collections and services?

Libraries today must continually incorporate new technologies and deliver an expanding array of information and services in

ways that are useful and convenient for patrons. It is entirely reasonable—even innovative—that some libraries have taken to using Netflix and Kindles. Though unquestionably violating license conditions, those rogue libraries are also upholding long-standing tenets of our profession.

Much has been said about the importance of libraries to democracy, and today this is true as ever. In its interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights regarding access to digital information, services, and networks, ALA has drawn a direct connection between free speech and the information a library is able to deliver, stating, "Freedom of expression encompasses the freedom of speech and the corollary right to receive in-

formation." This assertion is then expanded: "Users have the right to be free of unreasonable limitations or conditions set by libraries, librarians, system administrators, vendors, network service providers, or others." These words are reminders of our profession's most fundamental purpose and responsibility.

## Face the music

Already there is a growing amount of licensed music, issued solely as digital downloads, that is unavailable in libraries, and it's just a matter of time before a large number of books and videos will likewise be available only through licensed channels. If it is unacceptable for libraries to conform to the limitations imposed by licensed services and materials, as I contend it is, then what should be done? Farkas is, of course, correct that any breach of license could put a library and its greater community in jeopardy, and I certainly do not advocate individual libraries engaging in such risky practices. Unfortunately, it is that worry—the fear of being sued—that keeps us from pushing the envelope and developing real solutions.

But if libraries continue only to work within the narrower range of what licenses allow, we may just be abiding ourselves into obsolescence, while also submitting to the diminution of the very freedoms that are in our care. ■

D. J. HOEK is head of the Music Library at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois.



**It is entirely reasonable—even innovative—that some libraries have taken to using Netflix and Kindles.**

# Libraries and Mobile Services

It's time for the profession to think small

by Cody W. Hanson

**M**obile devices are ubiquitous in today's society, and there's no evidence that that is going to change. According to the Pew Internet and American Life Project, as of mid-2010, 82% of American adults own a mobile phone or a mobile computing device that works as a phone. It is crucial for librarians to understand mobile devices and provide services through them.

I'm sure your library is cash-strapped, underresourced, and understaffed. Development of tools and services that target mobile users likely seems a distraction, a drain on your time and attention. It might feel like it's the flavor of the month, blustery conference-paper fodder that's unlikely to pay off in real service to users.

What evidence would provide a good indication that the day had come for your library to focus concerted efforts on mobile services? If nearly all Americans owned cell phones? Maybe if a large percentage of those phone owners demonstrably used their device to access the internet? Perhaps if smartphone sales began to approach sales of PCs? If major information service providers were shifting their focus from the desktop to mobile devices?

If the trend turned away from mobile devices mimicking the functions of desktop computers, and instead desktops began to emulate mobiles? Maybe if there was evidence that traditional desktop connectivity wasn't reaching people who could be reached on their mobile devices?

If so, then that day is today.

## The changing face of the digital divide

Libraries have long been at the forefront of advocacy for increased broadband internet access, particularly for poor people and for rural Americans. Mobile may not yet be the ideal solution for rural users, but the demographics of mobile internet

usage show encouraging signs of increased access among groups that have long been underrepresented among internet users in the United States.

The report "Mobile Access 2010" from the Pew Internet and American Life Project notes that Latino and African-American adults are more likely than their Caucasian peers both to own mobile devices and to use them to access the internet. While 80% of white adults own mobile phones, among African Americans and English-speaking Latinos the rate of ownership is 87%. Of all American

adults with cell phones, 38% use them to access the internet, but black and English-speaking Hispanic users far outstrip the average—at 46% and 51% respectively.

Pew's survey was conducted in English, so data on those who only speak Spanish was not available.

## The day for mobile services has come

The evidence is compelling:

- The vast majority of Americans now own cell phones.
- Nearly half use them to access the internet.
- In the fourth quarter of 2010, manufacturers shipped more smartphones than they did traditional PCs.
- Underrepresented groups are accessing the mobile internet in impressive numbers.
- Google is developing for mobile first and the desktop second.
- Apple is in the midst of making its desktop computers behave more like its mobile devices.

If your library, like mine (and every library I can think of), has been transformed by desktop computing and internet access, now is the time to take action and be proactive in providing robust services to mobile users. ■



**It's crucial for librarians to understand mobile devices and to provide services through them.**

**CODY HANSON** is web architect and user experience analyst at the University of Minnesota Libraries. He was a 2010 ALA Emerging Leader, and he co-chairs the LITA Education Committee. As an adjunct faculty member at Saint Catherine University, he has taught "Library 2.0" in the Master of Library and Information Science program.



# Lost and Found

Vignettes from the frontiers of modern life

by Joseph Janes

**A**t dinner the other night with friends, we learned that their eldest daughter, a college sophomore, had had her boyfriend visit for a few days over the holidays. The visit went fine, or so it seemed, and then the relationship ended, abruptly and unexpectedly.

A sad if not uncommon story; the punch line was how my friend found out this had happened—by the fact that the boyfriend's Facebook relationship status had been switched to "single."

A phone call confirmed the breakup, and since her daughter didn't change her status for quite a while, it didn't take much deduction to figure out who broke up with whom. (Apparently, this happened at the airport as he was leaving; at least he had the good grace to do it in person and not dump her with a text from the tarmac, so he's not a complete heel.)

For some reason, this put me in mind of the search I did for another friend and colleague whom I lost touch with a couple of years ago. I found myself thinking about her and wondering what she was up to, so I turned, naturally, to the internet. I started with Google (yes, I know, very 2008) and all I could find were older results; filtering for recent pages came up dry, as did a search in the last place I knew she had worked. Bing was no better, leading me to an outdated entry in ZoomIn-

fo; nor was Intelius or LinkedIn or even Facebook, since hers is not an uncommon name.

Admittedly, I didn't do an exhaustive search; it was more of the I-wonder-where-and-what variety. And I didn't reach out to mutual friends and connections, which would be a natural next step. (I did, though, do a quick obituary search, for my own peace of mind, which happily also yielded nothing.)

Of course, I have no idea why my search failed. I guess the surprising part to me wasn't that I couldn't find the particular person I was looking for, so much as that there was any way not to find somebody you were looking for. We've become so much of a culture of self-broadcasting by tweets and status updates and blogs and Foursquare badges and smartphones with GPS functionality that it's difficult to imagine being invisible, unfindable, off the radar, gone.

## Who's who?

There have always been resources to help us learn more about people—from *Who's Who* and *Burke's Peerage* through *Current Biography*, *Find A Grave*, and *ancestry.com*. In the constellation of reference tools, they belonged up there with resources

about books, journals, places, words, facts as among the primary categories. A moment's contemplation of the title of *Who's Who* tells you one of the main traditional reasons for that: an implication that certain people are more important

than others—that their lives are worth memorializing, remembering, remarking on, emulating (or avoiding).

Today, it's not only easier to get famous

(Snooki, anyone?), it's easier to be known or at least known *about*, and by extension less easy not to be known. Has it been at least a week since a long-lost classmate friend-ed you? (Or since Facebook developed a new tool that gave away more of your private info by default?)

The traditional biographical sources helped to satisfy our curiosity about people we would likely never meet. Now it's easy to make "friends" whom we may never meet and know intimate things about people we'll never know. As an old (real) friend of mine used to say: "People. They're everywhere" ... 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](mailto:intlib@school.washington.edu).



Today, it's not only easier to get famous (Snooki, anyone?), it's easier to be known or at least known about.

# Let's Not Borrow Trouble

E-book collection development requires new considerations

by Meredith Farkas

**A**t my library, I'm in charge of collection development for our largest academic division. Sometimes I find the task daunting as I struggle to find a balance between buying things that will likely get used today and anticipating what might be needed in the future. The choices I make will influence the long-term health of our collection and I feel the weight of that—especially when I'm making decisions about e-books.

I've been getting more and more requests from faculty for specific works in e-book format. We've purchased several e-book collections, but the most recent requests have been for individual works. While I know some libraries are already moving toward entirely electronic reference collections, these requests give me pause because there are so many issues to consider in a market that is operating atop shifting sands. That doesn't mean we shouldn't act, but we should fully understand the issues before making any decisions.

With the growth of the e-book market, librarians involved in collection development not only need to be subject-matter experts, but they also need to be savvy about a variety of technological, legal, and business issues surrounding e-books. Here are just a few things librarians should consider when making decisions about e-books and collections:

■ How will patrons find the

book(s)? Some e-book vendors provide MARC records, while others force patrons to search their own system to find books. How will we make it easy for patrons to understand the variety of options in our physical and digital collections and different ways to access each?

■ What devices can a patron use to read the book(s)? I can order and read a book on my Kindle at the click of a button—not the case with e-books provided by libraries. Some can easily be read on mobile devices in PDF format or with an app, some require a complicated hack to get them to work, and others do not work on mobile devices or e-readers at all. Also, different e-readers read different formats; interoperability is almost nonexistent.

■ Is this accessible? Beyond the topic of interoperability, it's critically important that every library investigate whether its e-book offerings are ADA-compliant.

■ Will the vendor's digital rights management interfere with legitimate use? Patrons want to be able to download books and read them offline. They want to be able to print portions to take to class (or the beach). Some vendors make these things impossible in the name of protecting rights-holders, while others have managed to protect copy-right and still allow patrons to use



**There are so many issues to consider in a market that is operating atop shifting sands.**

e-books however they wish.

■ What about ILL? Interlibrary loan is a critical part of the work of libraries and allows us to offer so

much more to patrons than we could provide on our own. What does ILL look like in the e-book world when currently only a very small number of e-book vendors allow for any sort of interlibrary loan?

■ How do you browse an e-book collection? No matter how good our library search engines become, browsing is still an important part of the discovery process, and this is not something that has been replicated well online. Many possibilities exist, but it's difficult to imagine an easily browsable collection of various e-book platforms and print works.

Over the past year, the e-book market has exploded and blissful ignorance about the impact of e-books on libraries is no longer an option for any librarian who makes collection decisions. We must keep up with the e-publishing world, the e-reader market, and our patrons' online reading habits to make the best possible decisions for our users and the health of our collections. ■

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**MEREDITH FARKAS** is head of instructional initiatives at Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont, and part-time faculty at San Jose State University School of Library and Information Science. She blogs at *Information Wants to Be Free* and created *Library Success: A Best Practices Wiki*. Contact her at [librarysuccess@gmail.com](mailto:librarysuccess@gmail.com).

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# COMMUNITY ANCHORS

2011

LIBRARY

DESIGN

SHOWCASE

by Greg Landgraf

 In the following pages are excerpts from the 2011 Library Design Showcase. See more new and renovated buildings at [americanlibrariesmagazine.org/librarydesign11](http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/librarydesign11). *American Libraries* will also publish a digital supplement in April that will include articles on evolving library design and moving a military library, as well as more new and renovated library facilities.





KINNEAR CENTRE FOR CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION,  
PAUL D. FLECK LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES, BANFF CENTRE, ALBERTA

The Paul D. Fleck Library and Archives, which occupies two stories of the new Kinneer Centre in Banff National Park, is one of Canada's foremost arts libraries. Floor-to-ceiling windows and balconies offer exceptional mountain views, while exterior wood slats mitigate glare that might disturb both patrons of the library and wildlife in the park. The building features natural ventilation and low-emissivity glass that saves energy by retaining heat in winter while reflecting it in summer.

*New Construction*

Diamond and Schmitt Architects/Gibbs Gage Architects

[dsai.ca](http://dsai.ca) / [gibbsgage.com](http://gibbsgage.com)

Size: 9,260 sq. ft. for library, 88,000 sq. ft. total

Cost: \$63.4 million (entire building)

Photo: Tom Arban

## HENNEPIN COUNTY (MINN.) LIBRARY, MAPLE GROVE LIBRARY

The Maple Grove Library was designed as a pavilion in a new park reclaimed from gravel mines. The design integrates outdoor views and spaces, including a reading porch and summer entrance on the west side of the building. The library has a green roof and an efficient underfloor distribution system for conditioned air, and an onsite lake provides hydrothermal heat and cooling for the building.

*New Construction*

Meyer, Scherer, & Rockcastle, Ltd.

[msrltd.com](http://msrltd.com)

Size: 40,000 sq. ft.

Cost: \$14.8 million

Photo: Lara Swimmer







BOLTON (MASS.) PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Bolton Public Library building was constructed in 1903, and the town wanted to expand it dramatically—from 2,000 to 16,000 square feet—while maintaining the proportion and historic context of the original. The expansion used themes from the original stone structure, such as the dormers that create pop-out areas to maximize usable space on the small site. New features of the library include a community room, technology spaces, quiet study areas, and a separate children's area with a story and crafts room.

*Renovation and Expansion*

Lerner Ladds + Bartels

llbarch.com

Size: 14,000 sq. ft. expansion,  
16,000 sq. ft. total

Cost: \$6 million

Photo: Warren Jagger Photography

ST. CROIX FALLS (WIS.)  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

St. Croix Falls adapted part of a vacant grocery store for use as its new library. Since the building is too large for the library's needs, the city purchased it in partnership with a local dentist who occupies the other half. Adaptations to the space include a community living room with expansive windows and an indigenous stone fireplace, and acoustical baffles hanging from the ceiling to reduce noise. The library also installed a lighting control system to dim lights automatically during daylight hours, a high-efficiency heating and cooling system incorporated into a solar array, and countertops, textiles, and carpets manufactured from recycled plastic bottles and denim.

*Renovation*

Norsman Architects Ltd.

norsmanarchitects.com

Size: 7,500 sq. ft. for library, 15,700  
sq. ft. total

Cost: \$2.8 million (library, shared  
parking lot, and shared roof)

Photo: Tricia Shay







## PLAINSBORO (N.J.) PUBLIC LIBRARY

Bold signage, large type on shelf end panels, and an open, airy floor plan make it easy for patrons to find what they're looking for. The library was constructed as part of a new mixed-use town center, and the main reading room opens directly into the town green. Amenities include a history room, community art gallery, internet café, children's science center, classrooms, and auditorium.

*New Construction*  
 BKSK Architects  
 bkskarch.com  
 Size: 45,000 sq. ft.  
 Cost: \$12.4 million  
 Photo: Jeffrey Totaro

Color designates program areas for adults (green), teens (orange), and children (magenta), while open sightlines allow patrons to easily find what they are looking for. The renovation of the building added a second floor rather than expanding outward, which saved money and left room for additional parking. Added features include a refreshed exterior, clerestory windows, views that frame the mature tree canopy, and native plantings and rain gardens.

*Renovation and Expansion*  
 Meyer, Scherer, & Rockcastle, Ltd.  
 msrltd.com  
 Size: 25,791 sq. ft. expansion, 70,588 sq. ft. total  
 Cost: \$13.0 million  
 Photo: Lara Swimmer

## RAMSEY COUNTY (MINN.) LIBRARY, ROSEVILLE BRANCH



## UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING, WILLIAM ROBERTSON COE LIBRARY

A skylight atop one of the library's rotundas filters soft natural light through "Rolling Flower," a steel-and-basswood sculpture by James Surls, onto the learning commons below. The expansion of the library created a number of open-floor rotundas that connect multiple levels visually and functionally. The design also incorporates "spineways" that connect the expansion to the renovated space, with distinctive carpet patterns that guide students.

### *Renovation and Expansion*

Ruffcorn Mott Hinthorne Stine

[ruffcornmott.com](http://ruffcornmott.com)

Size: 89,365 sq. ft. expansion, 268,614 sq. ft. total

Cost: \$47.9 million

Photo: University of Wyoming

Seattle University's library building featured a beloved steel, concrete, and marble façade. The expansion utilized glass to allow the original to slip into the interior of the addition. The hue and veining of the marble inspired the vertical frit pattern visible on the east curtain wall and interior glass partitions. The project created an expandable 24-hour zone, café, math lab, and media production center.

### *Renovation and Expansion*

Pfeiffer Partners (design architect)/Mithun (executive architect)

[pfeifferpartners.com](http://pfeifferpartners.com) / [mithun.com](http://mithun.com)

Size: 33,000 sq. ft. expansion, 125,677 sq. ft. total

Cost: \$55 million

Photo: Eric Staudenmaier



## SEATTLE UNIVERSITY, LEMIEUX LIBRARY AND MCGOLDRICK LEARNING COMMONS







HOUSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, J. S. BRACEWELL NEIGHBORHOOD LIBRARY

The Bracewell Neighborhood Library offers daylighting and views in more than three-fourths of regularly occupied spaces, while wind energy is assigned to power the building. A reflective roof minimizes temperature differences between the building and surrounding undeveloped areas, open spaces are maximized to offer habitat to native species, and strategically placed trees will shade the building in warmer months.

*New Construction*  
 m Architects  
 m-architects.com  
 Size: 12,000 sq. ft.  
 Cost: \$6.4 million  
 Photo: G. Lyon Photography

The White Tank Library is the first LEED Platinum-certified public library in Arizona. Power for the building is generated entirely from clean energy sources, 27% of it from a photovoltaic collector array that covers half of the building roof. The library also features concrete exterior walls that moderate heat absorption, perforated metal overhangs and shade fins that help to shield the building against sun while preserving mountain views, low-flow plumbing fixtures, and a system that filters wastewater and infiltrates it into the site.

*New Construction*  
 DWL Architects + Planners Inc.  
 dwlarchitects.com  
 Size: 25,000 sq. ft. for library, 29,000 sq. ft. total  
 Cost: \$8 million  
 Photo: Tom Stokes

MARICOPA COUNTY (ARIZ.) LIBRARY DISTRICT, WHITE TANK BRANCH LIBRARY AND NATURE CENTER





## SACRAMENTO (CALIF.) PUBLIC LIBRARY, ROBBIE WATERS POCKET-GREENHAVEN LIBRARY



Located adjacent to a middle/high school for science and engineering, the Pocket-Greenhaven Library is a joint-use facility for the school and the public. The teen's area, a 661-square-foot space dubbed the Teens@ Room, encourages collaboration with circular booth seating, computer stations, and comfortable lounge chairs.

*New Construction*  
WLC Architects Inc.  
wlcarchitects.com  
Size: 15,387 sq. ft.  
Cost: \$13.8 million  
Photo: Ed Asmus

## SAYVILLE (N.Y.) LIBRARY

The children's area at Sayville Library is divided into four sections: a beach-themed area for elementary schoolchildren, a space for toddlers and their parents set off by large alphabet blocks and friendly couches and stuffed animals, a comfortable seating area for parents outside the children's program room, and an enormous tree that beckons children into the stacks. Teens also have their own 1,200-square-foot space, with a quiet booth in the middle that separates the room into quarters for a variety of activities.

*New Construction*  
H2M architects + engineers  
h2m.com  
Size: 42,823 sq. ft.  
Cost: \$14.7 million  
Photo: Paul Timpa Photography



## ROBERT F. KENNEDY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS, K-5 LIBRARY, LOS ANGELES



The Robert F. Kennedy Community Schools sit on a 24-acre campus formerly occupied by the Ambassador Hotel. The original hotel bluff was regraded to bring the school down to sidewalk level, making the K-5 library a visible beacon. The entire campus is designed for joint community use, with controllable access to both the K-5 and the middle and high school library, as well as an auditorium, swimming pool, gymnasiums, and perimeter playfields. Art installations on the site pay homage to the site's history and its role in culture, politics, and the performing arts.

*New Construction*  
Architect: Gonzalez Goodale Architects  
gonzalezgoodale.com  
Size: 1,900 sq. ft. (K-5 library), 16,000 sq. ft. (Middle and High School library)  
Cost: \$1 million (K-5 library), \$8 million (Middle and High School library)  
Photo: Heliphoto



MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY LAW LIBRARY, MILWAUKEE

Eckstein Hall's "library without borders," which houses the Marquette University Law School, incorporates library elements throughout the building. Book and building security are integrated at the school's entrance, while the principal service desks for circulation and reference are located on the first floor. Book drop-off points and look-up terminals for library resources are located throughout the building, and most library materials are accessible whenever the building is open.

*New Construction*  
 Shepley Bulfinch/Opus Development Corp.  
[shepleybulfinch.com](http://shepleybulfinch.com) / [opus-group.com](http://opus-group.com)  
 Size: 34,545 sq. ft. for library,  
 200,000 sq. ft. total  
 Cost: \$60 million (entire building)  
 Photo: Anton Grass/Esto

When Milwaukee Public Library replaced a leaky roof with a green roof and photovoltaic array, it also adapted a formerly underused alcove into an education center on sustainability. The area, located near the main entry, features a live webcam of the roof, monitors that stream rooftop data, a print collection on sustainability, and custom panels describing the benefits of the green roof and similar steps that patrons can take at home or work. The roof is open to the public with an observation deck and plantings of native grasses and sedums that produce a variety of textures and colors throughout the year.

*Renovation*  
 HGA Architects and Engineers  
[hga.com](http://hga.com)  
 Size: 30,000 sq. ft. roof,  
 402 sq. ft. Education Center  
 Cost: \$1.5 million  
 Photo: John Korom



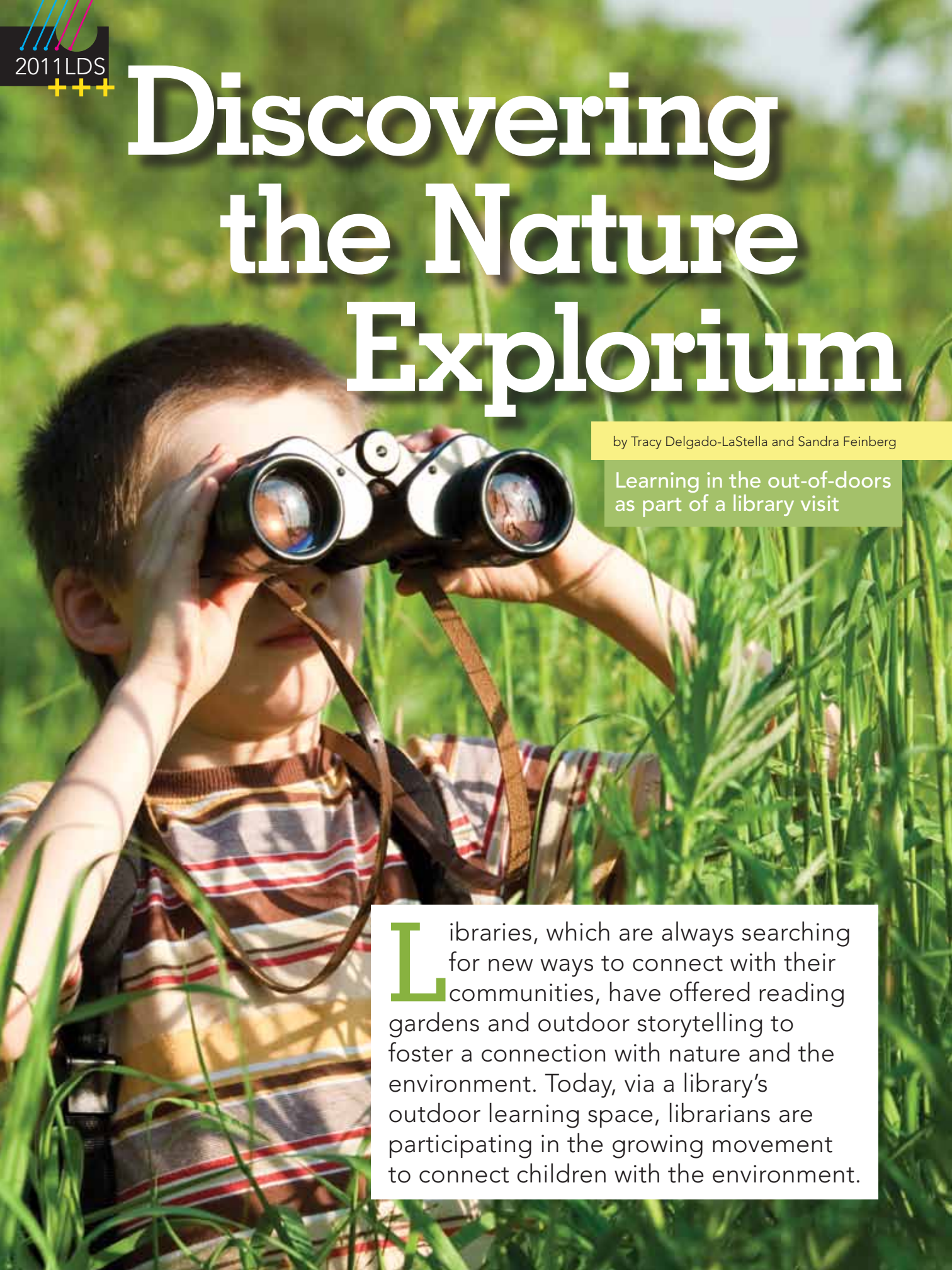
MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY, CENTRAL LIBRARY



# Discovering the Nature Explorium

by Tracy Delgado-LaStella and Sandra Feinberg

Learning in the out-of-doors  
as part of a library visit



**L**ibraries, which are always searching for new ways to connect with their communities, have offered reading gardens and outdoor storytelling to foster a connection with nature and the environment. Today, via a library's outdoor learning space, librarians are participating in the growing movement to connect children with the environment.



The Nature Explorium at the Middle Country Public Library (MCPL) in Centereach, New York, is just such a space.

There's a growing awareness that children need access to public places and outdoor learning opportunities that enhance their health and well-being, provide educationally appropriate formal and informal play activities, promote a direct experience with nature, and foster a sense of community and responsibility for the environment. Exposure to natural environments through play leads to exploration and discovery, engaging a child's physical and mental abilities in a holistic approach to learning and literacy. The hope is that linking early education and nature literacy will lead to an understanding of and appreciation for the natural world.

A visual, hands-on, multisensory approach to literacy reaches an audience of diverse learners.

A recent article in *Museum* notes that "most students ... are visual learners who learn best by seeing ... The rest are tactile or kinesthetic learners, and they're the ones who start smiling in a discovery room. They learn best by touching, feeling, and experiencing." Learning in the out-of-doors provides an opportunity for children to learn and reinforce valuable life experiences, including the development of observation, visual, spatial, and social skills.

But access and informal learning are not enough. Based on research conducted by the Dimensions Educational Research Foundation (Dimensions), the value of comprehensive nature education for young children goes beyond simply having well-designed outdoor spaces. Children benefit most in programs that have educators (including librarians) who are knowledgeable about how to use these types of spaces as an integral part of daily learning.

### A breath of fresh air

Public libraries as local community institutions can bring together early learning, family-centered practice, nature literacy, and sustainable communities and, at the same time, stay true to their mission of sharing local resources for the common good. For the past half-century, librarians have consciously expanded their community role and increased services for children and teens, including the creation of specially designed spaces that are developmentally and educationally appropriate. A children's outdoor learning environment that is contiguous with the library becomes another learning space that takes advantage of the library's public accessibility, trained public service staff, and inclusive approach to serving the recreational and educational needs of *all* families.

Exposure to natural environments through play leads to discovery and engages children in a holistic approach to learning and literacy.

In 2007, MCPL staff became involved with the Long Island Nature Collaborative for Kids (LINCK)—a group of early childhood, museum, and library professionals who actively promote the development of parks, outdoor classrooms, and community places for nature education. To introduce the concept to Long Island, LINCK invited Dimensions to conduct an introductory seminar on creating outdoor classrooms for children under its Nature Explore project. During this session, the idea was born that libraries—like childcare centers, youth centers, churches, and schools—could provide a community place for outdoor classrooms.

In March 2008, Dimensions conducted a two-day hands-on workshop at the library for landscape professionals, architects, LINCK members, and library staff.

Participants became knowledgeable about the field-tested guiding principles and recommended areas of exploration within a nature classroom. They created idea boards and plans, which resulted in the initial concept design for the Nature Explorium. Shortly after, the library convened a design team, including a landscape architect from the U.S. Forest Service, that completed the schematic plan and formed an advisory committee

that helped with program development. On June 23, 2010, the Nature Explorium officially opened to the public.

### Creating the learning space

The library was fortunate to have a fenced-in 5,000-square-foot area adjacent to the children's room, which was used sporadically for programming. This available space set the parameters for the Explorium. It was decided early on that the library would adopt the Dimensions-recommended learning areas, including a climbing/crawling area, messy materials area, building area, nature art area, music and performance area, planting area, gathering/conversation place, reading area, and water feature. Transitioning visitors from the library into the Explorium required creating a welcoming entry as well.

For the Explorium, the library also had to consider naming and identification, visibility, variety, durability, visual appeal, and the regional significance of construction materials and programmatic elements. To make the Explorium mesh with the library setting, staff identified certain features that could be localized and were "institutionally significant." Climb It, Dig It, Plant It, Read It, Create It, Play It, and Splash It became the Explorium area identifiers. Instead of a traditional brick path (listing donor names), our Book Path allows

donors to select their favorite children's book or quote. The Friends Bench (sponsored by our Friends group) displays native Long Island animals. READ plaques, hung creatively around the space, display donors' favorite quotes about Reading, Environment, Adventure, and Discovery. Donors' names are permanently exhibited in the entryway.

## Programs and staffing

Staff immersed themselves in the underlying principles and practices of nature literacy and focused on age-appropriate activities in the Explorium. Educational programs, both group-oriented (formal) and self-directed (informal), focus on preschool and elementary-age children and their caregivers. A staff member—a page or clerk—is assigned every hour the space is open for use, and additional staff help when group programs are offered. Young children are not allowed in the area without caregivers, who provide many extra (and happy) hands to help keep order. Activities are devised to entice the child, but with an eye toward the adult caregiver as well. Some of the special issues that need to be managed include the balance of formal and informal activities and inclement weather conditions.

Programming is one of the most powerful elements of

the Explorium's mission. It holds the most hope for libraries that wish to be part of this movement. For libraries that have little or no outdoor space—though an outdoor classroom can be created out of a parking lot—programming offers a pathway to the Nature Explore movement. Engaging children and caregivers in nature literacy can be done simply by:

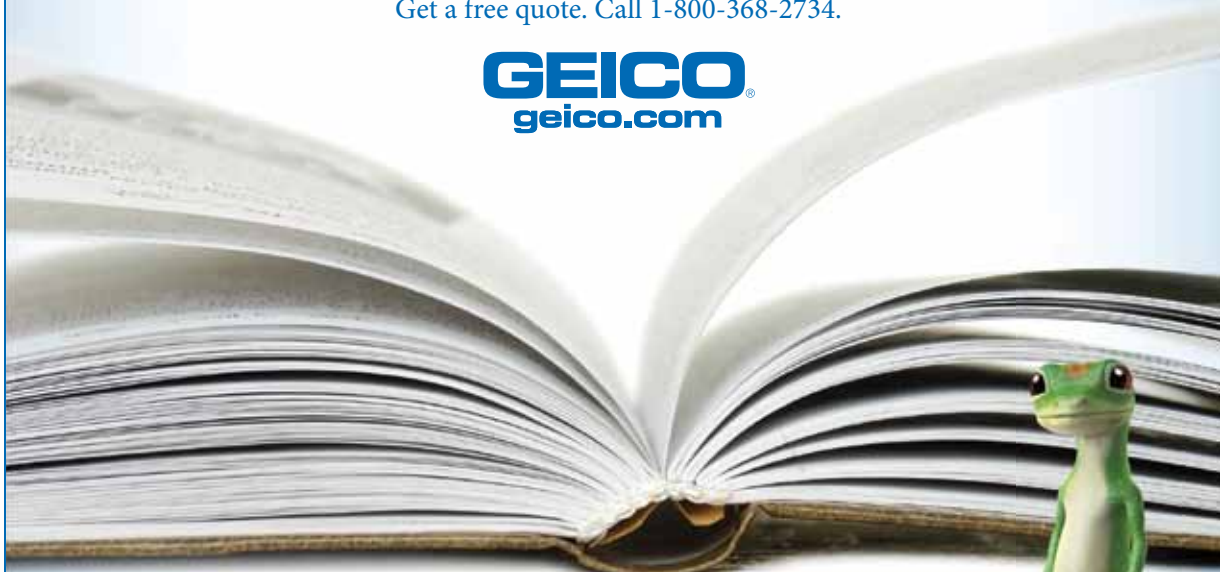
- Educating staff and providing programs on basic nature literacy facts, e.g., how water works, how plants grow, what library resources can help children understand nature.
- Developing a temporary outdoor space that can be used for programming. (Before the Explorium was created, MCPL purchased easily erected canopies and offered outdoor programs periodically.)
- Organizing a parent/teacher collection of books that provide ideas on outdoor activities for use in a childcare, community, or home setting.
- Conducting storytime programs that focus on books about the environment or natural settings, e.g., planting, growing, farming, parks.

The budget for the first two years of design and operation was \$340,000, which includes design development and construction, project management, and initial programming. The library spent \$180,000 to complete

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the design development, initial space preparation, and basic construction. The balance was raised by the MCPL Foundation and Friends. It is important to note that many past and new donors stepped up to the plate in support of the Explorium. Whatever the reason, it struck a chord with many supporters and, most importantly, for the staff. The Book Path brick campaign was particularly appealing to those who love books or were affected by stories or poems as parents or when they were growing up.

## Results

After three years of planning and construction and a year of fundraising and program development, the Nature Explorium opened to an immediate and resounding success. Children and caregivers took to it naturally. Favorite spaces—the Splash It and Dig It areas—engage children in water play and good old-fashioned digging dirt. Caregivers comment regularly that they are so grateful that the library created the Explorium and they enjoy being in the out-of-doors with their children.

Statistics demonstrate our success:

- 70 children's programs were held, with 1,800 attendees from June through October.

- 840 children and their parents attended Universal Pre-K class visits during the month of October.

- 12 tours for staff from other libraries and youth services centers were provided.

- 340 participants attended Celebrate It! the official donor-recognition event.

Judging from our initial season, the Nature Explorium provides a new and exciting dimension to the library landscape of services. It connects library staff with nature literacy and environmental concerns and engages children in exploration, discovery, and multisensory learning. By providing this outdoor area for the community, the library offers a unique way to connect literacy, learning, and an appreciation for nature as a regular part of the library visit. ■



TRACY DELGADO-LASTELLA (left), coordinator of youth services and the Museum Corner at Middle Country Public Library in Centereach, New York, and member of the steering committee of the Long Island Nature Collaborative for Kids, was instrumental in the development of the Nature Explorium and currently administers it. SANDRA FEINBERG, director of the Middle Country Public Library and author of eight books on libraries, has overseen the creation of innovative projects including the Nature Explorium.

# Make your mark and vote in the ALA 2011 Election

## Important Deadlines:

March 16–18, 2011	Polls open
April 8, 2011	Deadline to request paper ballot*
April 22, 2011	Polls close, 11:59 p.m. (CST)
April 29, 2011	Election Committee meets to certify results

**\*Paper ballots will be provided to individuals with a disability and no Internet access**

**For more information on the ALA Election, call (800) 545-2433 ext. 5, or email: [membership@ala.org](mailto:membership@ala.org)**

**ALA** American Library Association



**S**ustainable building construction is the major issue facing the architectural profession in the United States as well as around the world. Consider the implications of ignoring it: At present, 300 million people living in the United States comprise approximately 4.3% of the world's population, which is now nearing 7 billion. All 300 million of us use 21% of the world's energy resources every year.

Of that 21%, approximately 43% is used to heat, cool, and construct buildings in this country. To continue with the math, the United States annually uses slightly more than 9% of the world's energy for buildings.

As a nation and as architects, we are constantly developing ways to reduce energy consumption in the new buildings we design and construct. In fact, we are looking for ways to create new buildings that will be energy neutral — that is, they will produce as much energy as they consume. However, if we focus only on new buildings, we will not reduce our consumption; we will only increase it at a slower rate. Thus, the critical problem is to address the sustainable improvements we can make to existing buildings. (Sustainable buildings are designed to take maximum advantage of the natural setting and climate while causing the least possible damage to the environment. As a result, they are efficient in their consumption of energy.) We can reduce energy consumption in the building sector only by dramatically reducing the amount of energy consumed by all the buildings that currently exist.

One of the ironies of “green” or sustainable architecture is that each new green project is advertised as using dramatically less energy than a comparable building of the same size that meets all code requirements. No one ever asks about the intensity of the occupancy of the new building, the number of square feet per person in that new building, or whether the building was even necessary or appropriate. Often, institutions will construct new, energy-efficient buildings, but will continue to heat and cool the older buildings, which may be inefficient and perhaps superfluous. Conversely, choosing to transform an existing building into an energy-efficient, sustainable building would result in true savings in energy consumption.

## Simple sustainable improvements

Why are existing libraries good candidates for transformation to sustainable buildings? Libraries are important community centers visited every day by the public. Library buildings are usually well constructed and intended to have long lives. To preserve their contents, these buildings generally have a stable interior climate, which is compatible with most energy-saving strategies.

If a community is contemplating transforming an existing library building into a more sustainable building, a number of standard techniques can be considered. Some of these improvements are easy to bring about:



- Most older mechanical systems are relatively inefficient. Replacing major equipment (boilers, compressors, cooling towers, etc.) with new equipment can easily increase the energy efficiency of heating and air conditioning systems by as much as 20%.

- Such improvements probably would be accompanied by a new building management system or new controls for the ventilation system. Since a typical library is unoccupied almost 100 hours a week, energy savings can mount up when the ventilation systems are turned off and heating and cooling setback temperatures are used regularly.

- Electric lighting in library buildings typically consumes about 27% of the energy budget. Older buildings frequently allow plenty of daylight to enter through large window openings; nevertheless, the electric lights are left on all day. Two basic strategies can combat this waste of energy: the first, of course, is to use the most efficient lighting systems; the second is to teach the library staff to switch on the electric lighting only when necessary or, alternatively, to install occupancy sensors and a lighting control system that automatically adjusts the amount of electric light to compensate for ambient daylight.

- Windows typically are early targets in energy conservation. Replacing single-glazed windows with double or triple glazing accounts for major savings and a quick payback. In the 1970s and early 1980s, during the energy crisis, it was common practice for libraries and other civic buildings to replace single-glazed wood windows with double-glazed aluminum windows. The potential improvements were exaggerated because of the inherent flaws in most aluminum replacement windows, which allow excessive infiltration (air leakage into buildings) and conduction of heat out of buildings through the metal frames and sashes.

- Another simple energy improvement is to upgrade the insulation in the exterior skin of a building. The easiest place to make this change is on the roof, which is usually the largest single exterior surface. When the roof is replaced, the added insulation can make the area more resistant to the transfer of heat. Similarly, exterior walls can be improved if significant renovations are undertaken.

## More complex sustainable improvements

More ambitious improvements or alterations can further reduce the energy consumption of an existing library building:

- The exterior walls of older libraries often are constructed of masonry with plaster interior surfaces. A significant reconstruction of the exterior walls could result in much greater resistance to heat transfer. For example, the plaster might be removed and insulation installed behind new interior gypsum board surfaces. Alternatively, the exterior building envelope might be modified



The main reading room in the library of the Goodhue building, a 2010 reconstruction of a 1903 structure on the Hackley School campus in Tarrytown, New York. The 16,000-square-foot building, expected to be certified LEED Gold, is heated and cooled by a closed-loop geothermal system among other sustainable improvements, which significantly increase energy efficiency.

from the outside to dramatically increase the resistance of the exterior walls to energy transfer.

- Heat gain through windows may occur during the warm months, straining air-conditioning systems to maintain comfort. This problem can be remedied with appropriately located deciduous trees, exterior sunshade devices, coatings on the exterior glazing, and interior shades. Usually, some combination of these strategies will substantially reduce heat gain.

- As mentioned earlier, older library buildings often are constructed of masonry, which means the buildings usually will have high thermal mass (the ability to absorb temperature fluctuations and maintain a stable temperature). Unfortunately, much of this mass can be exposed to harsh exterior weather conditions that prevent the building from stabilizing the interior climate. To rectify this situation, a significant part of the thermal mass can be made to function as part of the building's interior. Strangely enough, the strategy might be to cover the exterior masonry with insulation and a new skin to the weather so the masonry walls function as part of the more stable interior climate.

- A dramatic strategy for improving energy efficiency is to install geothermal heating and cooling. The simplest geothermal system, effective in temperate climates, is the closed-loop system, which requires wells drilled into rock. The stability of the ground temperature supplies the building with 55–60°F fluid in the summer and 50–55°F fluid in the winter. The heat pumps connected to these systems produce chilled water or warm water at much less cost than heating up air or cooling it down at possibly 95°F in the summer and 15°F in the winter. Even though these systems are fueled by electricity, potentially they can save 40% of the energy of an up-to-date, energy efficient, conventional mechanical system.

- Progress is constantly being made to improve the ef-



The geothermal heating and cooling system consists of 21 closed-loop wells that are drilled into solid rock to a depth of 470 feet. Each well contains piping that circulates water at a constant ground temperature between 50 and 60 degrees. The water absorbs heat from the ground in the winter and rejects heat into the ground in the summer. The piping from all 21 wells terminates in the mechanical room of the building, where high-efficiency equipment circulates warm or cool water to fan coil units that produce hot-air heat or air conditioning throughout the building.

efficiency and reduce the cost of photovoltaic collectors, which generate electricity from the sun's energy. If the existing library building has extensive areas of flat or south-facing roofs, photovoltaic panels might be a good solution with dramatic results.

- Similarly, the technology of windmills and wind turbines is improving rapidly. Many library buildings are situated on open sites, which could easily accommodate windmills. In urban settings, wind turbines work well because they are smaller and less conspicuous. The addition of wind energy to the mix of energy sources may provide the opportunity to create an energy-neutral library.

## Making library sites sustainable

Library buildings do not exist in isolation. Even in cities, libraries often are located on somewhat open sites, which present opportunities to create more sustainable landscapes that can also generate energy.

- Most current regulations require stormwater runoff to be retained on site. Even on existing sites, runoff usually can be filtered into the ground.

- Typical suburban libraries or academic libraries may have adjacent parking lots that can be resurfaced with more permeable materials to reduce runoff. In addition, the heat island effect of these surfaces can be mitigated with shade trees.

- In many parts of the country, the plantings and lawns surrounding the library require regular irrigation. This would be unnecessary with a switch to native, self-sustaining vegetation.

- The library site can be used to generate energy. The geothermal wells mentioned above typically are drilled into the library site, including paved areas and green space.

- Sunshine that falls on the library's parking lot can be collected to generate electricity if the parking spaces are covered with trellises of photovoltaic panels. Using this technique, the vehicles parked on the lot are shaded, and the sun's energy that once overheated them instead generates electricity to run the library building.

- Overall, the strategies for a sustainable site, especially those related to irrigation, plant material, and paving, could create a site that more resembles the natural condition before the site was developed.

## Meeting sustainable objectives

Having reviewed strategies for improving library buildings and their sites, we might ask what are the prospects for the future, and how can libraries plan for sustainability? Here are three increasingly ambitious sets of objectives:

- Reasonable objectives: Reducing energy consumption by 30–50% is a reachable goal. This can be achieved by transforming the heating and cooling systems, taking advantage of daylighting coupled with electric lighting controls, changing or coating the existing glazing, and adding insulation where it can be installed most easily, probably in the roof.

- Ambitious objectives: Reducing energy consumption by approximately 70–80% is more ambitious. This can be achieved by adopting all of the strategies mentioned above and, in addition, by adding more significant changes to the building envelope. These changes might include shading devices, increased insulation, and investment in site-generated energy, such as wind power or photovoltaic panels.

- Zero-energy buildings and sites: The most ambitious objective is to create an energy-neutral library. All of the strategies described above must be employed. In addition, enough energy must be generated on the site and within the building to meet all the remaining energy needs. A likely solution would include geothermal heating and cooling with electricity generated from photovoltaic panels and wind energy. This objective is achievable and represents the idealized path to the future.

## Final thoughts

Libraries are solid buildings, constructed for the long term. They are constantly visited by the public and can set an important community example. They should be community leaders in sustainable practice. This revolutionary transformation can occur incrementally, with quantifiable results that provide an excellent return on the investment. ■



PETER GISOLFI is senior partner of Peter Gisolfi Associates, a firm of architects and landscape architects in Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y., and New Haven, Conn. He is chairman of the Spitzer School of Architecture at the City College of New York, and is the author of *Finding the Place of Architecture in the Landscape*. He can be reached at [pgisolfi@petergisolfiassociates.com](mailto:pgisolfi@petergisolfiassociates.com).



# PARTNERS IN Community Enhancement

When resources are shrinking, funding is scarce, and businesses are folding, finding partners to help realize goals is not just an interesting concept but a necessity. To provide support services to formerly homeless individuals and families, many with special needs, the Miami-Dade Public Library System joined forces with the county's Homeless Trust and Carrfour Supportive Housing, a nonprofit organization that provides permanent housing.

From this innovative partnership—based on the “mixed use” approach to development and construction—emerged the new Hispanic Branch Library, which sits below the Villa Aurora Apartments, an affordable housing complex for previously homeless families. The project, the first of its kind east of the Mississippi, successfully combines functions with like-minded entities to create the best use of public facilities during tough economic times.

“Having a library inside the Villa Aurora complex means that we already have a built-in audience of learners,” says library system Director Raymond Santiago. “Providing access to resources, learning, and discovery means our residents have the opportunity to become better prepared in school, in their jobs, and in improving themselves. The Hispanic branch is a great asset not only to the residents but also for the people in the surrounding neighborhood.”

Original plans did not call for locating the Hispanic Branch Library within an affordable housing complex. A two-story Salvation Army homeless shelter formerly occupied the site. After many decades, the shelter was taken over by another nonprofit organization that subsequently went into bankruptcy. The building was foreclosed on and remained abandoned for several years. In 2000, Miami-Dade County solicited “a request for application” to find a developer that could bring the building back to its original state so it could serve its intended purpose. Carrfour Supportive Housing was selected as the builder.

Carrfour had originally set out to renovate the traditional two-story shelter, with 39 beds and common areas, but those plans were tied up for years. At the same time, the existing Hispanic branch, an almost 40-year-old leased facility, was in need of major repairs, and renovation was proving to be cost-prohibitive. For nearly a year, the library system searched for a new space to lease in Miami's Little Havana neighborhood. In 2003, Miami-Dade Commissioner Bruno Barreiro suggested a partnership with Carrfour and the Homeless Trust. Santiago agreed.

So, instead of refurbishing the existing branch library or leasing a storefront, Carrfour agreed to build a 76-unit,

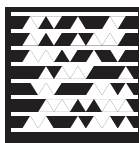
condo-like apartment complex on the site of the old two-story shelter and lease the first floor to the library system. An eyesore has become a beautiful complex with a 12,000-square-foot branch library—an inviting community destination that has helped revitalize Little Havana.

“None of these groups had ever been through anything quite like this before,” said David Raymond, executive director of the Homeless Trust. “But being able to share resources proved that you can do things in partnership with a project and property for its highest and best use.”

Carrfour's CEO and President Stephanie Berman-Eisenberg knows firsthand the hurdles that the library system and Carrfour had to overcome—primarily getting the financing sources to agree to the new project. Success was the result of a cooperative and innovative joint effort. “It takes a special entity to partner together to do something like this, and for our families, the library is an amazing resource,” she said.

Partnerships like this not only benefit the end user but can also benefit the developer and others involved in the project. Costs for mixed-use projects, especially those with an affordable housing component, may offset construction costs by taking advantage of low-income housing tax credits or state tax credits. In Carrfour's case, funding for the \$21.8-million project came from a variety of sources including the Enterprise Social Investment Corporation's tax credit equity, an incentive loan from the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, deferred developer fees, a surtax housing assistance loan, and federal funds. In exchange for the leasehold interest in the property, Carrfour paid the county \$1.1 million (the assessed value) as a lease acquisition fee. These funds are allowable under the state tax credit funding and were committed to be utilized for future permanent supportive housing projects.

The library system's cost to develop the Hispanic branch, which is brightened with artwork by neighborhood kids, was \$3 million. The branch hums with activity: September's door count was 18,798. ■



VICTORIA GALAN is public affairs manager for Miami-Dade Public Library System.

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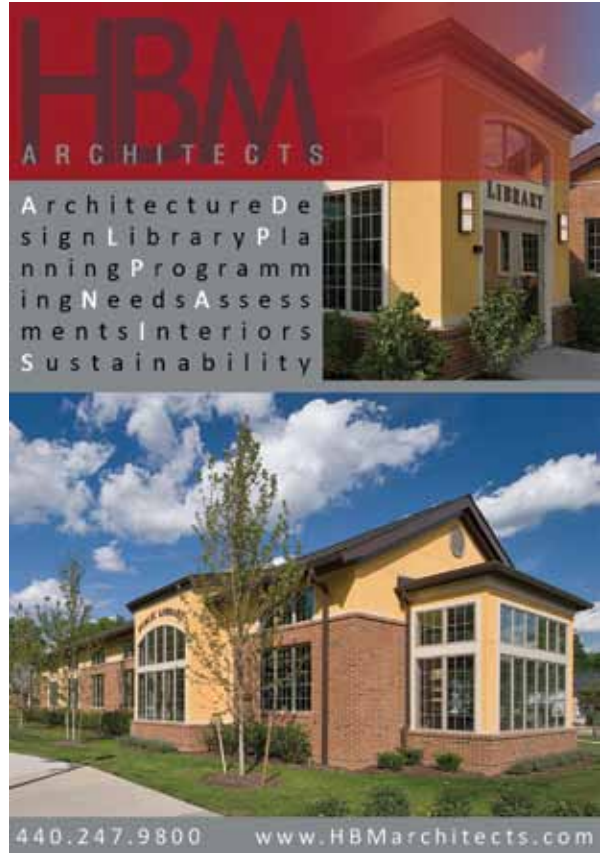


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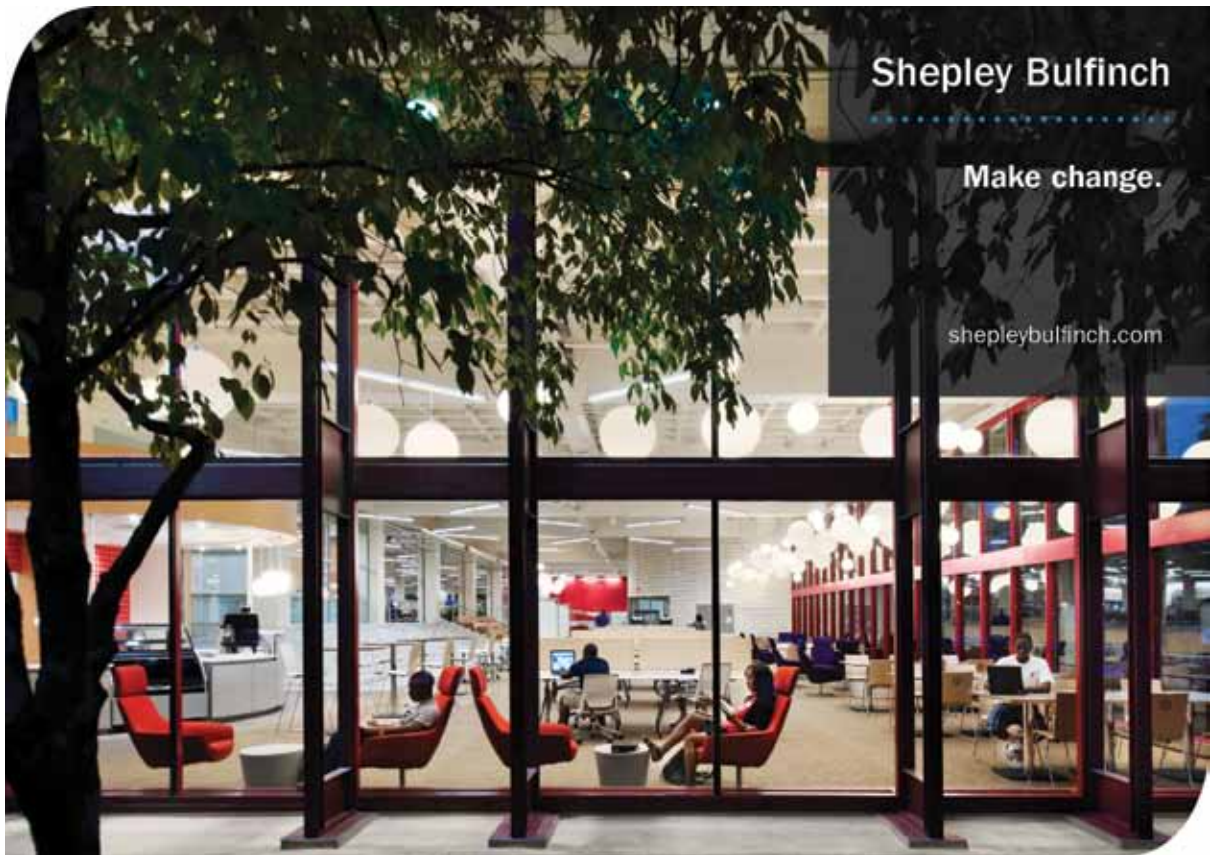
Hennepin County Library Maple Grove, MN

"The best part of the grand opening was seeing kids, parents, and grandparents having a great time in the children's area. . . . It is a beautiful building that both our customers and staff will enjoy for many years."  
 —Lois Lenroot-Ernt, Capital Projects Manager, Hennepin County Library

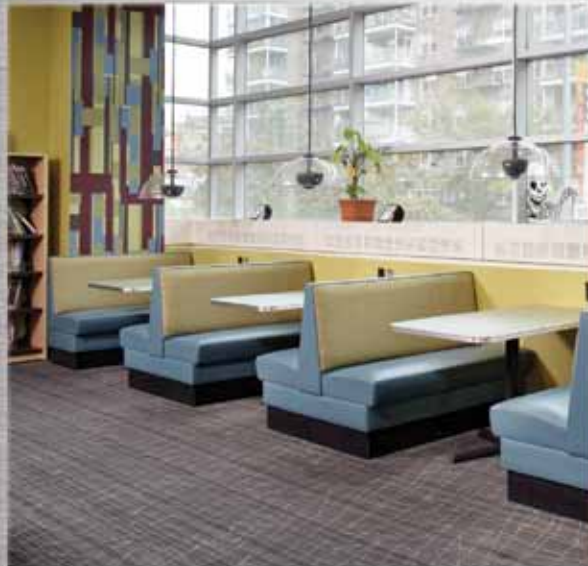
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# Midwinter Meeting Looks to Its Evolution

Youth media awards, actor Ted Danson, and dozens of guest speakers share the spotlight in San Diego, while governance plans the meeting's future role

Over the past decade, the combination of technological change and economic stress has caused many members to question the way in which ALA groups accomplish work," states *A White Paper on the ALA Midwinter Meeting*, prepared by Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels and Senior Associate Executive Director Mary Ghikas and published just before the 2011 American Library Association Midwinter Meeting, January 7–11, in San Diego. The white paper formed the framework used by the Executive Board for discussing the meeting's future (Executive Board Document #12.17).

The paper concludes that "the ALA Midwinter Meeting is, above all, about conversations and networking," and "the reality is that members are quietly creating a Midwinter that works for them." It adds, "Sheer growth is not necessarily always desirable, and Midwinter would lose many of the advantages cited [in the white paper] if it were to grow into another conference with 25,000 attendees," like the Annual Conference.

Even as the nature of future Midwinter conversations and networking was being examined, this year's meeting drew a strong showing: 7,549 attendees and 2,561 exhibitors participated, down slightly from the 8,526 and 2,569, respec-



Actor, environmental activist, and author Ted Danson responds to questions in an interview with ALA President Roberta Stevens during the President's Program.

tively, for the 2010 Midwinter Meeting in Boston and the 7,905 attendees and 2,315 exhibitors for the 2009 event in Denver.

The ALA Washington Office Update opened with a discussion of the effect of e-books on libraries. In "Turning the Page on E-Books," panelists Brewster Kahle, founder of the Internet Archive, Sue Polanka, head of reference and instruction at Wright State University, and Tom Peters, CEO of TAP Information Services, spoke about and responded to audience questions on a wide range of related topics, including

the near future of the format, accessibility, legal issues, and the differences between licensing and purchasing.

Polanka declared, "The market is going very fast, and it's leaving us behind." She went on to emphasize that all is not lost, however, since libraries have a history of providing new services for patrons to experiment with, such as internet access in the early 1990s. Polanka recommended that libraries increase dialog with vendors, discussing how libraries can better lend e-books ethically.

"Libraries have traditionally done

well under Republicans,” according to Washington Office Director Emily Sheketoff, who told those attending the Washington Office Update Break-Out Session, “New Congress, New Challenges,” that “all is not bleak, but all is not well either.”

Casey Dominguez, assistant professor of political science at the University of San Diego, provided an overview of the November 2010 election, observing that he found it “interesting and puzzling” from a political science perspective that Tea Party candidates did just as well as non-Tea Party candidates.

## Stevens hosts Danson

“Don’t focus on the negative and scary,” actor Ted Danson advised at Roberta Stevens’s President’s Program. In conversation with Stevens, the Emmy Award-winning television and movie star and oceanic environmental activist warned of the perils of over-fishing, saying “the clock is ticking,” but “the problems are fixable.”

He admitted that the toughest part of advocating and testifying in opposition to offshore drilling was countering those who argue that it’s a question of the environment versus the economy. It’s a false dichotomy, he said. More jobs are created from clean energy than from oil and coal. Danson said he is focusing on changing policy, and to that end he added that we must arm ourselves with information and educate ourselves—and help library users do likewise.

Oceana, the organization Danson represents and helped found, has become the largest activist group in the world focused solely on ocean conservation. His new book, also titled *Oceana* and published by Rodale, details his journey from joining a modest local protest in the mid-1980s to opposing offshore oil drilling near his Southern California neighborhood to his current status as one of the world’s most influential oceanic environmental activists.

## COUNCIL ACTIONS

ALA’s governing Council sailed through its three-day agenda by debating and passing several items.

Council passed a measure that encourages clarification within job listings as to the presence or absence of domestic partner benefits (Council Document#35). Council also approved 2015 Programmatic Priorities (CD#13).

Approved items from the Policy Monitoring Committee were: a change in the language that discusses gay rights (CD#43), nondiscrimination in conference contracts (CD#45), insertion of language regarding prisoners’ right to read (CD#19.3), and a change in text regarding electronic signatures (Executive Board Document #12.19).

Three resolutions offered by the Committee on Organization were also approved (CD#27): the renaming of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table to the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table; amending the composition of the Web Advisory Board, and the discontinuation of the ALA–Association of American Publishers Joint Committee.

Council also approved ALA Honorary Membership for Yohannes Gebregeorgis (CD#24), librarian, author, and founder of Ethiopia Reads.

Approved measures from the Constitution and Bylaws Committee included a change in the constitution regarding endowment trustees that increases the number of trustees to no fewer than three nor more than six members; defining the ALA Executive Director as a nonvoting officer and member of the Executive Board and specifying the quorum required for voting members; clarifying responsibilities and charge for the Committee on Election; and the

filing of councilor-at-large vacancies (CD#25).

Also approved was a resolution from the Intellectual Freedom Committee on access to and classification of government information (CD#19.1).

Four Committee on Legislation resolutions moved forward commending Congress and the President on the Reauthorization of the Museum and Library Services Act (CD#20.1); commending President Barack Obama and the U.S. Senate on nominating and confirming Susan Hildreth as the Institute of Museum and Library Services Director (CD#20.2); thanking Bob Tapella for his service as the 25th Public Printer of the United States (CD#20.3); and commending Senator Jack Reed (D-R.I.) for his efforts to recognize libraries as essential community organizations during disasters (CD#20.4).

Council also passed resolutions in support of requesting Congress to reintroduce and vote on the DREAM Act (CD#39 revised) and regarding the removal and censorship of artwork from the Smithsonian Institution’s National Portrait Gallery (CD#36 revised).

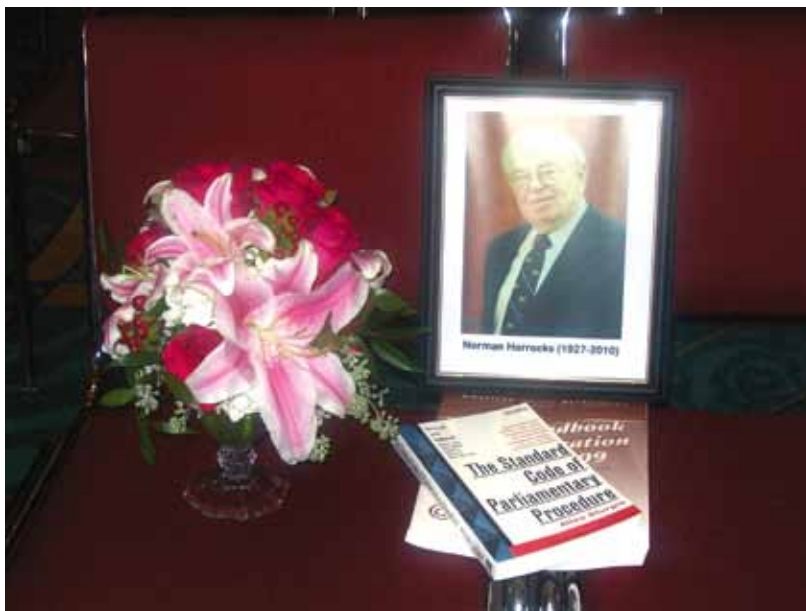
Three Council members were elected to the ALA Executive Board for the 2011–2014 term: Dora Ho, Sylvia K. Norton, and Michael Porter.

Memorial resolutions were passed for George P. D’Elia, Locke Morrissey, Edward Gailon Holley, and Carolyn Wicker Field.

Council also passed tribute resolutions in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Arkansas Library Association, thanking the organizers of the new ALA Retired Members Round Table, and honoring John Ison on his retirement from Demco after 25 years.

—P.A.G.





A memorial in honor of influential ALA member Norman Horrocks, who died October 14 (AL, Nov./Dec. 2010, p. 44), is displayed at governing Council sessions.

In other news, two of Stevens's key initiatives debuted during Midwinter. "Our Authors, Our Advocates" is a national library advocacy public awareness campaign that enables library advocates to download audio and video PSAs from such best-selling authors as Sharon Draper, Brad Meltzer, Sara Paretsky, and Scott Turow.

Stevens also launched a video contest for teens, "Why I Need My Library," which encourages teens ages 13–18 to create original videos on why they think libraries are needed now more than ever. The winning videos will be showcased on ALA websites and during the 2011 ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans, June 23–28.

### Authors delight attendees

The ALA/Exhibits Round Table/*Booklist* Author Forum featured panelists David Levithan, Stewart O'Nan, Armistead Maupin, and Susan Vreeland, with *Booklist* Adult Books Editor Brad Hooper moderating.

Vreeland talked about how the genre of historical fiction has bro-

ken out of its "kings and queens" stigma over the past 10 years. "Libraries are marvelous sources of information about the foot soldiers," she said, explaining that stories about Napoleon's troops make every bit as interesting reading as the emperor himself.

Noted for *Tales of the City*, his breakthrough fiction about gay life in San Francisco, Maupin punctuated the session nicely by saying, "The pleasure I get out of writing is imagining the reader at the other end. What librarian doesn't understand that?"

The Sunrise Speaker Series included: Kathy Reichs, a forensic anthropologist (one of only 82 ever certified by the American Board of Forensic Anthropology) and creator of the Fox television hit *Bones*, now in its fifth season, and Andre Dubus III, the author of *Townie*, released at the end of February, *The Garden of Last Days*, and *House of Sand and Fog*, an Oprah Book Club pick and a finalist for the National Book Award, which was made into a well-received movie.

Newbery Medal-winner Neil Gaiman and Nancy Pearl spent an

hour discussing Gaiman's *The Graveyard Book*, which was the first title to win both the John Newbery and the Carnegie Medals.

Journalist and historian Richard Rhodes delivered the Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture. The Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Making of the Atomic Bomb* (1986) and several other titles, Rhodes said that the most precious moment in his life was when he taught his 4-year-old daughter Kate (who, now an adult, was in the audience) to read. "One day in the middle of her favorite book (by Dr. Seuss), Kate understood" that those squiggles of ink on paper had meaning, and "a whole world of comprehension opened up to her right before my eyes."

"I grew up as a follower of Martin Luther King," said Michael K. Honey, Fred T. and Dorothy G. Haley Endowed Professor of the Humanities and professor of labor and ethnic studies and American history at the University of Washington in Tacoma. He delivered the keynote address at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Sunrise Celebration, which is held annually during Midwinter and is sponsored by the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Task Force of the ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table, the Black Caucus of the American Library Association, and World Book. It is supported by ALA's Office for Literacy and Outreach Services. The 2011 theme was "Everybody Can Be Great."

Honey is the author of *Going Down Jericho Road: The Memphis Strike, King's Last Campaign* (W. W. Norton, 2007), a story he says "opened my eyes to one of the most important facets of Dr. King's work for human rights: his support for the labor movement." Honey said the King family and its Legacy Series at Beacon Press asked him to edit the just-released collection *All Labor Has Dignity*. "If Dr. King were alive today, he would be telling us to stand up for your rights, stand up



for dignity, stand up for peace, stand up for the poor and the working class, stand up for your unions. Don't give in or give up."

## Getting technical

The 2011 Midwinter edition of Top Tech Trends brought together five technologists from libraries and the library technology marketplace to discuss their views on current and future trends in libraries.

Lorcan Dempsey, OCLC vice president and chief strategist at OCLC, talked about personal archives, personal collections, and personally generated materials. Citing services like Flickr and Blipfoto, he explained that "we have a whole range of digital material that previously would have been private. But now it's become a sort of public kaleidoscope."

"In the next two years, the public access computer is going to be something totally different," Monique Sendze, associate director of information technology at Douglas County (Colo.) Libraries, explained.



The ALA/ERT Booklist Author Forum authors (from left) Armistead Maupin, Susan Vreeland, David Levithan, and Stewart O'Nan gather backstage prior to their presentation.

"Patrons are going to come in with what they have and we're going to have to accommodate."

Jeffrey Trzeciak, university librarian of McMaster University, echoed the importance of libraries supporting personal data exploration

and curation in the form of self-publishing. Today, readily available access to publishing technology makes self-publishing important once again. "We're going to see a revival of self-publishing," he claimed, "because of the availability of the tools." What does this mean for libraries? "We're going to have to rethink our role" and help facilitate this kind of small-scale independent publishing.

## JobLIST Direct launches

The free biweekly e-newsletter *ALA JobLIST Direct*, launched during Midwinter; it is designed to provide up-to-date information on what's going on with job-seeking and hiring in the profession—including information on new publications, professional development offerings, and opportunities to connect and network. ■

*This wrap-up is based on reports posted online on American Libraries' Inside Scoop blog and by the ALA Public Information Office, with contributions from George M. Eberhart, Sean Fitzpatrick, Pamela A. Goodes, Greg Landgraf, and Leonard Kniffel. For a roundup of Midwinter coverage, read the January 12 issue of American Libraries Direct online, archived at [americanlibrariesmagazine.org/alddirect](http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/alddirect). ■*

## YOUTH MEDIA AWARDS

One of the highlights of the Midwinter Meeting is the announcement of the Youth Media Awards, an annual celebration of the best of the best in children's and young adult literature.

*Moon Over Manifest*, written by Clare Vanderpool, earned the John Newbery Medal for the most outstanding contribution to children's literature, and *A Sick Day for Amos McGee*, illustrated by Erin E. Stead and written by Philip C. Stead, won the Randolph Caldecott Medal for the most distinguished American picture book for children.

*Ship Breaker*, written by Paolo Bacigalupi, took home the Michael L. Printz Award for excellence in literature written for young adults.

African-American authors and illustrators of outstanding books for children and young adults were recognized with Coretta Scott King Book Awards. *One Crazy Summer*, written by Rita Williams-Garcia, won the Coretta Scott King Author Award. *Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet, Slave*, illustrated by Bryan Collier and written by Laban Carrick Hill, was chosen the 2011 King Illustrator winner.

For more information on the ALA youth media awards and notable titles for 2011, visit [www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org).

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION 2011

# ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

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## NEW FOR 2011

OPENING GENERAL SESSION + EXHIBITS OPENING FRIDAY NIGHT

OPENING GENERAL SESSION 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM  
EXHIBITS OPENING RECEPTION 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

## DYNAMIC SPEAKERS IN THE AUDITORIUM SPEAKER SERIES

Saturday, June 25th, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM



### MYSTERY/THRILLER PANEL J.A. JANCE

J. A. Jance is the *New York Times* bestselling author of the J. P. Beaumont series, the Joanna Brady series, the Ali Reynolds series, and four interrelated thrillers about the Walker Family.

Sponsored by HarperCollins

Saturday, June 25th, 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM



### JEFF KINNEY

Jeff Kinney's work has been widely credited for its ability to turn reluctant readers on to books. Since publication of the first *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* book in April 2007, more than 35 million books are in print in the United States, and the books have been sold in more than 30 countries around the world.

Sponsored by ABRAMS/Books For Young Readers and Amulet Books

Saturday, June 25th, 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM



### WILLIAM JOYCE

William Joyce has put his personal stamp on all types of children's media. His award-winning picture books include *George Shrinks*, *Dinosaur Bob* and *His Adventures With the Family Lazardo*, and *Santa Calls*.

Sponsored by Simon and Schuster

Saturday, June 25th, 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM



### SIVA VAIDHYANATHAN

Siva Vaidhyanathan, Professor of Media Studies and Law at the University of Virginia. In his newest book, *The Googlization of Everything (and why we should worry)*, Siva Vaidhyanathan examines the ways we have used and embraced Google—and the growing resistance to its expansion across the globe.

Sunday, June 26th, 8 AM – 9:15 AM



### DANIEL ELLSBERG: “WAR AND SECRECY”,

a Presentation by Daniel Ellsberg, the man the Nixon administration dubbed “The Most Dangerous Man in America.” Ellsberg precipitated a national political controversy in 1971 when he released the

*Pentagon Papers*, a top-secret Pentagon study of U.S. government decision-making about the Vietnam War, to *The New York Times* and other newspapers.

Sunday, June 26th, 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM



### BROOKE GLADSTONE

Brooke Gladstone is co-host and managing editor of NPR's award-winning *On The Media*. A former senior editor at *Weekend Edition* and *All Things Considered*, her first book, *The Influencing Machine*, will be published by W. W. Norton & Company in May.

Sponsored by W. W. Norton & Company

Sunday, June 26th, 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM



### DAVID SIMON AND LAURA LIPPMAN

PLA and PLA President, Audra Caplan, welcome writer-producer David Simon and mystery author Laura Lippman as keynote speakers. Their Baltimore origins inspire their work – Simon as writer and producer of award-winning shows, *Homicide* and *The Wire* and Lippman as the best-selling author of mysteries featuring Baltimore P.I. Tess Monaghan. Simon also brings unique insight on the conference host-city, New Orleans, from his current work on the TV drama, *Treme*.

Sponsored by HarperCollins



# ALA PRESIDENT'S PROGRAM



*Sunday June 26th, 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM*

## SUE GARDNER - WIKIPEDIA: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

Sue Gardner is Executive Director of the Wikimedia Foundation, the non-profit charitable organization that operates Wikipedia and nine other free-knowledge wikis. Wikimedia operates the largest collaboratively-edited reference projects in the world, including Wikipedia, one of the world's 10-most-popular sites. Since her arrival at Wikimedia, Gardner has introduced major initiatives focused on organizational maturity, long-term sustainability, and increased participation, reach, and quality of the Foundation's free knowledge projects.

## VISIT THE EXHIBITS

The ALA Annual Conference Exhibits with over 1500 booths featuring products and services is designed to help you manage the library of the Millennium. Your ALA Exhibitors are eager to discuss how they can help make your library even better. From virtual libraries to mobile book-stacking systems to premium quality library furniture, the ALA Annual Conference Exhibits is your one stop shopping for all of your library needs. Join us to explore the latest innovations available to your library. Hear hot topic authors at live stages:



- **WHAT'S COOKING @ ALA COOKING DEMONSTRATION STAGE**
- **LIVE @ YOUR LIBRARY READING STAGE**
- **POPTOP STAGE – POPULAR TOPICS, EVERY DAY**
- **GRAPHIC NOVEL/GAMING STAGE**

## WRAP UP/REV UP EXHIBITS CLOSING CELEBRATION

*Monday, June 27th, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM*

Celebrate the wrap of the Annual Conference exhibits and get revved up about the Midwinter Meeting in Dallas. Entertainment, snacks, networking, and great prize drawings.

## CLOSING GENERAL SESSION



*Tuesday, June 28th, 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM*

### MOLLY SHANNON

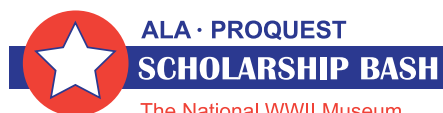
Molly Shannon, whose debut children's book *Tilly the Trickster* will be published in September 2011 by Abrams Books for Young Readers, is one of the most recognizable female comedic actresses in entertainment through her work on television and in films. The Emmy-nominated actress is known for portraying exuberant characters and became famous for her roles on *Saturday Night Live*.

*Sponsored by Abrams Books for Young Readers*

## ALA / ERT EXHIBITS OPENING RECEPTION

*Friday, June 24, Beginning at 5:30 PM*

The Exhibits Opening Reception sponsored by ALA and ERT will be held throughout the Exhibits Hall. There will be free hors d'oeuvres, and exhibitors will be offering special giveaways in their booths. This is a great way start your conference experience in New Orleans, so be sure to join us!



The National WWII Museum  
New Orleans, Louisiana

*Saturday, June 25, 2011, 8:00 PM – 11:00 PM*

The ALA/Proquest Scholarship Bash will be held at the National World War II Museum. This event will only be open to ALA ticket holders, not the general public.

## LIBRARIES BUILD COMMUNITIES

*Friday, June 24, 2011, 8:00 AM–5:00 PM*

Libraries and others in the New Orleans area still need help! Sign up to volunteer on Friday, June 24th. Join fellow attendees in a rewarding day assisting the New Orleans Public Library, schools, and community rebuilding projects. A chance to give back, and meet others from all over.

## PRE-CONFERENCES

Hundreds of pre-conferences and special events are available to choose from to build out your own program of education and networking. Special ticketed events are available now on the website. Read all about them and register early while there are still tickets. [Alaannual.org](http://Alaannual.org)

## HOUSING & REGISTRATION

Discounted registration rates are now available – register online at [alaannual.org](http://alaannual.org)

Don't be fooled by imposters – use the official ALA housing bureau for great rates, convenient locations and free shuttle rides around the ALA campus. Book online at [alaannual.org](http://alaannual.org)

**DOWNLOAD THE PRELIMINARY PROGRAM NOW AT [ALAANNUAL.ORG](http://ALAANNUAL.ORG)**

# Sue Stroyan

CANDIDATE FOR ALA PRESIDENT

## Leading from Libraries

My passion for libraries began with my first job at the age of 16 as a page in a public library. That experience was the first step in my more than 35-year-long journey through positions in all types of libraries: public, special, academic, and even a multitype library system. In addition I was an instructor in a school media specialist program.

As a professional librarian on the frontline, I am keenly aware of the concerns and challenges that confront library staff and boards of trustees today. As the next ALA president I will be uniquely equipped to articulate the needs that we all face and to advocate for all types of libraries. I will work with you to represent our shared purpose to the world with passion and a sense of humor.

Intellectual freedom, literacy, privacy, advocacy, and diversity have been central to my life and work. These core values will serve as the spine of my presidential agenda. I applaud past ALA presidential initiatives that have addressed these principles and I will strive to see them flourish.

**Leading from Libraries** will concentrate on two goals of the ALA 2015 strategic plan: transforming libraries



and member engagement. We have always been evolving, changing, transforming. The question is, "What can the American Library Association do to help its members and our libraries meet the latest budgetary, technological, and other challenges that we face?" In recent years, our colleagues around the country have achieved remarkable success despite incredibly difficult economic times. They inspire me!

I will champion the way library staffs have been leading from libraries—the way they have reached through the doors of their buildings and made an impact in their communities. As president I will use our combined energy to find ways to share our success stories with each other. I will make ALA the vibrant "go-to" place where members will share collective knowledge and collaborate in ways that will move all of us forward no matter our unit affiliation. Through social networking tools, toolkits, e-resources, and publications, we will begin to connect with

each other more openly and easily.

I will bring great breadth and depth of leadership experiences to my new role as ALA president. As Illinois Library Association president, I had the opportunity to develop my skills in decision-making, while hiring the executive director and working with the legislative committee in selecting our lobbyist. While university librarian at Illinois Wesleyan, I oversaw the functional development of its new \$24-million library facility. As a board member and then president of Beta Phi Mu, our national honor society, my experiences included development of policy, a committee structure, and passage of the new bylaws.

Years of activism with state, regional, and national library organizations have given me opportunities to exchange views, hone leadership skills, and engage in public discussion. As past president of ALA's Library

Leadership and Management Association and through active engagement in many other units, including ALA's governing Council, the Reference and User Services Association, the New Members Round Table, and the Association of College and Research Libraries, I have prepared myself for the next step: to communicate ALA's shared vision and values to the general public and legislators.

Libraries are essential to a democratic society and together, by Leading from Libraries, we can prove that to be so. I ask for your vote for ALA and ALA-Allied Professional Association president. For more information on my ideas visit [suestroyan.com](http://suestroyan.com). ■

**I will make ALA the vibrant "go-to" place where members will share collective knowledge and collaborate in ways that will move all of us forward no matter our unit affiliation.**



## READ MORE

Find out more on your phone or [americanlibrariesmagazine.org](http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org). If your phone has a Web browser and a camera, **download the free app at [gettag.mobi](http://gettag.mobi)** and scan this bar code.



# Maureen Sullivan

CANDIDATE FOR ALA PRESIDENT

Visit [maureensullivan.org](http://maureensullivan.org)

This is a time of great opportunity and challenge for libraries, librarians, and library staff. While those who fund and govern libraries often ask questions about the value of what we do and how we contribute to our communities, those who use our services know how essential we are to their individual lives and to the nation at large. We must strengthen our ability to make the case for how we make a difference in the lives of the people in our communities.

I believe ALA is the best resource and most effective voice for libraries on a national level. The 2011–2015 Strategic Plan provides an excellent framework for ensuring a vibrant future for the profession. As your president, I will continue to engage ALA governance and the membership broadly to accomplish the goals and objectives in this plan. I will collaborate with the elected leaders of all ALA units to identify current activities in support of the five goal areas: advocacy, building the profession, transforming libraries, member engagement, and organizational excellence. I also will work with these elected leaders and ALA members generally to identify innovative and sustainable future strategies in each of these areas.

My career has been devoted to enabling libraries of all types to become more effective organizations. I have helped them to create high-perform-



ing workplaces in which every staff member has the opportunity to contribute and perform work that is productive and satisfying to them. As president of ALA I will bring this experience and a deep commitment to strengthening the profession. I will do this by providing a shared, collaborative leadership model; that is, I will strive to create and expand opportunities for members throughout ALA to contribute in ways that will benefit their organizations, their professional practice, and librarianship generally.

**I will strive to create and expand opportunities for members throughout ALA to contribute in ways that will benefit their organizations, their professional practice, and librarianship generally.**

ing strengths and to recognize and support the specialized interests of the divisions and units.

Now is the time to explore the feasibility of an ALA-wide leadership development initiative that will build upon the numerous current

successful activities underway in ALA and its chapters.

I look forward to continuing the work of the ALA Young Professionals Task Force to ensure the implementation of the ideas set forth in their report. Clearly, there are new professionals with exciting ideas. We must engage them in meaningful ways not only to retain them as members, but to encourage them to take leadership roles.

The current economic climate creates the opportunity for ALA to strengthen its influence in community development by exploring and identifying ways to promote synergies between local government and libraries. Library leaders need to be at the table with local government leaders as they plan sustainable change in their communities.

I will explore ways to strengthen and extend our international activities throughout the world, especially ALA's advocacy for the value of libraries and librarians. I will work with those already engaged in international librarianship to identify innovative approaches to professional practice, ones in which all involved will learn from one another.

My focus as president will be to build upon the accomplishments of recent ALA presidents in the areas of advocacy, intellectual freedom, diversity, and ensuring that libraries, librarians, and library staff remain vital in the increasingly global digital context. I will provide effective leadership to ALA and the ALA–Allied Professional Association (ALA–APA) as a whole, and I will be a strong voice for libraries and how they make a difference in people's lives.

I will bring the experience, commitment, and enthusiasm necessary to lead ALA and ALA–APA. I ask for your vote. ■

# Currents

■ **Bobbie Borne** retired November 29 as head of teen services and reference librarian of Wallingford (Conn.) Public Library.

■ October 18 **Jolene Bradley** became manager of Brainerd (Minn.) Public Library.

■ **Gillian Buonanno** was appointed director of Wanaque (N.J.) Public Library November 18.

■ November 24 **Bette Carlson** retired as executive director of the White Lake (Mich.) Community Library.

■ **Carolyn Caywood** retired December 31 as manager of the Bayside and Special Services branch of Virginia Beach (Va.) Public Library.

■ January 1 **Loretta Crenshaw** became director of Eureka Springs (Ark.) Carnegie Public Library.

■ December 30 **Susan Curzon** retired as dean of

the Oviatt Library at California State University in Northridge.

■ **Jean Elderwind** was appointed director of Carroll and Madison (Ark.) Library System in January.

■ In October **Andrea Estelle** joined the Leighton Township (Mich.) Library as director.

■ January 25 **George Fowler** became associate university librarian for information resources and technology at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia.

■ September 3 **Mark Goniwiecha** retired as reference and library instruction librarian at the University of Guam in Mangilao.

■ October 27 **Michelle Hammond** was appointed associate director for public services in the Earl S. Richardson Library at Morgan State University in Baltimore.

■ **Margaret Hinchee** was



Carol Hunter



Delphine Khanna



Chang Liu



George Nichols

appointed director of Clovis—Carver (N.Mex.) Public Library November 15.

■ **Carol Hunter** joined the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as associate university librarian for collections and services December 1.

■ December 10 **Bonnie Isman** retired as director of Jones Library in Amherst, Massachusetts.

■ **Delphine Khanna** became head of digital library initiatives at Temple University in Philadelphia December 1.

■ In September **Margaret Lam** was appointed physical sciences liaison librarian at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia.

■ **Ken LaZebnik** was appointed director of advancement and public affairs for the Pepperdine University (Calif.) Libraries in December.

■ **Chang Liu** joined Loudoun County (Va.) Public Library as director of library services February 22.

■ December 31 **Toni Lohman** retired as service development manager at Virginia Beach (Va.) Public Library.

■ **Curtis Lyons** was

named the Harriet Morel Oxman director of the Gatherwood Hospitality and Management Libraries at Cornell University Library in Ithaca, New York, February 16.

■ **Jennifer L. Marill** was appointed chief of the technical services division at the National Library of Medicine in Bethesda, Maryland, November 21.

■ January 1 **Cliff Mead** retired as head of special collections for Oregon State University Libraries in Corvallis.

■ **George Nichols** was appointed assistant director for administrative services at Westport (Conn.) Public Library February 28.

■ December 30 marked the retirement of **Paula Paul** as Orangeburg County (S.C.) Library director.

■ **Betty D. Paulk** retired November 30 as associate university librarian and professor at Valdosta (Ga.) State University's Odum Library.

■ March 4 **Bridget Quinn-Carey** left her position as director of the Buffalo and Erie County (N.Y.) Public Library System.

■ December 31 **Dale**

## CITED

■ December 18 **Deanna Bowling Marcum**, associate librarian at the Library of Congress, received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from North Carolina State University. She was honored for her commitment to forging a path to make LC in particular and research libraries generally as relevant in the digital world as they have been in the print environment.

**Ricklefs** retired as director of the Round Rock (Tex.) Public Library.

■ **Jenn Riley** joined the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as head of the Carolina Digital Library and Archives December 1.

■ In January **Colleen Rortvedt** was appointed director of Appleton (Wis.) Public Library.

■ **John Sandstrom** joined the New Mexico State University Library in Las Cruces as acquisitions librarian in January.

■ November 1 **Paula Settoon** became library director at Northeastern State University's Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, campus.

■ **Ann B. Shaffer** was appointed music librarian at the University of Oregon Libraries in Eugene, effective February 7.

■ **Helen Shenton** became executive director of Harvard University Libraries in Cambridge, Massachusetts, December 20.

■ **Margery Sly** joined Temple University in Philadelphia as director of special collections December 20.

■ February 7 **Theresa R. Snyder** was appointed librarian of the college at Haverford (Pa.) College.

■ Children's Librarian



Jenn Riley



Margery Sly

## OBITUARIES

■ **Pat Carterette**, 59, a recent ALA Learning Round Table president, died due to cancer January 12. She served as training and staff development coordinator at the Cleveland Heights—University Heights (Ohio) Public Library from 1999–2008. In 2008, Carterette became director of continuing education for the Georgia Public Library Service in Atlanta.

■ **John Cumming**, 95, director of Central Michigan University's Clarke Historical Library in Mount Pleasant from 1961–1982, died November 10.

■ **Christina G. Huemer**, 63, died November 12 after a long illness. She served as Drue Heinz Librarian at the American Academy in Rome from 1993 to 2008.

■ **Omar Khalidi**, 57, died in a train accident November 29. He was Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture librarian at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

■ **Kirsten E. Liebhaber**, 74, died of lung cancer October 17. She had been head librarian of New York's Sachem Central school district in the 1960s and Greenwich (Conn.) Country Day School until about 1980.

■ **Ruth C. Liebross**, 91, died August 5. From 1948 until 1951 she was head technical librarian for the Atomic En-

ergy Commission, operating the new agency's central reference library and supervising a staff of 11 people.

■ **Mary Angelina Lopez**, 65, who served as manager of the Soledad branch of Monterey County (Calif.) Free Libraries for 36 years, died November 29.

■ **Margaret Oettinger**, 68, died January 31 after a battle with brain cancer. She served two terms on ALA's governing Council and previously served on the Committee on Organization.

■ **Nancy Catlett Solley**, 88, former reference librarian at Western Kentucky University and the Kentucky Library, died November 8.

■ **Christy Tyson**, 63, died January 1. She was ALA's Young Adult Library Services Association president from 1990 to 1991 and had retired as manager of the Southwest branch of Seattle (Wash.) Public Library.

■ **Neva Lois White**, 94, died November 13. She served as a librarian at Goshen (Ind.) College; St. Mary's Hospital in Wausau, Wisconsin; and Marquette University in Milwaukee. In 1959, White went to Afghanistan as a library consultant for the State Department, returning in 1966 to take a position as head of cataloging at Kansas State University, which she held until her retirement in 1983.

**Mimi Wheeler** retired October 15 from the Gretna branch of Pittsylvania County (Va.) Public Library.

### At ALA

■ January 14 **Elise Fette** left ALA as manager of professional development

for the American Association of School Librarians.

■ In January **Ian Lashbrook** became library support staff certification program research associate for the ALA—Allied Professional Association.

■ **Kristen McKulski** left

ALA as associate editor for *Booklist* February 23.

■ **CORRECTION:** **Jane Fisher** has resigned from the Rutherford (N.J.) Public Library. She became library network manager at New York Public Library. ■

Send notices and color photographs for *Currents* to Katie Bane, [kbane@ala.org](mailto:kbane@ala.org).



# Hope Springs Eternal

The garden of children's literature is always in bloom

by Jennifer Burek Pierce

**A**t this writing, the world outside my window resembles a snow globe. Despite lingering wintery conditions, I'm thinking of spring. Not just because I've tromped through the snow to see what's happening to my garden. I've also been talking with Keiko Kasza, and although she's working hard in the cold here and now, it will be a spring day in 2012 when her next book is released.



Kasza is known internationally for books like *A Mother for Choco* and *The Wolf's Chicken Stew*. "The things I'm trying to write about—friends, love, bullying—whatever I'm working on,

it's universal," she said of the cross-cultural appeal of her stories. The animals whose antics play out across her pages are also a factor in connecting with kids wherever they live.

As someone who immigrated to the United States, she is attuned to the way ideas and idioms translate—or may fail to translate—across cultures. Some of her plots derive from such differences. Opossums (*Didelphis virginiana*) thrive in southern Indiana where she lives now, but not Japan. The expression "playing possum," then, led Kasza to library research and ultimately to *Don't Laugh, Joe!*

## Crossed cultural wires

Her only experience of censorship was also the product of a clash of values. The ending that makes *My Lucky Day* funny and clever to American readers was troubling to Chinese authorities, who required that the final two pages be removed when the book was published there. "They didn't want Piglet to be portrayed as a bad guy," Kasza explained.

In some ways, it's not surprising to hear that adult readers might give such serious attention to the implications of her characters' actions. While the conclusions are uniformly positive, many U.S. reviewers discuss the morals at work in each tale. Reviews routinely point to the value of her stories in encouraging acceptance, appreciation of friends and family, and other ideals.

## Character comes first

Kasza's priorities, though, involve other elements of storytelling. "I'm not trying to teach kids a lesson. That's not my job. But without a focus, I don't think a story is good." The joys of family life and the healing power of imagination are among the themes she uses to shape her

narratives. Still, Kasza said, "Character comes first."

Kasza didn't want to give away the ending of *Silly Goose's Big Story* (2012), but what she did say suggests that Silly Goose is himself a big character. She described the book as a circular story—one where

friends and the way they play together create a happy ending.

The act of reading a book with children, especially one with appealing characters, fosters both relationships and understanding, she said. "You read a picture book with your child on your

lap and the book spread in front of you," she observed. "Turning the page plays a role. Anticipation of what happens next comes with turning the page."

If winter lingers longer than you'd like, and you're waiting to see what spring will bring, add *Silly Goose's Big Story* to your list of colorful, cheery things to watch for. It'll be the spring of 2012 when it finally appears, and even if there should be a late frost, Kasza's book will surely bring a warm smile to faces near and far. ■

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](mailto:youthmatters@ala.org).



**In some ways, it's not surprising to hear that adult readers might give such serious attention to the implications of characters' actions in a children's story.**

# The Little Library that Could

The aloha spirit keeps a volunteer-run library alive

by Brian Mathews

**I**nspiring libraries are often the ones with big budgets. They have impressive buildings, enormous collections, and large staffs. The Makiki Community Library in Honolulu, Hawaii, has none of these things, but that doesn't make it any less remarkable. This small, donations-based, volunteer-driven organization effectively executes its deep-seated mission of engaging the community.

In the 1940s, the library was constructed as a research center supporting the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association. In the 1970s, the land was turned over to the city and the community requested that the space become a branch of the state library system. Due to political disagreements, the building was transferred instead to the City and County Department of Parks and Recreation. As funding diminished in the 1990s, the library officially became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, run by a dedicated group of volunteers.

The Friends of Makiki Community Library is the governing body that oversees operations. The current president is retired librarian Wendy Maxwell. She manages more than 40 volunteers who do everything from curating collections and teaching classes to writing grants and cleaning bathrooms.

MCL excels at outreach. Recent events included family movie nights, astronomy viewings, poetry slams, music performances, language and computer classes, and workshops on

civic processes. While many libraries host similar programs, what's amazing about MCL is that it is volunteer-driven. The community bonds together, exhibiting the aloha spirit to keep the library alive.

The library is a platform for community improvement. For example, on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, library volunteers organized service activities that brought together students and residents to paint over graffiti, pick up litter in the parks, and run a food drive.

Raising money is particularly challenging. Since the library is on city property it is unable to accept cash, making overdue fines impossible. "This shows how a penalty-free library can actually exist since we retain a majority of our loaned items," explains Maxwell. "This act of cooperation on behalf of the patrons is a testament of the community's goodwill towards the library."

Fundraising is essential. The Friends host several annual off-property functions such as "A Taste for Books," a cocktail event supported by local restaurants. The Friends are also developing a summer arts and literature festival to bring more awareness and, hopefully, donations to the library.

How does this library measure success? "It's really about how many patrons return," shares Maxwell, "but unfortunately we don't have a

way to track this because our collection and membership are not digital yet." She compares the library to a community recreation center: "The more people who interact with the space, the better we can judge its value in the neighborhood."

MCL has many aspirations for the future. One of the next steps is automation, and the library is currently looking into Koha, the

open-source ILS. Stephanie Lake, a board member of the Friends, explains, "The

last few years have been spent rebuilding the operational infrastructure, but we are just starting to address the challenges of a modern library."

The 30,000 people of Makiki need a library now more than ever. "There is still no official state public-library system catering directly to the overly populated Makiki area, so we serve as the fix," Maxwell emphasizes. Resisting and circumventing closure has become a library trademark. "Our patrons, volunteers, and community demand the comforts of a library, and we oblige as best we can," says Maxwell. "We do this selflessly and with the hope that it will make a difference in people's lives." ■

**The 30,000 people of the Makiki community need a library now more than ever.**



**BRIAN MATHEWS**, [brianmathews.com](http://brianmathews.com), is a librarian at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and author of *Marketing Today's Academic Library* (ALA Editions, 2009).

# Librarian's Library

## 21st-Century Public Libraries

by Mary Ellen Quinn

**T**hough not unique to the United States, the public library movement has flourished here, sprung from a late-19th-century ideal of educating the masses and defined by pioneers such as Melvil Dewey. The mission remains essentially the same, but the public library (like all libraries) is undergoing some heavy self-examination.

In the introduction to *Public Libraries in the 21st Century*, Ann E. Prentice identifies the issues that are now shaping public library

development: access, the notion of library as place, immigrant populations, the internet, and economic considerations. The book's chapters discuss the topics one would expect to find, such as governance, organization, programs, staffing, public relations, and finances. But rather than describing traditional models, the focus here is on how the public library is reinventing itself. Not surprisingly, technology is often the key, providing data, streamlining procedures, and expanding services while also presenting formidable challenges.

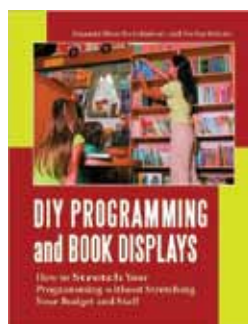
INDEXED. LIBRARIES UNLIMITED. 222P. \$50. 978-1-59158-853-5

### DIY Programming

Because many libraries are staff-strapped as well as cash-strapped, do-it-yourself programming is a

growing trend. Amanda Moss Struckmeyer and Svetha Hetzler base their book, *DIY Programming and Book Displays: How to Stretch Your Programming without Stretching Your Budget and Staff*, on ideas they came up with at Middleton (Wis.) Public

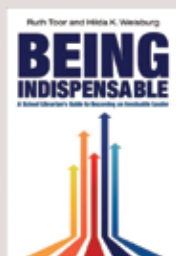
Library. They set up and equipped a do-it-yourself station to encourage



children, teens, and families to engage in activities ranging from the simple "Guessing Jars" ("How many crayons are in the jar?") to the more complicated "Pets and Pages" (matching literary pets with books). Step-by-step instructions are provided. It's

not exactly toddler storytime or teen gaming night, but DIY frees up

## NEW FROM ALA



In *New on the Job* (2006), Ruth Toor and Hilda K. Weisburg provided useful advice for school librarians just starting out in their careers. Now, in *Being Indispensable: A School Librarian's Guide to Becoming an Invaluable Leader*, they provide a template for librarians trying to save their jobs. The idea is that by "Knowing Who You Are," "Knowing Your Stakeholders," and "Thinking Bigger" (as the book's three sections are called), school librarians can make them-

selves so essential that no one would think of eliminating them.  
INDEXED. 170P. \$42. 978-0-8389-1065-8

I'm seeing more titles written for librarians that reflect new economic realities. *The Frugal Librarian: Thriving in Tough Economic Times* is one, geared to all of us who are coping with severe financial constraints. In it, contributors representing various kinds of libraries offer guidance on topics such as providing service to job-seeking patrons, finding low-cost and free professional development opportunities, writing grant proposals, partnering with other institutions, conserving resources, and more. There's even a chapter on attending library conferences for \$40 a day (share a room, sign up for vendor-sponsored meal events).  
INDEXED. 416P. \$42. 978-0-8389-1075-7







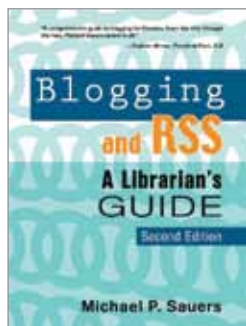
Though not unique to the United States, the public library movement has flourished here, sprung from a 19th-century ideal. The mission remains essentially the same.

staff to focus on the essentials without doing away with programming altogether.

INDEXED. LIBRARIES UNLIMITED. 213P. \$36. 978-1-59884-472-6

## (Micro)blogging in the Library

Michael P. Sauers used his own experience as a blogger to explain the technology in an easy-to-understand way in the first edition of *Blogging and RSS: A Librarian's Guide* (2006). An important change in the new edition is a chapter on microblogging, since he is tweeting (more than 14,000) in a big way. To get novices started, Sauers invites them to become one of his more than 1,600 followers at [twitter.com/msauers](http://twitter.com/msauers). He has



also updated the section on blogging, adding some new tools and revising the list of library-related blogs and bloggers. As always, Sauers provides a tool that is especially useful for non-experts. As he says in the introduction, "This book is for those of you who want to be able to read blogs and RSS feeds tomorrow, and to have your own blog up and running the next day."

INDEXED. INFORMATION TODAY. 322P. \$35. 978-1-57387-399-4. ■

MARY ELLEN QUINN is editor of *ALA Booklist's Reference Books Bulletin*.

# ROUSING READS

## WALLANDER'S LAST STAND

Readers whose knowledge of Scandinavian crime fiction goes beyond Stieg Larsson know that it was Henning Mankell who jump-started what has developed into a nearly 20-year golden age. The very fact that Sweden could foster a new spin on the Chandlerian hard-boiled novel seemed puzzling initially. How could there be crime novels in such a pristine region, full of nice people, liberal to a fault, the very antithesis of America's mean streets?



No region is all that pristine, of course, including Sweden, but something had changed by the time Mankell started writing, something that transformed Scandinavia into a setting ripe for the hard-boiled style. It all started with the fall of the Iron Curtain. The breaking down of the Soviet Union, combined with Sweden's liberal immigration policies, sent immigrants pouring into a region that had been defined by its insularity and lack of diversity. The resulting culture clash turned the tables on a lot of societal assumptions, prompting the same kind of racist hate crimes that have plagued the U.S. and other parts of Europe. Here was a melting pot waiting to be cracked.

Mankell cracked it. The appearance in the U.S. of *Faceless Killers* in 1997 announced the arrival not only of a major author but also of a new literary landscape. Much of the attraction of the American hard-boiled hero has been his (or her) unfailing ability to do what we could only dream of doing: stand up to danger with competence, courage, and a smart mouth. Mankell's hero, Ystad police inspector Kurt Wallander, on the other hand, responds to danger with stooped shoulders and an overwhelming sense that his unfathomably chaotic world is more than he can handle.

Fast-forward almost 15 years, and there are more Scandinavian crime novelists being published in the U.S. than most fans could name—except, of course, for Larsson, whom everyone can name, even delicate souls more comfortable with the gentle fiction of, say, Miss Read. And what of Mankell? With the same bitter irony that has always defined his work, he picks this moment to end the Wallander series. *The Troubled Man*, the 10th and final Wallander novel, finds the aging inspector suffering from memory problems and suspended from the police. With time on his hands, he throws himself into solving the disappearance of his daughter's father-in-law, a former submarine commander who may have been living a secret life. As Wallander strives to determine if the commander's public persona bears any relation to his private self, he launches another, more poignant investigation into his own past. Has he always been the man he feels he has become—"filled with self-pity, a thoroughly pathetic figure"?

This is a deeply melancholic novel, but Mankell, sweeping gracefully between reflections on international politics and meditations on the inevitable arc of human life, never lets his story become engulfed by darkness. Always a reticent man, Wallander shows an intensity of emotion here, a last gasp of felt life, that is both moving and oddly inspiring.

Stieg Larsson may be an international publishing phenomenon, but without Mankell to set his Swedish table, he might have been just another talented author with a limited audience.



BILL OTT is the editor and publisher of *ALA's Booklist*.

# Solutions and Services

[www.r2library.com](http://www.r2library.com) >>>

Rittenhouse Book Distributors has announced that titles by Elsevier are becoming available to users through the R2 Digital Library in the first quarter of 2011. The R2 Digital Library is a web-based database that offers fully integrated and searchable medical, nursing, and allied health source book content. Contributing publishers include Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, the McGraw-Hill Companies, Delmar Cengage Learning, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and many more. The R2 Digital Library has many valuable features, such as customized saved searches, images, references and bookmarks, an A-Z Drug Index, and an A-Z Topic Index.



>>> [www.igi-global.com](http://www.igi-global.com)

IGI Global has launched its *Advances in Library Information Science (ALIS) Newsletter*, whose inaugural issue was published in early March. IGI Global specializes in high-quality research publications on all aspects of information technology management. The newsletter will be updated on a quarterly basis and focus on research-oriented content from the forthcoming ALIS books series, covering ongoing developments and trends affecting libraries in the United States and around the world. Topics will include e-reference discoverability, blogging in libraries, library space planning, evaluating information credibility, collaborative initiatives between libraries, library education, and digital rights management.



>>> [www.cerebellumb2b.com](http://www.cerebellumb2b.com)

In February, Cerebellum Corporation released three educational DVD series, *Xtremely Wild*, *Food Science*, and *MegaWorld*, that will serve as a supplementary learning resource for middle and high school students. *Xtremely Wild* is an animal adventure series that travels to remote and isolated destinations to conduct research on endangered species and their behaviors. *Food Science* examines different types of food and provides viewers with insight on making smarter decisions in their daily diet. *MegaWorld* explores innovations in engineering at locations worldwide, from looking at resurfacing a busy airport runway in Germany to the creation of a submarine in England. These DVD series provide engaging, real-life content to get students excited about future careers in science and technology fields.



## OverDrive®

>>> [www.overdrive.com](http://www.overdrive.com)

OverDrive has released e-book applications for iPhone and Android that enable users to download library e-books and audiobooks directly to their mobile devices. The free apps include a "Get Books" feature that guides users to their local library's digital catalog of bestselling and new-release titles, allowing them to easily browse, check out, and download with their device. More than 13,000 public libraries, schools, colleges, and universities now offer e-book and audiobook downloads via OverDrive. To see if your public library is a member of the OverDrive network, visit [search.overdrive.com](http://search.overdrive.com).

## V [www.evancedsolutions.com](http://www.evancedsolutions.com)

V Evanced Solutions has collaborated with the Texas State Library and Archives Commission to build downloadable templates based on the graphics for Texas Reading Club 2011 youth and teen programs. The templates allow libraries using Summer Reader to upload designs that incorporate colors and banner images to help create a consistent look and feel for the online reading program while minimizing product setup times. Summer



Reader helps libraries build reading programs that library patrons can interact with online by logging reading times,

writing reviews, receiving prize notifications, connecting with Facebook, and much more. Evanced Solutions offers the same service to customers participating in the Collaborative Summer Library Program and iRead Summer Reading Program.



[www.readex.com](http://www.readex.com)

Readex, a division of NewsBank, is launching *Ethnic American Newspapers from the Balch Collection, 1799–1971*, this spring. Featuring more than 130 fully searchable newspapers in 10 languages from 25 states, this collection covers two centuries of immigrant life in the United States. Topics include the denial of citizenship to “nonwhites”; the founding of nativist political movements, including the anti-immigrant Know-Nothing movement; the 1848 discovery of gold in California; New York City’s place as the world’s largest Irish city in 1860; and the Immigration Act of 1882. Readex will also launch *African American Periodicals, 1825–1995* in spring 2011. Featuring more than 170 wide-ranging periodicals by and about African Americans, this new collection is based upon James P. Danky’s *African-American Newspapers and Periodicals: A National Bibliography* (Harvard, 1998). Topics range from slavery during the Antebellum Period to the struggles and triumphs of the modern era.

## CASE STUDY

### MAKING TECHNOLOGY MORE MANAGEABLE

In 2006, the Adrian (Mich.) Public School District passed a capital bond that included \$2.5 million for new technology, enough to add about 260 computers to the school’s infrastructure. Director of Technology Randy Brandeberry was concerned about the added work to maintain those computers without additional staff.

Simply pushing out software updates was unpredictable and often created as many issues as it solved. “If I pushed out software updates to 900 computers, chances were I’d have 100 problems such as crashes or missing software,” Brandeberry explained.

He opted for remote PC management to deploy more computers without adding staff. He installed thin computers from Wyse with their operating system and applications delivered by Wyse Streaming Manager,

maintaining a high-quality delivery system for the district’s widely used educational programs Waterford Early Learning and SuccessMaker from Pearson.



A student using a Wyse thin client.

Wyse computers are free of moving parts, local storage, and hard drives that are prone to failure. The computers operate like PCs but with centralized software, which makes it easier to back up, update, manage, maintain, and support desktops with fewer staff.

The move to Wyse equipment and software has helped Adrian Public Schools reduce costs and maintenance efforts, as well as increase control. The district reports that the Wyse computers are exceptionally

reliable, and repairs have been almost nonexistent. “The overall impact for us is that we’re able to move forward and install more computers for students without adding resources,” Brandeberry said.

[www.wyse.com](http://www.wyse.com)



# Career Leads from

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joblist.ala.org

Your #1 source for job openings in Library and Information Science and Technology

**LIBRARY SERVICES DIRECTOR** - If you enjoy collaboration, welcome the opportunity to network within the community, and are a motivated, dynamic person, then Neill Public Library awaits

your leadership as its new director. Located in Pullman, Wash. (population approx. 28,000), Neill Public Library is considered the "crown jewel" of the city and enjoys strong support from an enthusiastic and innovative staff, library board, Friends of the Library, and a generous community. Neill Public Library has a staff of 15.70 FTE and its collections boast one of the highest turnover rates in the state. With 19.6 programs per 1,000 residents, Neill Public Library has the 2nd highest number of youth and adult programs in its population group in Washington. The library is a city department and this year's budget is \$1.18 million. Visit our website at: [www.neill-lib.org](http://www.neill-lib.org). THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE WILL HAVE demonstrated competence in long-range planning, evaluation of services, and current trends in library science. This includes management and automation; planning and organizing; budgeting and directing library operations; and establishing and maintaining effective professional and community relationships. To be considered for this position, applicants must have: proven experience with public library resources, programs and services; command a broad spectrum of management skills, including budgeting and staff supervision; have certification by the Washington State Board for Certification of Librarians or the ability to obtain certification at time of appointment as required by R.C.W.

27.04.030. Municipal library experience is preferred. **Applications are available at Neill Public Library or City of Pullman Human Resources Department, 325 S.E. Paradise, Pullman, WA 99163 or on-line at <http://www.pullman-wa.gov/jobs/jobs.aspx>.** Closing Date: Until filled, with preference given to those applications received by March 28, 2011. E.O.E. Interview travel expense reimbursement options available. For more information contact the Human Resources Department at (509) 338-3207.

**Southwest Area Multicounty Multitype Interlibrary Exchange** The nine member SAMMIE Board seeks a **Executive Director** to lead an 18 county multitype library cooperative with 197 members. Candidate shall possess: Ability to envision and promote the role of the library cooperative into the future; have a solid understanding of the philosophy, trends, and "best practices" in library and information technology fields; outstanding collaborative leadership skills; effective communications skills and proven financial and management skills. Requirements: Master's degree in Library Information Science or School Library Media [Master's degree in a related field may be considered] and a minimum of three years library experience. Ability to provide own transportation for job related travel. Compensation: \$48,000-\$58,000 based on qualifications and experience plus benefits. Review of applications will

**The University of Scranton seeks an Assistant Dean** to administer Library operations relating to processing and preservation of materials, access services, including circulation, interlibrary loan, stack maintenance, media resources, archives/special collections and representation of these services within the Library administrative planning team. **Qualifications:** ALA-accredited Masters in Library Science or Information Science. Additional graduate level degree required. A minimum of four years academic library supervisory experience with demonstrated progressive responsibilities at a departmental or divisional level is required. Strong consideration will be given to candidates with familiarity with library technology including integrated library systems (Innovative Interfaces Inc. preferred), databases, Internet applications, emerging technology and public interfaces; evidence of excellent oral and written communication and organizational skills; ability to work collaboratively within an academic community; ability to develop strategic and tactical planning goals; ability to manage multiple projects including setting timelines and meeting deadlines; ability to view issues from a global library perspective; ability to provide supervisory support and oversight; and ability to create a team working environment. Review of applications will begin on February 15, 2011 and will continue until position is filled. Expected start date is June 1, 2011.

**How to Apply:** Only applications submitted through our online application system will be accepted for this position. To apply, please visit our Web page: <http://www.universityofscrantonjobs.com>. The University of Scranton is, by tradition and choice, a Catholic and Jesuit University. The successful candidate will have an understanding of and commitment to the goals of Jesuit education. The University's mission statement may be found at <http://www.scranton.edu/mission>. The University is committed to developing a diverse faculty, staff, and student body and to modeling an inclusive campus community which values the expression of differences in ways that promote excellence in teaching, learning, personal development and institutional success. In keeping with this commitment, the University welcomes applications from candidates with diverse backgrounds. The University of Scranton is an EOE/Affirmative Action Employer/Educator. Veterans, minority persons, women and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply.



**Texas A&M University** (<http://www.tamu.edu/>) invites nominations and applications for the position of dean of the Texas A&M University Libraries (<http://library.tamu.edu/about/>). Through its five campus libraries, its extensive digital library, and its partnerships with other members of the Texas A&M University System (<http://www.tamus.edu/>) and across the State of Texas, the Texas A&M University Libraries library faculty, professionals, and staff play a critical role in supporting, first, the learning/teaching, research/creative work, and engagement missions of the university, for more than 48,000 students and approximately 3,000 faculty members, who form part of a comprehensive, Tier 1 research-intensive, land-, sea- and space-grant institution; and second, the implementation of the imperatives of Vision 2020 (<http://vision2020.tamu.edu/>). The ideal candidate will have, as a minimum, a Master's degree in Library Science or Information Science from an American Library Association (ALA) accredited university or equivalent. A Ph.D. or other doctoral level degree is preferred. The ideal candidate also will have a national and/or international distinguished reputation and accomplishments at the forefront of service, academic/scholarly, and/or professional work in library and information sciences, and in the management of archives, repositories, or special collections. Academic and professional credentials should include an outstanding record of achievement sufficient for appointment as a full professor with tenure. In addition, the ideal candidate will be expected: To have a solid knowledge of (a) the operations of a member library in the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), within a large, diverse, multi- and interdisciplinary, and technology-enabled institutional context, such as Texas A&M University; (b) contemporary issues facing higher education, especially those issues affecting library faculty, such as faculty rights and responsibilities and requirements of tenure and promotion; and (c) the relationship between the libraries and the learning/teaching, research/creative work, and engagement missions of the university. To have proven experience, a record of accomplishment, and specific skills and abilities in (a) leadership in the operations of libraries at strategic, tactical, operational, and practical levels; (b) effective and efficient fiscal planning, financial management, and budget development and implementation oversight; (c) fostering, nurturing, and furthering an organizational culture of collegiality, scholarship, customer service, and excellence; (d) in supporting and maintaining the development and growth of a distinguished scholarly program commensurate with the requirements of a top-tier public university, building upon a diversity of intellectual perspectives regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, or religion; (e) successful fundraising and grant writing; and (f) specific interactions and collaborations with diverse sets of constituencies, as represented within the wide range of disciplines found in the Colleges at Texas A&M University, and with other institutions within the Texas A&M University System, the State of Texas, nationally, and internationally. To be aware of, to understand, to be committed to, and to have abilities in (a) digital scholarship, copyright law, and open access; (b) the integration of the libraries within the broader academic community at Texas A&M University, including students, faculty, professionals, community groups, and non traditional populations; (c) the representation and strong advocacy of the libraries at the university level and beyond; (d) the celebration of the accomplishments of library faculty, professionals, and staff; and (e) the inspiration of the libraries to reach their full potential in meeting the needs of students, faculty and staff, as well as the needs of the university, the university system, the State of Texas, and the society we serve. Nominations or applications are sought and welcomed, and should be submitted to the address below. **Applications will be accepted and evaluated until the position is filled. To ensure full consideration, applications should be received by March 31, 2011.** Complete applications should include a letter of intent, curriculum vitae, and the names and contact information of five references. The letter should address experience, accomplishments, and strengths that qualify or distinguish the candidate, a description of the candidate's leadership and management styles, and a summary describing the candidate's commitment to research, teaching and service. **Details are available online at <http://deansearch.library.tamu.edu>.** Please send materials to: **Dr. Jorge Vanegas, Chair of Search Committee Dean, College of Architecture Texas A&M University 3137 TAMU College Station, TX 77843-3137 [searchdeanlibraries@arch.tamu.edu](mailto:searchdeanlibraries@arch.tamu.edu)** Texas A&M University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution that is strongly and proactively committed to diversity. The Texas A&M University Libraries encourage applications from women, minorities, individuals with disabilities, and covered veterans. Please be advised that under Texas law, names and other information concerning applicants or nominees may be subject to disclosure upon request.

begin on April 11, 2011 and will continue until position is filled. **Position description at [www.sammie.org](http://www.sammie.org). E-mail letter of application, resume and three work related references to [info@sammie.org](mailto:info@sammie.org).** SAMMIE is funded by the State of Minnesota, and is an AA, EOE.

713-799-2999; fax 713-779-2992.

**LIBRARY SHELVING AND FURNITURE FOR SALE.** [Esteyshelving.net](http://Esteyshelving.net), [Esteylibraryshelving.com](http://Esteylibraryshelving.com) and [Tesco-libraryshelving.com](http://Tesco-libraryshelving.com).

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# Approachable You

Aren't you looking at me?

by Will Manley

I am not a behavioral psychologist but it seems to me the most basic element of establishing a connection with someone is making eye contact. Take my granddaughter, Sophia. She's 3 years old and is always the most popular person wherever she goes because she loves to go right up to people, look them in the eye, and with unbridled enthusiasm blurt out, "Hi, my name is Sophie!"

Today, unfortunately, even the most extroverted librarians are not making eye contact with the people in their libraries. Walk into any library at any time and you will see the same sorry syndrome. Librarians at public services desks are not looking at patrons, but at their computer screens. Nothing makes me angrier. Everybody wonders how best to advocate for libraries amid dwindling

resources and Tea Party politics. How about looking like you give a darn!

Keep your eyes on the prize—the patrons!

A patron has to wonder what you librarians are doing. You're not laughing while you're looking at your screens so you're probably not watching YouTube clips. You don't look terribly absorbed so you're probably not reading a Stephen King novel. You don't look particularly serious so you're probably not doing anything important for your actual job. You also don't look half asleep so you're not reading library literature.

To be precise, you have that bored, listless look about you, as though you are engaging in that great America at Work time waster: surfing the internet. At least that's what it looks like to me and everyone else trying to

get your attention. What a great way to reinforce one of the library profession's most odious stereotypes: "Oh, you're a librarian? You must get to do a lot of reading on the job."

This is not fair. Back in the Dark Ages, when I worked the reference desk (and yes there were no "snow days" then so you walked three miles through a blizzard to get to work)



**Public service librarians are staring at their screens.**

we were not allowed to read at the reference desk because it made us look unapproachable. So why

is it okay to move your eyes across a monitor but not a book or a magazine?

I suppose the theory today is that if you are staring at a computer, you are doing something serious, like research. Serious research, my foot! We all know where internet surfing takes you: into the most inane sites imaginable. I mean, this really bugs me.

So, today I'm shopping out of town and pass a library I'd never been in before. Like any nosy librarian, to the great frustration of the family members I am with, I just have to go in for a look-see. What do I see? I see a reference librarian staring at a computer screen. This makes me really flippin' mad.

Since no one knows me at this library, I decide to sneak up behind the reference desk and see what inane, inconsequential, and idiotic site this librarian is staring at. It's my daily blog Will Unwound. I'm not kidding.

Did I say I have a problem with reference librarians looking at computer screens? You must have misunderstood me. I actually think it's very important for librarians to keep up with their library blogs, especially those that tell them to keep their eyes on the customers. ■

*WILL MANLEY has furnished provocative commentary on librarianship for over 30 years and nine books on the lighter side of library science. Write him at [wmanley7@att.net](mailto:wmanley7@att.net).*





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