

american libraries

JUNE 2014

THE MAGAZINE OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



PLUS

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- Make the Most of Your Career *p. 50*
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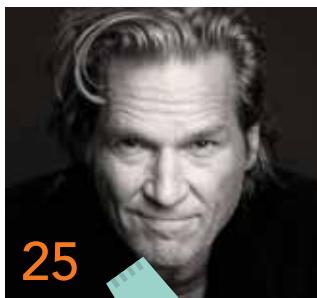
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Don't Let It Stay in Vegas

by Laurie D. Borman

June means the ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition, and this year we're going to Las Vegas. The conference program is packed with speakers and programs, so flip to our preview, beginning on page 54, to get the latest information on what's happening. While you're in Vegas, you gotta eat, right? The city has morphed into a food lover's dream, with restaurants that offer everything from pub grub to gourmet meals. Start planning your mealtimes with our dining guide on page 66. And please, what happens in Vegas with programs, discussions, and networking, don't let it stay in Vegas!

Have you watched *American Libraries Live*, our free, streaming library program? If you want to sample it, we have an excerpt in this issue from our mobile technology in the library program; find it on page 36. Hosted by Heather Moorefield-Lang, education and applied social

sciences librarian for Virginia Tech, the expert panel included Bohyun Kim, digital access librarian at Florida International University Medical Library; David Lee King, digital services director at Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public

Library; and Katherine Messier, managing director at Mobile Beacon. Once you read the excerpt, you'll want to see the whole episode, which you'll find at AmericanLibrariesLive.org, along with all our archived shows. You can't participate in the live chat in an archive version, so plan on joining the conversation for our next program, *Going Beyond Google*, on June 12 at 2 p.m. Eastern time.

Hateful people: They've been around since time immemorial. Perhaps their extremist views, often hateful, started out verbal, and once the printing press made spreading the word easier, they began publishing their views in newspapers and tracts. These works—ranging from far-right to far-left political ideologies, and to anti-Semitic and racist materials—form the basis of extremist collections at several universities in the US. Find out more about how the materials are collected and used in our article by Chicago-based author Maria Traska, beginning on page 32.

Former *American Libraries* editor Leonard Kniffel traveled to the oil-rich country of Azerbaijan to see accelerated changes since financial reform in 2008, and how this wealth has affected the state of libraries there. He found that investment in libraries is a good investment in business. Kniffel visited a state-of-the-art library that opened in 2013 at Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy University, and a renovated National Library of Azerbaijan, among others. See his story on page 46.

Our final page, *The Bookend*, features librarian Linda Mehr, director of the Margaret Herrick Library at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in Los Angeles. She develops the unique collection of the film research library, from original screenplays to posters, photos, and an oral history archive. Sounds like the library would make a good road trip after Vegas. ■

Don't let the programs, ideas, and networking stay in Vegas.

american libraries

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Learners for a Lifetime

Reflecting on a year of work and inspiration

by Barbara K. Stripling

A career in librarianship constantly challenges us to reimagine our roles and revitalize our knowledge to meet the evolving nature of the information environment and the changing needs of those we serve. Becoming a librarian is a commitment to being a lifetime learner.

“Learning” is an action word. It means actively exploring new possibilities, beyond what is known and safe. Perhaps Conrad Cornelius o’Donald o’Dell in Dr. Seuss’s *On Beyond Zebra* provides a mantra for us to pursue the unimagined:

“In the places I go there are things that I see

That I *never* could spell if I stopped with the Z.

I’m telling you this ‘cause you’re one of my friends.

My alphabet starts where *your* alphabet ends!”

Conrad exists within each of us. ALA is in the process of reimagining and realigning its services and support to enable all of us to push our thinking *On Beyond Zebra*.

Strategic Direction. The ALA Executive Board built on two years of member conversations to develop three strategic areas of focus: advocacy, information policy, and professional and leadership development. Budget and operational decisions will be made with those priorities in mind.

Summit on the Future of Libraries. ALA convened a Summit

on the Future of Libraries in May at the Library of Congress. Leaders from within and outside of the library profession wrestled with the challenge of thinking differently about the needs of library users and their communities, the role of libraries in social change and lifelong learning, and the complexities of integrating ever-changing

technology. The summit will help frame an ongoing dialogue about the future of libraries of all types—public, school, academic, and special—and give valuable context for ALA’s Center for the Future of Libraries.

Center for the Future of Libraries. ALA’s new Center for the Future of Libraries will provide essential support to the field as we envision the future of libraries. The center will help libraries identify emerging trends; provoke discussion on how to shape the future; build connections with experts and innovative thinkers; provide a forum for sharing ideas and exploring joint solutions to the challenges that face society; develop new mechanisms for the exchange of innovative practices; and provide an association-wide “incubator” for experimentation. The center should be well underway by fall 2014.

Leadership and Professional Development Opportunities. For the second year, ALA is offering a Leadership Development Institute for librarians of all types, with a robust

curriculum that includes leading in turbulent times, exercising interpersonal competence, and creating an inclusive and transformational culture. The Emerging Leaders program continues to thrive, providing lead-

ership development to early professionals. ALA is also engaged in a collaborative effort with the Harwood Institute for Public

Innovation to enable library teams to boost community engagement skills. Over the past year, ALA and its divisions have offered hundreds of webinars to support the continued learning of all members, and e-learning opportunities will continue to expand.

Declaration for the Right to Libraries. The declaration will continue to be a pillar document for ALA members to transform their advocacy practices. Reimagining the future rests on the fundamental values of our profession. By engaging our communities in a conversation about the impact of libraries on their lives, we can ensure that our *On Beyond Zebra* world of libraries connects the past with the future and changes the lives of every person the library touches.

Thank you for the honor of serving as your president for 2013–2014. You have changed my life. ■



Our challenge is to reimagine our roles.

BARBARA K. STRIPLING is assistant professor of practice at Syracuse University in Syracuse, N.Y. Email: bstripling@ala.org.

A New Vision of Advocacy

Reflecting upstream and downstream

by Keith Michael Fields

In any conversation with ALA members, advocacy consistently emerges as a number one priority. This coming year, we're taking a fresh look at advocacy and our vision for advocacy going forward.

Our new vision of advocacy needs to reflect both what I would describe as "upstream" and "downstream" advocacy. "Downstream" advocacy is what happens when a governor proposes the elimination of library funding or when a mayor cuts the library budget or when House leadership proposes elimination of federal funding for libraries.

When this happens, we need to put aside any concerns about being reactive. No matter what they say, bad things do happen to good people. When a library or a state is fighting for its support, we need to be reactive, we need to be effective—and we need to be quick. People need to chain themselves around library buildings if that's what it takes to save them, and we need to do everything we can to support them.

At the other end of the advocacy spectrum is what I would describe as "upstream" advocacy. This includes increasing public awareness of the value of libraries, helping libraries become more engaged with their communities, and helping to create a more future-oriented narrative for libraries. All these things build stronger support over the long term.

Between these is the daily work of responding to community aspira-

tions with forward-looking plans, building community coalitions to support these plans, and developing the campaigns and referenda that make library services better one project and one community at a time. At the same time, we need to advance legislation and policies that will improve library and information services in every state and across the nation.

ALA advocates across this entire spectrum: The Libraries Transforming Communities initiative is providing training and tools that will allow thousands of libraries to reach out to their communities in new and creative ways. The new Center for the Future of Libraries will help the public see libraries as forward-thinking and innovative institutions. The Campaign for America's Libraries increases public awareness of the positive impact of libraries through traditional and social media (ALA's *2014 State of America's Libraries* report alone was the subject of 170,000 media mentions since it was issued in April). To date, more than 100,000 people, representing hundreds of communities across the nation, have signed the *Declaration for the Right to Libraries*.

ALA also provides training, resources, and encouragement to thousands of librarians and library supporters seeking to achieve local, statewide, and national advocacy



More than ever, ALA is there when funding is threatened.

goals. PLA's "Turning the Page Online" training program is designed to give librarians, library staff, trustees, and

supporters the skills and confidence they need to advocate successfully on behalf of their libraries. ALSC's *Everyday Advocacy* helps librarians stay informed, engaged, inspired, and share their stories and speak out. United for Libraries' *Citizens-Save-Libraries Power Guide for Successful Advocacy* helps library supporters reach their local advocacy goals.

More than ever, ALA is there when funding is threatened, thanks to the Advocacy Office. When library funding was zeroed out two years in a row in Florida, or drastically cut in New York State this year, Capwiz software provided through the Chapter Relations Office helped library supporters save the funding. In dozens of instances, ALA and President Barbara Stripling have provided support and testimony when school libraries have been threatened. We don't win every battle, but we're winning more often now.

We still have a long way to go, and as we work on our advocacy vision, we will need your best thinking. Given how important advocacy is, how can we make a difference? ■

KEITH MICHAEL FIELDS is executive director of the American Library Association, headquartered in Chicago.

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Praise from a Non-Librarian

Although I am not a librarian, I usually skim through my wife's copy of *American Libraries*. The March/April 2014 issue has three excellent stories that really caught my interest enough to read all the way through: "Saving Our Celluloid Past," "Going Beyond Google Again," and "Melvil Dewey: Compulsive Innovator." And, as always, Will Manley's column was a must-read.

Thanks for publishing these, and keep up the good work.

I was disappointed, though, to see

in the ad for the ALA conference that Jane Fonda will be speaking there. Although she has apologized for some of her actions in North Vietnam that caused many to brand

her a "traitor," I know that I wouldn't attend any convention that had her as part of the program. This comment is directed at ALA because I know that you, as the editor, have no influence over conference details.

Charles Hepperle
Claremont, California

Giving Up on ILL

I am a longtime librarian, currently retired. I'm also a writer, dependent on libraries for research. When I first left work, a colleague told me, "You are about to find out that working in a library and having a library card are

nothing the same." Alas, at this moment, for me, it's never been truer.

Though I can't praise enough my local branch library staff, interlibrary loan (ILL), at least so far as it's practiced in Arlington, Virginia, where I live, is more theory than practice. As a librarian, I understand ILL to be a basic library service. Therefore, I'd expect ILL to be feeless. Nevertheless, I've become acclimated to my library's \$3 fee.

Last year, however, as if to further discourage use of this service, Arlington (Va.) Public Library instituted a new rule: Patrons must pick up and return ILL books to the Central Library instead of picking up and returning them to their local branches, as was permitted in the past. "Short staffed" is the reason I've been given.

Trucks travel to and from central and branches daily carrying books. When I and others campaign for increased county funding for branches, one reason we use is to "be green," save the energy costs of so many patrons having to travel back and forth to obtain materials.

Plus in an age when consideration of senior citizens and the rights of the disabled are touted, not to mention those of us without regular access to cars, it would seem only reasonable to allow all of us to use local branches and not have to spend a large part of the day going back and forth on the bus and/or metro. I have advanced these ideas to my library to no avail. I have pretty much given up using ILL.

My problem may not be only local but rather one more instance of libraries making themselves increasingly

irrelevant to once-ardent supporters. After all, if libraries make obtaining information sufficiently onerous, many patrons will turn to the internet to find and/or purchase what they are looking for. Eventually the public may discover that nearly everything is more conveniently obtained over the internet. Hoping that day does not come, I urge ALA to consider how it may best address the issue.

Barbara Ann Porte
Arlington, Virginia

A Little Help from My Friends

When I read articles such as Barbara Stripling's "Advocating for School Librarians" (*AL*, Jan./Feb., p. 6), I am reminded of the supermoms when my children were young. These were the moms who worked; made fresh healthy breakfasts, lunches, and dinners; designed costumes for school plays; brought cupcakes to class; attended all parent-teacher conferences; and supported all athletic and artistic endeavors.

We always felt so guilty when we heard of these terrific people, because most of us were muddling through our days doing the best we could. Of course, sometimes in the fine print, there was the indication that there was a nanny, housekeeper, stay-at-home spouse, grandmother, etc., in the background.

I am the sole librarian in my high school (560 students, 65 staff), with help four hours a week. Volunteers, student aides? I have gone that route with little success. I know I am not alone.

Yes, we want to do it all, but to whose benefit? Certainly not the students and teachers, when we have spread ourselves so thin.

If libraries make obtaining information sufficiently onerous, many patrons will turn to the internet.

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

Where are the calls for support staff? I see very few articles advocating for additional support in the library.

Administrators look at these articles and think that we librarians should be the tech integrator specialists in addition to everything else we do.

I have also been told I need to become a Google-certified teacher so I can be the go-to person for the staff. Why should the administration hire tech integrators when our own colleagues are touting our wonderful expertise in these areas?

We advocate for teacher-librarians in every library, but where is our advocacy for having aides, clerks, and paraprofessionals support and help us with collection, selection, purchasing, cataloging, processing, weeding, and budgets? Not to mention helping with finding that perfect book or other resource for a student, cat-herding (our students have free periods and love the library—I am gratified by that), and classroom collaboration with teachers teaching information literacy, 21st-century skills (I hate that term), and technology integration ad nauseam?

Please advocate for more support in libraries and schools so we can be those uber-librarians we all aspire to be. Make sure the articles you write have this in bold, not fine, print that emphasizes that we can do all this only with our own nanny, housekeeper, grandmother, etc.

Lauren Cassatt
Aspen, Colorado

Democratic Workplaces

I liked Joe Janes's latest column, "Leading from All Sides," (AL, Mar./Apr., p. 18), especially when he elaborates on leading from the middle; perhaps others will now better understand the concept. It appears to be a mystery for some.

I've been working on the idea for several years, expanding it into freedom at work and the notion of democratic workplaces, including libraries.

We advocate for teacher-librarians in every library, but where is our advocacy for the aides, clerks, and paraprofessionals who support and help us?

It is highly relevant that Janes links leadership and followership to ALA's Emerging Leaders. In my experience, our best young librarians want to participate in decision making and in taking

action—they, like many of us, do not want to be micromanaged.

I would bet that these Emerging Leaders are independent thinkers and action-oriented. They need supportive work environments that give them freedom to grow and improve, to thrive. The more freed up the workplace, the better.

John Lubans Jr.
Durham, North Carolina

Reading Wildly

I love Abby Johnson's idea in "Reading Wildly" (AL, Mar./Apr., p. 58); we did something similar by picking "genres" (slips of paper) from a bowl at the end of every monthly meeting to see what we'd read next.

I used Novelist Plus for RA articles and info to help describe, define, and discuss the monthly assignment. The Novelist RA training and toolbox is an excellent resource. We wrote annotations/summaries of the book we read and shared them with the group. The RA articles helped us define the genre of the month, and during our discussions we discovered the common elements or themes that were mentioned in the articles.

When we each read a different book, we expanded our knowledge base and ability to help our clientele without actually reading each book. Our IT guy was a little reluctant to read

a romance novel, but he enjoyed it and, because of our discussions, was able to knowledgeably help someone find romance books.

We even read the same book one time by exploring our BookTalk Kits, which had multiple copies and included discussion questions. We all enjoyed it, explored our collections, and found new ways to help our clientele. Overall it was a wonderful way to learn, to step out of our reading (ruts) preferences, and expand our customer capabilities.

Unfortunately we've sustained huge budget, staff, and hours cuts, so we cannot continue doing this important and fun training until better days.

Leslie Smail
Langley, Virginia



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Sari Feldman Wins 2015–2016 ALA Presidency



Sari Feldman

Sari Feldman, executive director of the Cuyahoga County (Ohio) Public Library, has been elected president of the American Library Association (ALA) for the 2015–2016 term. She defeated Maggie Farrell, dean of libraries at the University of Wyoming, Laramie.

“I am deeply honored to be given the opportunity to serve libraries and library professionals as president of the American Library Association,” Feldman said upon learning of the election outcome. “I look forward to continuing the leadership commitment of current President Barbara Stripling and President-Elect Courtney Young to support advocacy for all libraries by strengthening our ability to speak with a unified voice.

“Throughout my campaign I challenged our Association to engage, innovate, and inspire, and I sincerely appreciate the support for that call to action.”

Feldman received 5,184 votes out of a total of 9,935 votes cast for president, while Farrell received 4,185. Feldman will serve one year as vice president/president-elect starting at the close of the 2014 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Las Vegas before assuming the presidency at the close of the 2015 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in San Francisco.

Feldman received an MA in library science from the University of Wisconsin–Madison and a BA in English from Binghamton University. An ALA member since 1990, Feldman’s activities include serving as president of the Public Library Association (PLA) (2009–2010), chair of the ALA Office for Literacy’s and Outreach Services Advisory Committee (2000–2003), and co-chair of the ALA Digital Content and Libraries Working Group (2011–present). She previously chaired the Urban Libraries Council’s Urban Youth Strategy Group (2005–2006) and served on the PLA Every Child Ready to Read Task Force (2007–2008) and PLA Task Force on Pre-School Literacy (2001–2005).

Feldman currently serves as board president of Cuyahoga Arts and Culture, one of the largest local public funders of arts and culture in the nation. She is also a founding member and current trustee on the board of OneCommunity, a nonprofit organization dedicated to expanding high-speed broadband access to drive innovation and economic growth across northeast Ohio.

Councilors Elected

Thirty-three ALA members have been elected as councilors-at-large on the Council of ALA for three-year terms. The terms begin at the conclusion of the 2014 Annual Conference and extend through the end of the 2017 Annual Conference. For complete election results, including those for divisions and round tables, visit ala.org/aboutala/governance/alaelection.



ALA Calls on FCC to Boost Broadband

In response to the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) March Public Notice, which stated that the commission can free up an additional \$2 billion over the next two years to help support broadband networks in schools and libraries, ALA has called on the FCC to deploy this newly identified e-rate program funding to boost library broadband access and alleviate budget shortfalls for internal connections.

"ALA welcomes this new \$2 billion investment to support broadband networks in our nation's libraries and schools so we may meet growing community demand for services, ranging from interactive online learning to videoconferencing to downloading and streaming increasingly digital col-

lections," said ALA President Barbara Stripling. "This infusion can provide two-for-one benefits by advancing library broadband immediately to and within our buildings and continuing to improve the e-rate program in the near future."

ALA seeks to leverage existing high-speed, scalable networks to increase library broadband speeds, improve area networks, and further explore cost efficiencies that could be enabled through new consortium approaches. The ALA proposal combines elements of the options provided in the Public Notice to support certainty, fairness, keenly targeted eligible services, and simplicity in application requirements and processes. ALA proposes: supporting school-library wide-area network

partnerships to better leverage local e-rate investments and supporting community use of high-capacity connections during nonschool hours; providing short-term funding focused on deployment where libraries are in close proximity to providers that can ensure scalable broadband at affordable construction charges and recurring costs over time; and advancing cost-efficient library network development with new diagnostic and technical support at the state level.

ALA also favors using the funding to support internal connections, particularly for applicants that have not received these funds in recent years.

Read ALA's proposal to the FCC at bit.ly/1npkWeW.

ALA Summit Looked at Libraries in the Future

ALA hosted the invitational summit "Libraries from Now On: Imagining the Future" May 2–3 at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. The summit brought together leaders from the library community, educational organizations, federal agencies, and foundations to begin a national conversation about the future of libraries.

Four speakers challenged participants to imagine a library of the future: Stephen Dubner, an American journalist and author of *Freakonomics*; Joel Garreau, Lincoln professor of law, culture, and values at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University; Renu Khator, chancellor and president of the University of Houston; and Thomas Frey, executive director of the DaVinci Institute and author of *Communicating with the Future*.

The summit served as a kickoff to the Center for the Future of Libraries, which will open in summer 2014. It is supported by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and contributions from the Library of Congress. For more information and to view a summit agenda and participant list, join connect.ala.org/node/219621.

PLA Receives IMLS Program Grant

The Public Library Association (PLA), in partnership with the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), was awarded the 2014 Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for the PLA Leadership Academy: Navigating Change, Building Community: Outward-Focused Public Library Leadership training project.

The academy, which was introduced in March 2013 with IMLS support, teaches public librarians how to build successful relationships with local government and other community agencies. The three-year grant of \$213,682 will enable PLA to refine and implement the academy, conduct research to measure its impact, and convene a meeting of leadership training providers to share evaluation results and trade best practices.

For more information on the PLA Leadership Academy, visit ala.org/pla/education/leadershipacademy.

ALA President Praises EBLIDA Campaign

On April 23, the European Bureau of Library, Information, and Documentation Associations (EBLIDA) launched the "Right to E-Read" campaign, an initiative that enables libraries to advocate for library

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ebooks. ALA President Barbara Stripling congratulated EBLIDA for developing the advocacy campaign.

“Many libraries in Europe have faced challenges in obtaining and lending bestselling ebooks from major book publishers,” Stripling said. “Surveys suggest that more than 50% of the latest ebook titles are not available to public libraries in Europe. We applaud EBLIDA for demanding that the European Commission change copyright law to require publishers to sell to libraries.

“The ebook problem is all too familiar to ALA and US libraries, so we empathize with our European colleagues. While we’ve made great progress in the US, there is still much work to be done. Like EBLIDA, we call for better licensing terms and reasonable prices as our work continues. Currently, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions is working with all of the major library associations on an e-lending position paper that includes an update on the current ebook status in various countries. We continue to work on ways to develop reasonable and fair ebook pricing models.”

ALCTS Offers Annual Preconference

The Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) will present a three-day virtual preconference June 10–12 on how libraries developed and expanded scholarly communication programs on campus and identified content recruitment opportunities for library-supported publishing and institutional repositories.

The sessions will examine how Oregon State University Libraries integrated its institutional repository into faculty research and scholarship activities; how it has

used SHERPA/RoMEO to successfully engage with faculty; and how University of South Florida Tampa Library turned a simple online journal into a publishing repository for books, textbooks, conferences, datasets, and open-access journals.

Registration includes access to the live virtual presentation, as well as unlimited access to the webcast. To register, visit bit.ly/1eLzsuw.

Register for YALSA's YA Lit Symposium

The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) has opened registration for its fourth Young Adult Literature Symposium, to be held November 14–16 at the Hyatt Regency Austin in Austin, Texas.

This year’s theme is “Keeping It Real: Finding the True Teen Experience in YA Literature.” Highlights include a welcome reception sponsored by HarperCollins, educational sessions, coffee breaks, a reception featuring more than 45 young adult authors, and a general closing session with lunch.

Register, read program descriptions, download the preliminary program, apply for a travel stipend, and see the full list of rates at ala.org/yalitsymposium.

Veteran Lobbyist Returns to ALA

Adam Eisgrau, a veteran intellectual property and privacy policy lobbyist, has returned to ALA to join the Association’s copyright and cybersecurity advocacy efforts. He will use his background on copyright and privacy issues to increase ALA’s presence in Washington, D.C., and educate lawmakers on issues libraries face in championing the information rights and needs of the public. He will also assist in implementing policy initiatives that engage decision makers and establish policy priorities.

THE SPEAKER CONTROVERSY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

During Eisgrau's tenure as ALA's first full-time intellectual property lobbyist from 1995 to 1999, he was active in debate over legislation to update copyright law for the digital age and a seminal 1996 United Nations copyright treaty. He also was instrumental in organizing and representing the Digital Future Coalition. "It's a privilege and a pleasure to be representing the ALA again on two such critical issues at such a pivotal time," says Eisgrau.

Read more about his work in Washington, D.C. at bit.ly/livdhWU.

Coretta Scott King Book Grants Awarded

Abode Services in Fremont, California, Hope House in Washington, D.C., and Tubman in Minneapolis will receive the 2014 Coretta Scott King Book Donation Grants.

Awarded by the Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee of ALA's Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table, the grant donates books submitted for consideration for the Coretta Scott King Book Awards. The libraries are selected based on need and the potential benefit from receiving the books.

Winners receive more than 100 titles submitted to the 2014 Coretta Scott King Book Awards, including a full set of the year's winner and honor titles.

The Coretta Scott King Book Awards are presented annually to encourage the artistic expression of the African-American experience through literature and the graphic arts. To learn more, visit ala.org/csk.

Learn Video Skills at LRT Preconference

The Learning Round Table is presenting an Annual preconference session on creating effective video learning content.

Controversy consumed the 1977 ALA Annual Conference in Detroit over *The Speaker*, a narrative film commissioned by ALA and produced by the Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC). The film's story: A student current events committee and a teacher in a small-town high school invite a speaker who theorizes that blacks are genetically inferior to whites. The takeaway: Librarians should be prepared to defend even the most offensive speech in order to uphold the freedom to read and the First Amendment.

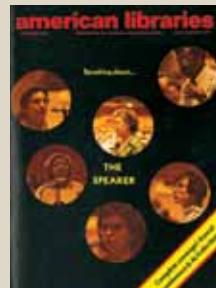
The film was shown, followed by a 45-minute discussion. Reactions were mixed and the debate was bitter. Council member E. J. Josey warned of alienating black ALA members "if you continue to support that goddamned film." On the other hand, IFC member Ella Yates said, "I can personally accept its release with ALA's imprimatur affixed with greater pride than I could have accepted a replay of our professional performance in discussion on Sunday evening."

The Speaker has fractured friendships and professional relationships since that day in Detroit. I was a student at Columbia University's School of Library Service at the time, and my professors advocated on both sides of the issue. The controversy even made the front cover of *American Libraries* ("The Speaker: Step or Misstep into Filmmaking?" *AL*, July/Aug. 1977). Recently, I was warned by members who attended that meeting not to bring up the controversy ever again. But some participants and a new generation of librarians want to revisit the film, and they have agreed to discuss it at the 2014 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Las Vegas.

The Black Caucus of the ALA, the Library History Round Table, the Association of American Publishers, and the IFC are sponsoring the panel discussion "*The Speaker: A Retrospective*" on Monday, June 30. Robert Wedgeworth, ALA executive director from 1972 to 1985; Beverly Lynch, professor at the UCLA Graduate School of Education and Information Studies; and Mark McCallon, associate dean of library services at Abilene Christian University, will examine the film, its impact, and the controversy. Julius Jefferson Jr., from the Library of Congress's Congressional Research Service, will moderate the discussion.

The Speaker will be screened twice before the panel as a part of the Now Showing @ ALA film series at Annual. Watch the film, then join the discussion. Visit ala14.ala.org/node/14032 for screening times. Read *American Libraries*' 1977 story on *The Speaker* at bit.ly/1kncCbx.

BARBARA M. JONES is director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom.



The July/Aug. 1977 cover story of AL featured *The Speaker*.

Facilitated by Royce Kitts, coordinator at the Carnegie Education Library at Washburn University, the hands-on session will detail the entire video creation process, from project design and objectives to shooting, recording, and editing. Best practices, learning-object development skills, and effective

methods to promote newly created learning objects will be covered in the course as well.

Participants must bring a video recording device and a laptop with either Windows Movie Maker or iMovie installed. They will also need to be able to transfer video from the device to the computer.

CALENDAR

ALA EVENTS

June 26–July 1: ALA

Annual Conference and Exhibition, Las Vegas, ala14.ala.org.

Sept.: Library Card Sign-Up

Month, ala.org/librarycardsignup.

Sept. 21–27: Banned Books

Week, ala.org/bbooks.

Sept. 24: Banned Websites

Awareness Day, ala.org/aasl/bwad.

Oct. 12–18: Teen Read Week,

ala.org/teenread.

Oct. 19–25: National Friends

of Libraries Week, ala.org/united/events_conferences/folweek.

Nov.: Picture Book Month,

picturebookmonth.com.

Nov. 15: International Games

Day, igd.ala.org.

2015

Jan. 30–Feb. 3: ALA

Midwinter Meeting and Exhibits, Chicago.

Feb. 4: Digital Learning Day,

digitallearningday.org.

Mar. 8–14: Teen Tech Week,

teentechweek.ning.com.

June 25–30: ALA Annual

Conference and Exhibition, San Francisco.

More information is available at bit.ly/1hQQfjX.

Library Preservation Preconference Offered

The Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) will be offering a virtual preconference June 16–18, presented by instructors from the popular “Fundamentals of Preservation” web course.

“Library Preservation Today!” introduces the fundamentals of managing preservation efforts in libraries, archives, and historical societies. Participants will learn the value of preservation as a library function and how it reflects and supports the institutional mission; appreciate the primary role of preventive care, including good storage conditions, in extending the useful life of collections; and understand some of the challenges in preserving digital content and what the im-

plications are for the future of scholarship.

A one-time registration fee includes access to the live virtual presentation, as well as unlimited access to the webcast. To register, visit bit.ly/1iGFSSG.

Colorado High School Wins AASL Award

Eaglecrest High School in Centennial, Colorado, is the recipient of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) 2014 National School Library Program of the Year (NSLPY) Award. Sponsored by the Follett Corporation, the award recognizes a school library that meets the needs of the changing school and library environment and is fully integrated into the curriculum.

“The Eaglecrest High School library program is exemplary,” said Sabrina Carnesi, NSLPY chair. “The entire building is in agreement on the research process. Teachers

ALA STAFF TRAINS IN THE HARWOOD APPROACH

On April 7 and 8, ALA staff participated in Intentionality Forums as a part of ALA’s Libraries Transforming Communities initiative. Led by the Harwood Institute, these forums trained staff on tools fundamental to the Harwood “turning outward” approach to facilitate a deeper understanding of the ALA community’s aspirations and to improve member services. After the training, participants explored uses for the Harwood approach and created strategies for applying it to member relationships and everyday ALA business.



Jan Elliott from the Harwood Institute introduces ALA staff to the Harwood “turning outward” approach.

work with librarians on locating resources and the school librarians pull a variety of books at different reading levels and interests to meet a variety of learners. Both school librarians and teachers instruct students on the use of tech tools. This approach has resulted in double the amount of checked-out books and students who are engaged and motivated to learn.”

The winner receives an obelisk, the symbol of school library excellence, and \$10,000 to invest in its school library program. To learn more about the NSLPY award and Eaglecrest High School’s program, visit bit.ly/lhe7rx3.

TechSource Workshop Gets into Gadgets

A new ALA TechSource workshop delves into how personal electronics affect librarians.

In “Gadgets in the Library: A Practical Guide to Personal Electronics for Librarians,” host Jason Griffey, associate professor and chief technology strategist at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, will explore the ubiquitous nature of personal electronic devices and will provide the foundation for bringing a library into the future using these gadgets.

This workshop consists of two sessions: one on Wednesday, July 23, and one on Thursday, July 24. Register at www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=3289.

Figueroa to Head New ALA Center

Miguel A. Figueroa, former director of the ALA Office for Diversity and Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, has been named director of the new ALA Center for the Future of Libraries.

As the first director of the new center, Figueroa will be responsible

for identifying and disseminating information on long-term societal, technological, educational, and demographic trends that may affect libraries and their future. He will also promote and support the incorporation of “futures thinking” into library policy and planning in libraries of all types.

From 2009 to 2012, Figueroa served as director of the Office for Diversity and Spectrum Scholarship Program and the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services at ALA. He oversaw the Spectrum Scholarship program; helped launch the \$1 million Spectrum Scholarship fundraising campaign; and secured over \$1.5 million in grants from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Institute of Museum and Library Services.

For more on Figueroa and the ALA Center for the Future of Libraries, visit bit.ly/R0Y8H7.

Three School Libraries Win Video Contest

Three schools have been awarded the “Lives Change @ Your Library” Student Video Contest sponsored by AASL, ProQuest, Abrams, and SchoolTube.

Contestants were urged to use humor, drama, music, and special effects to illustrate how a school library program can change a student’s life. Winners will receive a full set of *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* books by School Library Month spokesperson Jeff Kinney, provided by Abrams; and a one-year subscription to CultureGrams, an online database from ProQuest. The winning videos will be featured on AASL, ProQuest, and SchoolTube websites and social networking platforms.

The winning entries were from Dartmouth (Mass.) Middle School; Grassfield High School in Chesapeake, Virginia; and David A. Kaechele



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NATIONAL LIBRARY LEGISLATIVE DAY TURNS 40

Librarians took over Washington, D.C., on May 5 and 6 for the 40th annual National Library Legislative Day. Hundreds of library supporters, leaders, and patrons gathered in the capital for this

advocacy event. They met with members of Congress to champion national library funding, rallied in front of the US Capitol, and conducted a flash mob to Pharrell Williams's hit song "Happy."



Top: Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) accepting the 2014 Public Service Award, given by United for Libraries, from Vermont State Librarian Martha Reid in a ceremony in the Hart Senate Building. Bottom: Kentucky Library Association President Lisa Rice (far left) and Kentucky delegates meet with Rep. Brett Guthrie (R-Ky.) in his office.

Elementary School in Glen Allen, Virginia. Watch the winning videos at bit.ly/1kj1D2Q.

ASCLA Creates New Interest Group

The Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA) members have approved a petition to create the interest group Consortial E-Books. The group will provide a regular forum for consortial discussion and will meet at Annual Conferences and Exhibitions and Midwinter Meetings.

To join Consortial E-Books, complete the form at surveymonkey.com/s/con_ebooks.

Nominees for Teens' Top 10 Announced

YALSA has announced the 2014 Teens' Top 10 List nominees. The list features 25 titles that were published between January 1, 2013, and December 31, 2013, and includes *The Nightmare Affair* by Mindee Arnett; *Love in the Time of Global Warming* by Francesca Lia Block; *Openly Straight* by Bill Koneigsberg;

and *In The Shadow of Blackbirds* by Cat Winters.

The Teens' Top 10 is a "teen choice" list created by students from 16 school and public libraries around the country who nominate and then vote for their favorite books. Voting will take place online at ala.org/yalsa/reads4teens, beginning August 15 and running through Teen Read Week (October 12–18). The 10 nominees that receive the most votes will be named the official Teens' Top 10.

A list of the nominees, including annotations of each title, can be found at ala.org/yalsa/teenstopten.

NYC School Now a Literary Landmark

Yorkville Community School on East 88th Street in New York City has been designated a Literary Landmark by United for Libraries, in partnership with Empire State Center for the Book, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, and Yorkville Community School PTA.

The designation was made in honor of children's author and illustrator Bernard Waber (1921–2013). Waber made East 88th Street famous in his 1962 book *The House on East 88th Street*, which introduced Lyle the Crocodile to the world of children's literature. A bronze Literary Landmark plaque was unveiled during a dedication ceremony at Yorkville Community School on May 14. It will be mounted on the school's exterior at a later date.

More than 130 Literary Landmarks across the United States have been dedicated since the program began in 1986. Any library or group may apply for landmark status through United for Libraries. More information is available at bit.ly/1mfoEug.

ALA Editions E-Course Dissects Pop Culture

A new ALA Editions e-course, "Putting the 'Pop' in Information

Literacy,” offers tips and tools on how to incorporate pop culture into library instruction.

Over the course of five weeks, participants will build a fully defined, one-shot instructional session using a pop-culture theme. They will also learn how to assess instruction by engaging with students to discover their strengths and weaknesses.

The e-course begins July 7. Register at bit.ly/1jxXr2G.

Dust Bowl Program to Tour 25 Libraries

Twenty-five libraries will host “Dust, Drought, and Dreams Gone Dry,” a traveling exhibition presented by the ALA Public Programs Office and the National Endowment for the Humanities. The exhibition features a 300-square-foot exhibit

and a series of programs designed to foster discussion about the Dust Bowl of the 1930s.

The chosen public and academic libraries will present the exhibition and programs for six weeks each from July 2014 to February 2016. “Dust, Drought, and Dreams Gone Dry” was made possible in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities: Exploring the Human Endeavor.

View a list of participating libraries and learn more about the exhibit at ala.org/programming/dustbowl sites.

Queens Wins Library of the Future Prize

ALA has awarded the 2014 ALA/Information Today, Inc. Library of the Future Award to Queens Library in Jamaica, New York.

The award is presented annually to a library that demonstrates innovative planning and development of patron training programs dealing with information technology in a library setting.

The library is being honored for its “Enriching the Lives of a Challenged Community by Lending Tablets” project, which involved creating a customized interface for 5,000 tablets donated by Google after Hurricane Sandy in 2012. The interface allowed the tablets to be used with or without Wi-Fi access; made the tablets accessible for beginners; and provided library-curated content on topics of interest to the community.

The Library of the Future Award will be presented to Queens Library at the ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Las Vegas. ■

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- 2004:** Version 1 of the Early Literacy Station™ (ELS) is released; features 17 titles
- 2006:** Platforms change as AWE keeps current with technology
- 2008:** First all-in-one platform
- 2009:** First all-in-one touchscreen platform
- 2010:** Netbooks introduced; followed shortly by AfterSchool Edge™
- 2011:** New interface graphics are added
- 2012:** The ELS is now found in over 30% of public library systems
- 2012:** Over 100 million hours of learning are logged on the ELS
- 2013:** Version 11 of the ELS now features multi-touch content and over 65 titles
- 2013:** The tablet version of the ELS is introduced
- 2014:** The award is presented annually to a library that demonstrates innovative planning and development of patron training programs dealing with information technology in a library setting.

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Custom Library Book Bikes Roll Out Across US

In Cleveland Heights, Ohio, where winter temperatures reached a record low of -11°F the first week of January 2014, many bicyclists would have likely opted to drive. But for one librarian and avid bike rider, the weather was no obstacle for his commitment to his library's book bike program.

"We were lucky with the weather, really," Eric Litschel, adult services associate at Cleveland Heights–University Heights Public Library (CHUHPL), tells *American Libraries*. "The worst day I rode was probably a little over 10 degrees."

Sam Lapides, special projects coordinator at CHUHPL, says the library's Book Bike program, initiated in spring 2013, was supposed to run for only spring, summer, and fall. But the zeal of participants like Litschel made it a successful yearlong program.

Beginning as a pilot in which volunteers and staff rode a custom-made Haley cargo tricycle loaded with books to give away at local events and facilities, Book Bike is evolving into an extension of the checkout desk. Riders now carry circulating materials to nearby John Carroll University, where people can check out CHUHPL materials using software it shares with the university library. Book Bike riders also carry a tablet with which they can showcase library services and materials, but plans are in motion to turn the tablet into a full-fledged circulation device with OverDrive.

CHUHPL's Book Bike program is modeled after a similar one started by Pima County (Ariz.) Public Library (PCPL) in 2012. Also supplied with a custom Haley tricycle, PCPL's Book-bike program is devoted to simply giving books away.

"We just kind of jumped into it," says Karen Greene, adult services librarian and Bookbike coordinator at PCPL, who says the library did not have a trial run or pilot program before launching. Simplicity has meant great success. With donations arriving from individuals and a local bookstore, Bookbike gave away more than 12,000 books in 2013. "One of my dreams is world domination by Bookbike," Greene jokes.

The genesis for librarian Zac Laugheed's book bike program at Denver Public Library (DPL) came while he



Denver Public Library's DPL Connect program brings patrons pedal-powered library services.

was in library school. "Zac made a quip to a professor who was researching mobile library services, and said, 'When I come to your class, I'm a bookmobile on a bike,'" Chris Henning, marketing and public relations manager at DPL, tells *AL*, referring to the heavy reading load. "The class laughed and moved on, but he kept thinking about the idea."

In 2013, that idea developed into DPL Connect, a bike-powered service that circulates books; provides a wireless hotspot; and assists with research, ebook downloads, and library card sign-ups. For now, the entire program is run by Laugheed.

At Seattle Public Library (SPL), staff riders of Books on Bikes—also started in 2013—travel to city events and facilities using a specially made trailer hitched to their personal bikes, with which riders can provide all services except accepting returns and overdue fines. The trailer carries 75 items at a time from the program's collection of 400 titles; provides a mobile Wi-Fi hotspot to both patrons and the tablet-carrying rider; and is

not mistaken for an ice cream freezer—an issue cited by both CHUHPL and PCPL.

"Seattle has a very strong and rich bike culture, and I wanted to find a way to tap into that while thinking about a way to make library services more nimble," says Jared Mills, Montlake branch librarian and creator of the Books on Bikes program.

"It's like [riding] a wild animal; you need to get to know its tendencies."

—Eric Litschel, adult services associate at CHUHPL

Funding

Funding sources for these projects vary. CHUHPL and PCPL sought outside sources for their custom tricycles, each costing just under \$2,000, with CHUHPL receiving a donation from its Friends group and PCPL receiving a grant from the Arizona state library system. Both programs operate with help from librarians and volunteers.

SPL subsidized its program through an internal innovation fund, covering the \$3,500 book collection, the \$1,000 trailer, and its \$200 promotional banner mounted on the trailer's roof. The program is staffed by 11 librarians and bicycling paraprofessionals.

DPL took a similar route, funding its program with an internal Risky Business challenge—a way to encourage staff to develop innovative ideas. Pedal Positive, a small Colorado-based custom bicycle company, created a prototype tricycle that Laugheed helped design.

How to get started

Lapides of CHUHPL advises librarians interested in starting similar programs to first consider a community's physical space. Are roads bike friendly—especially if your cyclists will be burdened with a heavy stash of books? He suggests contacting local cycling clubs or ad-

vocacy groups to find volunteers. CHUHPL's Book Bike program owes its ability to venture out into the community—often four times a month—to a core group of volunteer riders from the local Heights Bicycle Coalition.

But even if a program has riders, figuring what the program can do may remain a challenge. Laugheed lauded the benefits of lending circulating materials wherever he goes. Achieving this required DPL's tech team to set his laptop up with a remote connection to the library's Polaris database.

Another consideration is training, especially in the case of custom-made tricycles. CHUHPL staffers went so far as to create an obstacle course in the library's empty parking lot to give volunteers a feel for the unusual bike.

"The real gauntlet is just riding around the city," Litschel says. "It's almost like a wild animal; you need to get to know its tendencies."

PCPL's Greene provides this piece of advice: "Do it. It's totally fun, people love it, you will interact with people who have not been in the library for years and get them interested in the library again. It's great publicity, because everyone falls in love with it."

—Chris Francis, editorial intern
at American Libraries.

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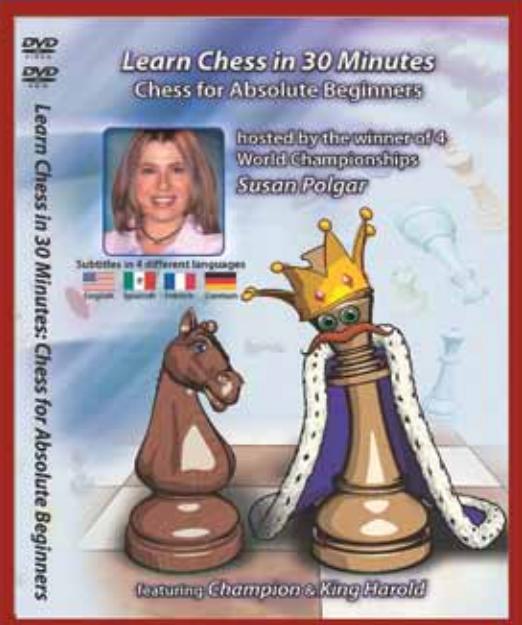
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Libraries Stream toward Roku Lending

It's been two years since the Ephrata (Pa.) Public Library began lending Roku devices—digital video players that people plug into their televisions so they can view on a larger screen digitized programming that is archived online, such as the content of PBS.org, and on other streaming platforms like Netflix. The lending program has proved wildly popular, Technical Services Manager Laura Brandt tells *American Libraries*, even as DVD circulation continues to mushroom. “It’s really been positive,” Brandt says, noting that on any given week, all four of the library’s Rokus are on loan. Patrons must have broadband internet access at home to receive the programming on their televisions.

The service came out of a brainstorming conversation between Brandt and Ephrata Director Penny Talbert. Brandt says, “We were talking about how we love our Rokus, and it just came up. ‘Why aren’t we circulating these?’” Roku partners with more than 1,000 providers, many of whom provide free, ad-supported programming on its app-based channels. Subscription platforms such as Amazon Prime also stream through Roku.

Since Ephrata led the way, at least five other libraries have followed suit, in Kent, New York; Bitterroot, Montana; Hingham, Massachusetts; Liverpool, New York; Darien, Illinois; and Sandusky, Ohio. Some, such as Bitterroot, Indian Prairie, and Sandusky, offer only free online channels, which limits the libraries’ costs per unit to about \$75 (includes

the purchase of the Roku TV box, the remote, a coaxial cable, an HDMI cable, and a carrying case). Ephrata opted to add a separate Netflix subscription to each device as well, keeping meticulous records of individual device accounts, emails, and passwords—a practice that Brandt strongly recommends in order to disable overdue Rokus. Brandt says the library is in compliance with Netflix’s terms of service since it is promoting Roku checkout. “It’s not like we’re advertising ‘Check out a Netflix subscription.’”

Customized fare

A grant from the local Randolph J. and Estelle M. Dom Foundation enabled Sandusky Library to buy 12 Rokus this year. They have proved so popular that the library plans to buy another 12. “The Roku is giving us an opportunity to not only expose our patrons to new and emerging technologies but also to help supplement our physical collection by giving them access and a discovery tool to content that they may not have found on their own,” says Samantha Chada, director of communications and technology at Sandusky.

Chada tells *AL* patrons will soon have unique content to enjoy: The Sandusky Library channel is under development. “Maybe we can team up with the local hospital,” Chada says, to tune the waiting-room TV to the library channel. The library is also weighing how to lend hotspots—essentially, internet access—to patrons who lack broadband at home.



Indian Prairie Public Library in Darien, Illinois, uses its six Rokus in an entirely different manner, restricting its offerings to select DVD titles that the library already owns. Ann Stovall, technology and technical services department head, says that she got the idea while cataloging DVDs and noticing that some movies had a cloud-based, or “ultraviolet” license code redeemable for a digitized copy. Double-checking the capacity of Roku’s channels, she found that subscription-based Vudu stored DVD owners’ ultraviolet movie files on its server at no charge.

The technical services department now keeps an eye out for redeemable ultraviolet codes to increase the library’s 78-title cloud-based collection for Roku borrowers.

However a library goes about offering content through Roku, the program seems destined to grow; Chada, for one, is awaiting the rollout of OverDrive’s and hoopla’s announced Roku channels for distribution of the streaming e-content they offer subscribing libraries. (Indieflix is already available to library clients, thanks to its partnership with Recorded Books.) “Some might say we’re putting the cart before the horse,” Chada says. “I’m saying we’re just being prepared for an easy transition because that’s the way things are going.”

—Beverly Goldberg

Libraries Turn to TEDx

A growing number of libraries across the country are hosting TEDx talks, a local version of the popular speaking events dedicated to “ideas worth spreading.”

Many librarians are seeing these events—which involve screening recorded TED talks alone or combined with live presentations by local speakers—as a way to engage their communities through quality programming, all while using an established brand packaged with built-in support.

American Library Association President Barbara Stripling has endorsed the trend, promoting TEDx talks at libraries as one of her presidential initiatives. She sees the events as a natural fit for libraries, a way to

move beyond building collections to fostering connections between individuals.

“It’s not a passive programming thing,” she says. “It is a way for libraries to reach out, to turn outward to empower their communities, and, to me, that’s the direction libraries are going.”

TEDx talks grew out of TED conferences (an acronym for technology, education, and design). At a TED conference, luminaries like Elizabeth Gilbert, Al

Gore, and Lawrence Lessig present short talks on innovative ideas before a live audience. Presentations are later posted online. But where attendees must apply to go to a TED conference, TEDx talks (the “x” stands for “experience”) can be organized in any locale by an individual, school, or library.

The videos and talks are an opportunity for people to encounter alternative perspectives they may not seek out on their own, Stripling says, especially given that many go online to associate with like-minded individuals. Libraries can—and should—highlight multiple perspectives, she says: “It enables us to fulfill our social responsibility role.”

Teri Skillman, outreach coordinator for the library at University of Hawaii at Manoa, found that organizing two TEDx events built stronger ties with the island’s native population. A fan of TED talks, she realized there were none available in the Hawaiian language. In 2011, she approached sisters Maile and Meleanna Meyer, a bookstore

owner and documentary filmmaker, respectively, who were well connected in the native community, to see if they were interested in creating one. They were.

With input from others, the final theme focused on the application of native ingenuity and wisdom for the 21st century. Skillman applied for a TEDx license and helped raise money through grants—from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Kamehameha Schools—as well as donations to hire a local, bilingual television camera crew to record the event.

Skillman addressed the issue of cost when she spoke on a panel at the 2014 ALA Midwinter Meeting. Though her library, Thomas Hale Hamilton Library, needed a professional film crew from the native Hawaiian community, other libraries could opt for a student camera crew from a high school or college within the community.

“When I said [the event] cost us about \$10,000, everyone gasped,” Skillman says. “But it can be done more cheaply.”

Robert Barr, director of Juneau (Alaska) Public Libraries, holds about one TEDx event per month. He doesn’t use local speakers; instead he picks a theme and screens three TED videos related to the theme, followed by a discussion. Previous themes included magic, success, creativity, and storytelling.

The goal is to spark conversation, Barr says. A memorable one occurred during a discussion of education that was attended by a number of teachers and union representatives. The TED speaker presented research showing that higher teacher pay improves student performance more than smaller class sizes, an idea that conflicted with many audience members’ views.

Librarians considering a TEDx event at their own facility should first read through the extensive guidelines on the nonprofit’s website and then apply for a license, Stripling suggests. After receiving it, it’s important to give speakers the opportunity to practice and to hold a technical rehearsal to avoid day-of-recording glitches. Staff at TED’s New York headquarters can offer advice and support to ensure the event runs smoothly.

But for low-key events that do not involve local speakers, less preparation may be needed. Barr says he watches maybe 15 TED talks to find three to use that fit his theme for the month. “But if you enjoy that kind of thing,” he says, “it doesn’t even feel like work.”

—Claire Bushey,
freelance journalist living in London

“A TEDx talk is not a passive programming thing. It is a way for libraries to reach out [and] empower their communities.”

—Barbara Stripling,
ALA president

ReadersFirst Eases the Ebook Experience

After more than a year of development and research, the *ReadersFirst Guide to Library Ebook Vendors*, which compiles information on ebook vendors and their products and then rates them on ease of use and efficiency, is available to the public. And it's working.

The guide is the brainchild of the ReadersFirst Working Group, which organized in 2012 at BookExpo America in New York City to address public librarians' concerns about ebook systems. They represent 292 library systems and almost 200 million readers. After months of research and discussion, the group discovered that ebook and e-content delivery is fragmented: Features and administration functions vary from product to product; compatibility and integration problems are common; systems that may work for patrons may not be the best fit for staff.

"We very much wanted to improve the experience," says Michael Santangelo, electronic resources coordinator for BookOps Library Services Center, the shared technical services of the Brooklyn and New York Public Libraries, and ReadersFirst member. To do that, the group determined how it wanted ebook platforms to work. "We started looking at basic requirements. We

wanted something with fewer steps to check out, that would work on mobile devices. We took these things that we heard from librarians and patrons and brought it to vendors," he says.

That meeting occurred at the 2013 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle, where the group presented its findings and called upon vendors to enhance the ebook reading experience. The group proposed that readers have the ability to search one comprehensive catalog to access all of a library's holdings; place holds, check out and renew items, view availability, manage fines, and receive communications within a single source (website, catalog, or other means) as determined by the library; access a variety of e-content; and download

books compatible with all reading devices. To help meet these requirements and make the ebook experience seamless for readers and librarians alike, a comprehensive guide detailing vendors and their products was necessary.

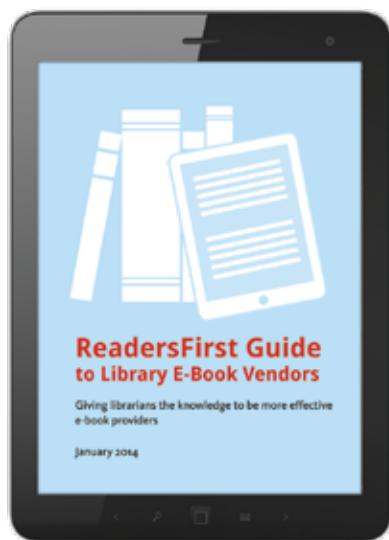
Vendors present at the meeting were open to working with the group. This led to the creation of forms that evaluated the vendors on 37 categories related to general terms and conditions of products,

item metadata, circulation transactions, patron account information, patron notifications, e-content formats, and administrative reporting and support. Group members worked with the vendors for more than a year as they evaluated their own systems. The findings make up the bulk of the *ReadersFirst Guide* and provide a wide view of the systems' pros and cons.

Santangelo says the group has received positive feedback from librarians looking to purchase or upgrade systems, as well as from vendors who are using what they've learned from the collaboration to upgrade their products. Santangelo is quick to note that the *ReadersFirst Guide* isn't a buyer's guide. "We don't talk about pricing," he says. "We're not telling anyone what they should or shouldn't buy—we're just sharing common concerns, wants, and needs based on librarian requests. And we're sharing our ideas about options for systems."

The guide isn't definitive either, Santangelo says. Vendor evaluations are ongoing, evolving as the market, systems, and user needs change. This is of prime importance to the group, he says. "What's great is that there has been dialogue. We came together as librarians and presented a vision of our own, and it worked. It's made us proud."

The group worked with vendors for more than a year to evaluate the systems. The findings make up the bulk of the *ReadersFirst Guide*.



—Phil Morehart



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- Tom West, Adult Coordinator, at Brazoria County Library System

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GLOBAL REACH



CANADA 1

Guy Berthiaume, president of the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec since 2009, takes over as director of Library and Archives Canada in Ottawa on June 23, and faces a major challenge in digitizing its historic documents with a shrinking budget. Former director Daniel Caron resigned in May 2013, amid accusations of muzzling his staff and neglecting key areas of the institution's mandate.—*Postmedia News*, Apr. 18.

BRAZIL 2

At the NETMundial Global Multistakeholder Meeting on the Future of Internet Governance in São Paulo on April 23, President Dilma Rousseff announced groundbreaking legislation that guarantees freedom of expression, individual privacy, and human rights on the internet. The bill had passed the Senate only a few hours earlier, creating Brazil's first bill of online rights, known as the Marco Civil.—*Associated Press*, Apr. 23; *Reuters*, Apr. 24.

UNITED KINGDOM 3

On April 14, British Pathé released on its YouTube channel some 3,500 hours of high-resolution historic videos—one of the largest online video archives ever made available to the public. Covering both World Wars, the sinking of the *Titanic*, technological inventions, and movie stars, the 85,000 newsreels, cinemagazines, and documentaries were produced by the film company from 1910 through 1976.—*Mediakraft Networks*, Apr. 15.

VATICAN CITY 4

The Vatican Apostolic Library, founded in 1451, is hoping to digitally archive its entire collection of 82,000 manuscripts by 2018. The library announced March 20 that it will work with the Japanese NTT Data Corporation on the project. The collaboration will employ techniques to improve long-term storage.—*The Telegraph (UK)*, Mar. 20.

BOSNIA 5

The National and University Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo reopened May 9, nearly 22 years after it was destroyed

in a fire caused by Serbian shelling during the Bosnian War. The opening ceremony featured an exhibition of items saved from the 1992 blaze. The historic building, completed in 1896, was used as the city hall before it became the national library in 1949. The library will host a concert of the Vienna Philharmonic orchestra on June 28 to mark the centennial of the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo in 1914.—*Balkan Insight*, Apr. 24.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES 6

The first joint conference of the American Library Association and the Sharjah International Book Fair will take place November 11–13 at the Expo Centre in Sharjah. The two-day library conference will offer free concurrent programs on a wide range of topics for librarians from public, academic, school, government, and special libraries.—*ALA International Relations Office*, Apr. 22.

TURKMENISTAN 7

A specialized equestrian library opened April 23 in Ashgabat during a meeting of the International Association of Akhal-Teke Horse Breeding. It will house a large collection of scientific and practical materials on horses, particularly the ancient Akhal-Teke breed for which the country is known.—*AKIpress*, Apr. 24.

PAKISTAN 8

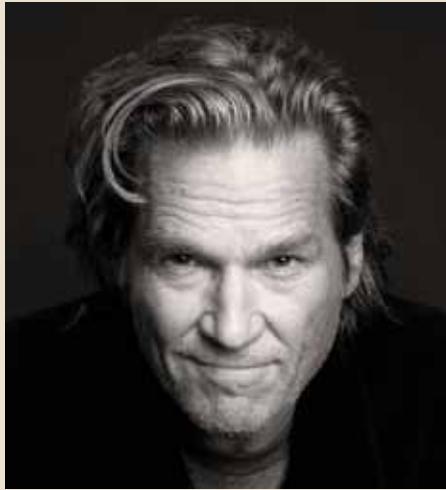
An Islamic seminary for women in Islamabad has renamed its library after Osama bin Laden, the former al-Qaeda chief. The Jamia Hafsa Madrassa is linked to the Red Mosque, known for its alleged ties to militants. Its 2,000 books are all Islamic texts. A paper sign on one of the doors proclaims Bin Laden a *shahid* (martyr). There are no chairs or tables in the library, just two computers on the floor.—*BBC News*, Apr. 18.

SOUTH KOREA 9

About 100 public libraries in Gyeonggi province are now home to at least one center dedicated to music, science, theater, architecture, or toys, in addition to book lending and reading. Most of the construction costs for the special activity areas were provided by local governments.—*Korea JoongAng Daily*, Mar. 29.

NEWSMAKER: JEFF BRIDGES

Oscar-winning actor Jeff Bridges returns to the big screen this summer in *The Giver*, an adaptation of Lois Lowry's classic dystopian young adult novel. He spoke with *American Libraries* about turning the book into a film, its themes, and the future of libraries. Bridges and Lowry will appear at Barbara Stripling's President's Program at the 2014 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Las Vegas on Sunday, June 29.



You've been working on adapting *The Giver* into a movie for almost two decades. Why do you think this book has such potential as a film?

JEFF BRIDGES: Well, I was looking for a project to do with my father, Lloyd Bridges, and I wanted to make a children's movie. So I started to look through some children's books in a catalog and I saw the picture of this old grizzled guy on the cover and thought, "My dad could play that part. And it's got the Newbery Award stamp on it, so I should check that out." I got the book, expecting to read a children's story, and it certainly was that, but so much more. I enjoyed it on an adult level and found it so poetic.

How can libraries help impart the themes in *The Giver*, such as the importance of passing information from one generation to the next? It's interesting that you ask that question. What comes to my mind is how long are we going to have libraries? Will they go the way of the record store? It's sort of the theme of *The Giver*.

Maybe it's just a part of humanity that we're so hooked on comfort and needing gratification and speed that we miss some of the finer things in life. I remember visiting Larry McMurtry's wonderful bookstore [in Archer City, Texas] and just wandering aisles with all these amazing books. I think it's wonderful to get support for libraries and encourage kids to take part in that. I hope they stick around.

What other books have affected you in the same way as *The Giver*? Oh man, I remember as a kid getting into all the Hermann Hesse books like *Siddhartha*. Loved those books. Nikos Kazantzakis's *The Last Temptation of Christ* is one of my favorites. "Man's search for meaning": I'm kind of into those types of books.

Do you have any other book-to-film adaptations in the works or that you would like to do? Yeah. I mentioned Larry McMurtry. We did *The Last Picture Show*, which is based on his book. We made *Texasville* 20 years af-

ter that, and he has three more books in that series based on those same folks. *Duane's Depressed* is one. *Rhino Ranch* is another. I'd like to see those get made. Making movies out of books is so terrific because scripts are pretty pared down, but with a book you get to read what the author intended the characters to be. Compared to a script, it's much richer.

Is it fair to compare the movie version of a work with the book? And how true to the book does a film really need to be? I don't know about fair; it's kind of inevitable. When people have read the book then see the movie, they can't help but compare. I was so pleased that Lois Lowry was on board with us. It was very important that she give us her blessing and support. I was happy to hear that, from her point of view, it wasn't so important that every fact in the book be in the movie but that the spirit of the book be there.

Dystopian young adult fiction is hot right now. Why do you think that it is resonating so much? I think its time has come. I think it is a ... what's the word I'm looking for? A cautionary tale. Like we were saying about libraries, with this addiction to comfort and getting rid of struggle and pain and what those things can give us as a society. Pain has a lot to do with compassion. When you experience your pain, it's easier for you to feel another's pain. ■

To read the full interview with Jeff Bridges, visit americanlibrariesmagazine.org.

Speaking Up

Starting a dialogue on sexism in libraries

by Lisa Rabey

In some ways, it is the subtlety of the act of harassment that allows it to be so often overlooked.

When I worked in IT, sexism and misogyny were the unspoken accepted practice. I learned to navigate that world to the best of my ability, knowing that to fight back could mean professional death. So I left. I was burned out from being dismissed, ignored, and harassed at trade shows, conferences, and meetings.

And yet, here I am in a new profession that is predominantly female, and on some levels, the sexism and misogyny is a lot worse than during the dot-com boom.

Since the beginning of my library career, I've been very public about sexual harassment and misogyny and how rampant it is in the profession. The more I and others write, promote, and talk about the library world's dirty laundry, the more our detractors come out to rebut and shame us for speaking out.

Sometimes, worse than the harassment is the pushback from peers for speaking out about our experiences.

The constant argument we hear is that these things do not exist because the detractors themselves, re-

gardless of gender, have almost never dealt with them. Other comments include: "Boys will be boys," "So-and-so didn't mean it," and "Well, if you had not worn that outfit, been at that place, this never would have happened."

A few years ago, I wrote a blog post that critiqued a column—written by a man—that appeared in a professional publication whose overarching goal was to get more women within the library world interested in technology (a good

thing!). When several other people and I attempted to engage the columnist about his article, our concerns were dismissed as isolated instances that did not reflect women in the field as a whole (a bad thing!).

Someone who does not have experience with being a woman in technology is telling us how to be a woman in technology. Got it.

Not everyone experiences harassment or microaggressions at the same level, and many are lucky to have never been harassed, sexually or otherwise. But this does not mean these things do not exist.

We need to stop turning a blind eye. We should stop shaming people for speaking out against the indifferences they see at local institutions and at national levels.



Not everyone experiences harassment. Many are lucky

to have never been harassed, sexually or otherwise. But this does not mean these things do not exist.

We have to stop using the word "diversity" as our motto if we're not willing to really work on making our profession diverse.

We need to stop claiming that libraries are progressive unless we really want to be progressive.

We should find ways to not only attract women to technology but also retain those already working in the field.

We ought to start being active by engaging the communities we support. Local libraries can do programming to attract and introduce women and other marginalized groups to technology. Academic libraries can do the same: Work with the institution's departments and get their help. In addition, form grassroots groups to create supportive networks or present training classes on ally support and safe spaces.

And start speaking up! Organize panels at local and national conferences. Bring in speakers to work on issues that are problematic. Put together a code of conduct for conventions and meetings so that all people feel safe. Write about these inclusions in publications or on your blog. Point out the problems you see and offer productive critiques and solutions.

And be vocal. Be persistent. Be brave. And most of all, get that conversation flowing. ■

LISA RABEY is a systems and digital librarian. She tweets at @pnkrcklibrarian and can be found at exitpursuedbyabear.net and lisa.rabey.net.

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Rolling the Dice

Who are we, and who are we becoming?

by Joseph Janes

As I write this, I'm preparing for my annual trip with a couple of dear friends to Las Vegas. This is more nice meal/Cirque du Soleil than bottle service/strip show; we're the dignified types—though one does get to see a great many more aspects of the human condition there than in other places, for sure. (Always great to see the clever ads for LVPL in the airport!)

As I'm getting ready, what would I be doing besides thumbing through the latest Ithaka survey of academic library directors? There's much familiar here, whether in the academic world or not: shifting and competing priorities, constrained resources, constituencies and stakeholders with varying visions and levels of support, the need for thoughtful planning and strategy toward a nonetheless uncertain set of futures. You know the drill.

One of the survey's central questions asked about priorities of a couple of dozen functions. Much here is expected: for example, high ratings across the board for physical space for students, ILL, reference instruction, etc. Some items get more support from doctoral institutions (subject specialist librarians, special collections, open access ini-

tiatives). Others are more consistent but of lower overall priority (instructional design services, teaching centers).

Two central findings jumped out at me. There was almost complete agreement from institutions of all types on their role in information literacy education for undergraduates. This was great to see, and those

kinds of services will benefit students for years to come. At the same time, though, the authors noted in the baccalaureate and master's institutions "an especially steep decline in the share of respondents invested in the research support role."

Well, I get that, I suppose. I wouldn't be surprised if there was indeed diminishing demand for that sort of thing—or perhaps flat demand in the face of lots of other things to do and fewer resources to do them. So I very much respect the position of colleagues who are perceiving that shift.

Still, when I read that, a little piece of me sank inside. I got into this profession largely based on an interest in reference and research services, and partially because I teach and help to prepare new professionals in that area. So, yes, I'll declare my partiality to these roles and functions. But I'll also declare

that I think it's a damned shame that it's perceived that demand is down for research support.

I looked through the list of functions that directors were asked about, and I see several that seem to me like things that we do uniquely, or better than anybody else would: copyright advice and guidance, preservation of materials including digital ones, and—quite a ways down the list of priorities—learning management systems and managing faculty datasets.

If not us in these roles, then who? And how? And for that matter, if not those roles for us, then who are we, and who are we becoming? While respecting the honesty and contexts of these opinions, I can also say I don't like them or their implications or what outcomes may flow from moving away from roles and functions that in no small part centrally define what our professional domain is, has been, and can be going forward toward whatever futures lie ahead. Otherwise, this feels too much like tempting fate.

Speaking of tempting fate, a note for those new to Vegas: Enjoy yourselves. Everything will take longer and cost more than you expect, and in return you get an eye-popping show almost anywhere you look. And bear in mind, these are the people you serve (or perhaps not) ... but that's another story. ■



The perception that demand is down for research support makes a little piece of me sink inside. It also makes me wonder: If not us in these roles, then who?

JOSEPH JANES is associate professor and chair of the Information School at the University of Washington.

E-Content and First Sale

A question of scarcity and control

by Joseph Sanchez

Three pressing questions about e-content face the profession: How much content will be exclusively available electronically, how quickly is that developing, and—especially for public librarians—how will it affect budgets?

Music is the best market for forecasting potential trends. We can

confidently assume that the last physical format for music, the CD, is in its twilight stage—soon to be replaced



Most consumers are unaware that they do not own digital materials.

entirely by digital formats and niche markets like LPs. Starting in the late 1990s, the music industry experienced a downward sales curve that continued until 2012, when music finally posted a modest 0.3% increase in revenue, thanks to a growth curve in digital sales. Book publishers and Hollywood both fear a similar loss in profits.

Marketing ebooks is the critical question publishers are addressing in their attempts to avoid the downturn in revenue the music industry experienced. They know that once digital content is released into the marketplace, they lose a certain amount of control over that content regardless of protective measures taken. Digital content is inherently uncontrollable because copyright law evolved in markets where the reproduction side of the equation involved work and cost. Not so with digital material.

Currently, the first-sale doctrine does not apply to e-content either, an enviable position for copyright holders. Librarians have naively believed for years that publishers were more or less willing partners, rather than recognizing that the first-sale doctrine is the foundation of our practice and services.

Publishers always have been skeptical of any evidence that print borrowers are also buyers. Without the first-sale doctrine, they are

free to shift the balance of power in their direction. Most consumers and many librarians are blissfully unaware that they do not “own” any of the digital materials they purchase. The issue is further complicated by vendors like Amazon, who tend to use the same language on their websites as they do for physical materials. The little orange button says “buy” rather than “license.” End User License Agreements (EULA), which all users of legal e-content agree to (most without knowing what they are) generally waive first-sale rights.

The Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) of 1998 was the first major attempt to reconcile copyright law with the digital world. Written in the social, economic, and legal context of peer-to-peer file sharing, DMCA focused on protecting the copyright holder’s rights rather than other questions that

could have taken precedence. The 2001 Executive Summary by the US Copyright Office on the concept of “Digital First Sale” explicitly acknowledges that digital content can be “reproduced flawlessly” with little effort, placing it far outside the boundaries envisioned by first sale.

The concern is not with technology’s ability to deal with this replication problem, as the report admits the possibility of a “forward and delete” technology that could ensure that the original file leaves the owner’s possession and is transferred to another owner, but with the ability of the digital economy to ensure scarcity and control distribution—specifically illegal distribution. ReDigi, the intrepid start-up that attempted to create just such a forward-and-delete mechanism, discovered nothing has changed since 2001 as it lost the infringement lawsuit brought against it by Capitol Records in 2012.

Libraries can draw a clear line from OverDrive’s 700% fee increase in 2010 to the Kansas State Library terminating its OverDrive contract in 2011. Libraries should not be surprised anymore, as copyright holders fight for their own existence and profits. If we add to this the lack of first-sale protection, we can begin to consider what the future may look like if the players with power, money, and influence win the battle. ■

JOSEPH SANCHEZ is director of Mesa County (Ariz.) Public Libraries. This column is adapted from his article in *eContent Quarterly* 1, no. 3, on forecasting public library e-content costs.

Through Their Eyes

Usability testing to create better user experiences

by Meredith Farkas

Whatever issues I may have had with an unnamed discovery tool as a librarian, I always believed that it was an easier tool for students to use than our OPAC. And then I met Steve (not his real name). Steve is a participant in an ethnographic study two colleagues and I are conducting to better understand the research habits and needs of returning students.

I was observing students conducting research to see how they approached it and what tools they used, but when I saw Steve use that discovery tool, it was difficult to focus on anything else. He was so overwhelmed by the number of links and buttons on an item record that he couldn't even figure out how to get to the full text of the article. His frustration made me realize how difficult all those options make it for the novice to use.

Librarians' vantage point

As an expert user, I'd never considered how distracting all those options can be because I knew where to click and could therefore easily ignore the features I didn't need. Seeing how a novice user navigated the system provided me with an insight I never could have had otherwise. Unless we observe or otherwise assess our users, we can't truly understand how they navigate our systems.

This is why usability testing is such a valuable tool in our assess-

ment arsenal. While there are many different kinds of usability testing methods, the most common typically involves subjects using a website and verbally sharing their thinking as they go through it. Often, subjects are given spe-

cific tasks to complete on the website so test givers can see if the subjects take the expected paths or can complete the task at all.

You don't need a fancy usability lab or sophisticated technologies to conduct a usability test. All you really need is a computer and the ability to take notes. If you want to record the session, you'll need a microphone and a free tool like Screencast-O-Matic, CamStudio, or Google Hangouts. If you want to broadcast the session to people in another room, Google Hangouts, join.me, or the free version of WebEx would work well for this purpose.

Small sample, big findings

Unlike a survey, you also don't need a huge sample to be able to learn from a usability test. Some usability experts recommend using as few as three subjects in your study. For a usability test we're conducting on a new online instructional tool, we're using six undergraduate students.



Unless we observe or otherwise assess our users, we can't truly understand

how they navigate our systems. This is key to our assessment arsenal.

As I showed in my example above, even watching one student use our systems can provide some valuable insights.

Usability testing also isn't just for our online tools; it can easily be applied to look at physical space as well.

What do people see first when they enter the library? How easy is it to find the children's room? Seeing how users experience the library building can help librarians notice issues they would never have otherwise. Often, it's the little things that create a great experience, and usability testing can help pinpoint those that might get in the way.

When Steve couldn't find the full text, he gave up looking for it and quickly stopped using the discovery tool entirely. If users are willing to try exploring library resources at all in their research, libraries often have only one chance to make a good impression.

Ensuring that our website and tools are as usable as possible is critical. Usability testing can help us discover the bumps in the road we need to smooth over to provide a positive experience for our users. ■

MEREDITH FARKAS is head of instructional services at Portland (Oreg.) State University. She blogs at *Information Wants to Be Free* and created *Library Success: A Best Practices Wiki*. Contact her at librarysuccess@gmail.com.

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Join us on Friday for a special reception celebrating the new journals available in the *Oxford Journals Collection* with our special guest speaker Alison Denby, OUP Editorial Director. While you're there, feel free to take part in the wine and light hors d'oeuvres we'll be serving, and remember to enter our raffle for a chance to win a Kindle Fire HD!

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10:00		University Press Scholarship Online	Sign up for a one-on-one demo	Sign up for a one-on-one demo
10:30		Oxford Bibliographies		
11:00		Grove Art Online, Benezit Dictionary of Artists, and Berg Fashion Library		
11:30		Oxford Handbooks Online		
2:00		Sign up for a one-on-one demo	Oxford Reference	
2:30			University Press Scholarship Online	
3:00		DEMO EN ESPAÑOL	COMMON CORE DEMO	
4:00		Sign up for a one-on-one demo	Oxford Handbooks Online	
4:30			Oxford Bibliographies	
5:30	OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION			



EXTREMISM

@the

LIBRARY

Propaganda from all sides coexists in
select academic collections

By Maria R. Traska

Bring up the subject of extremist literature and hate propaganda, and the first mental image most people are likely to have is of waves of protesters, livid Holocaust deniers, and the ACLU defending free speech. Curating such material takes a special brand of fortitude.



Radical literature that calls for destroying the status quo and hate speech that assaults various demographic groups may well be uncomfortable to read, but study of the human condition wouldn't be honest or complete if it didn't take a hard, thorough look into humanity's darker corners. On the other hand, maintaining collections for that kind of scholarship without providing free publicity to precisely the wrong element can be a tricky thing.

"I don't want to be the megaphone for these guys," says Will Hansen, assistant curator of collections at Duke University's David M. Rubenstein Rare Book and Manuscript Library. However, Duke got considerable attention in 2013 when the Southern Poverty Law Center's (SPLC) Intelligence Project donated its extensive collection of materials documenting extremist and hate groups in the United States to Duke. SPLC is a non-profit organization that supports racial equality through tolerance education, civil rights litigation, and monitoring of extremist organizations. The center's Intelligence Project monitors hate groups and other extremists throughout the United States and exposes any suspected illegal activities to law enforcement agencies, the media, and the public.

The SPLC Intelligence Project Collection consists of nearly 90 boxes of printed materials, serials, organizational literature, pamphlets, clippings, catalogs, fliers, and correspondence from a variety of groups monitored by the SPLC and its contacts between the 1980s and 2010. The collection—comprising more than 85,500 items in all—covers many groups followed by the SPLC Klanwatch and Militia Watch projects.

A year later, that material is already being well used. "We're pretty close to cataloging the entire collection," and scholars have had access for a while, says Hansen. For that matter, he adds, "a number of classes have used the material" as well.

Hansen says there has been much positive reaction so far regarding the acquisition. There was a bit of protest at first about the library's relationship with SPLC from people who mistakenly thought the university was somehow align-

ing itself with the civil rights organization. This protest came mostly from groups that thought themselves unfairly maligned in the past by the law center, Hansen notes. This was a misunderstanding, Hansen says, because Duke doesn't align itself in any way, and the library is interested only in making materials available for research. The protest was a token reaction, in any case. "Most people understand why we're collecting this material," he says.

Heidi Beirich, director of the Intelligence Project, says that the center is glad it chose Duke to receive the material. "These relatively rare materials will finally be made available to scholars who research America's radical right. We look forward to learning from their scholarship."

Beirich adds that white supremacist opposition to civil rights, documented in the collection, was a very important part of American history that should not be forgotten. It continues to exist, she notes, albeit with a

much smaller social presence than before. Once, however, white supremacy was a majority view, and some prominent historical figures subscribed to it, Beirich points out. Not even white abolitionists, despite opposing slavery on moral grounds, necessarily believed that the races were equal. In fact, most didn't.

Since SPLC had made this material available to scholars in the past, why donate it to Duke? Too much paper, Beirich replies. "We've digitized everything, but we still had the hard copy." Plus, Duke already had an extremist-literature collection. "They had the resources to quickly catalog the material and make it available" to scholars and others.

"We had the start of a collection" surrounding Ku Klux Klan (KKK) propaganda, Hansen says. After he arrived about six years ago, Hansen began building on those holdings. Another factor in Duke's favor, he says, was that the library has a human rights archivist, Patrick Stawski. As for the negotiations, Hansen says, "We approached them first, then nothing happened for a while, then they approached us."

Radical research troves

SPLC previously had made a similar gift of documents to Baylor University's W. R. Poage Legislative Library, but that was before Beirich joined the organization in 1999. Baylor's SPLC collection consists of anti-KKK materials that were donated in 1995 by a Baylor student who wanted

Study of the human condition wouldn't be honest or complete without a hard, thorough look into humanity's darker corners.

to see a balance in materials related to extremist organizations, which were formerly all pro-extremist.

The Radicalism Collection at Michigan State University (MSU) Libraries in East Lansing isn't one extremist-literature collection—it's really eight different ones. The oldest among them was founded in the 1950s, before MSU even had a special collections department, according to the libraries' website. In fact, the Special Collections section didn't debut until 1962 when the library began collecting material on MSU student activism. In all, MSU's extremist-literature collections have more than 40,000 items, says Peter Berg, head of special collections. It's also one of the oldest and best known extremist-literature collections, he says.

Moreover, MSU has received no flak regarding these holdings, probably because they cover the full range of extremist viewpoints, from far right to far left, Berg says. "We've always promoted it in such a way that it's known primarily for scholarship."

Sarah Shoemaker is also proud of her university's extremist-literature collections and the extent to which the library makes them available. Shoemaker is associate university librarian at Brandeis University's Robert D. Farber University Archives and Special Collections. She has no problem with publicizing the extremist-literature collections—quite the contrary. "We want people to know what we have. We want people to use it. It's here for scholarship."

The MSU and Brandeis extremist-literature collections are well known among academics, and Duke's collection is certainly better known since the publicity from last year's acquisition. But many other collections keep a low profile. How many are out there? It's hard to tell because some libraries don't necessarily want to draw attention to their extremist-literature collections lest they draw the wrong kinds of users. According to the 38th edition of the *Directory of Special Libraries and Information Centers*, there are probably at least 30–35 such collections; the direc-

tory lists 18 collections under the headings of racism, anti-Semitism, and the KKK, plus another 12 under the heading of race relations.

Paper, not pixels

Duke's library won't be digitizing the SPLC Collection. Why? First, because the law center already did that before handing over the collection to Duke; second, because of the labor and copyright issues involved; and third, because the library doesn't necessarily want to attract the wrong potential users of the material—as in those with extremist views who seek historical material that they feel can somehow justify their own philosophy.

It's one thing to make hard-copy material available to academic and independent researchers and quite another to digitize it and thus be a conduit for making the material widely available—in effect, helping the propagandists broaden their reach online, Hansen says. Keeping the hard copy "hard" is more in line with the university's and library's goals. "Mostly only scholars are going to make that kind of effort to physically visit and use an archive."

Indeed, scholars are the overwhelming majority of those who use Duke's special collections and archives. The same is true at MSU and Brandeis. Berg and Shoemaker report that their most likely users are the usual suspects: students, faculty, and outside scholars.

"Brandeis has a focus on social justice, so anyone studying political dissent, American history, and related subjects would find these materials useful," Shoemaker says. At Brandeis, there are two extreme-literature archives: the Hall-Hoag Collection, which has more than 5,000 far-left and far-right pamphlets from 1948 to 1984, and the Radical Pamphlet Collection, which totals more than 4,800 items of US and British origin from 1888 through 1976 but concentrates on 1938–1950. Shoemaker adds that Brown University's library has an identically named Hall-Hoag collection of extremist literature.

The biggest problem Berg says he's had with MSU's propaganda collections is the same one that libraries have with most archives: physical preservation of materials.

"A lot of this material was inexpensively produced and in mass quantities. Most

Digitized radical and fringe literature is definitely harder to monitor as it could be anywhere online—and there could be much more of it.





were put out on the cheapest paper possible. They weren't meant to last the ages," he says. The library usually has to deacidify paper copies and store materials in archival envelopes, as if they were fine photo prints. "It's the same thing we do for almost anything we get for preservation."

For Shoemaker, the biggest challenge in maintaining an extremist-literature collection is no different than for any other physical holdings: "Making others aware that we have it and doing outreach." The other challenge is context. "Most often we provide context to students who haven't been exposed to such material or points of view," because the sentiments expressed in the collection can be very disturbing, she says. "Teaching with these materials is always interesting and does require some explanation."

On the other hand, Shoemaker adds, "Brandeis students are very smart, very intellectual. We're not making these [materials] available in a vacuum. The materials can be very difficult to work with, but they're there for a certain purpose," namely historical preservation and academic research.

Beirich points to at least two books whose authors used SPLC's collection for at least part of their research. One is Political Science Professor George Michael's biography of right-wing extremist Willis Carto, founder of the Liberty Lobby. That book, *Willis Carto and the American Far Right*, was published by the University Press of Florida in 2008. Michael is an extremism expert at the University of Virginia's Wise campus. His latest book, *Lone Wolf Terror and the Rise of Leaderless Resistance*, was released in 2012 by Vanderbilt University Press.

The second book Beirich mentioned is forthcoming from Harvard University Press: *Bring the War Home: Vigilantism, Race, and Violence from Vietnam to Oklahoma City* by Kathleen Belew of Northwestern University's History Department.

The digital migration

Meanwhile, hate literature continues to be produced, Beirich says, noting that SPLC still receives about 50–60 hard-copy publications from extremist groups per month. However, much more is being published now on the internet. Online, there's no way to know how much is out there or how well it's being read, if only because it's distributed in too many formats, she says. "It's very widespread." SPLC tracks some of it but doesn't have

the resources to do much yet in the way of internet tracking. The Intelligence Project has a blog of its own (splcenter.org/blog) and the *Intelligence Report* magazine, and also tracks the work of other social justice organizations such as the Center for New Community in Chicago and the New York City-based Anti-Defamation League.

The internet is a bigger and more cost-effective soapbox that reaches more people than even widely distributed paper pamphlets, Shoemaker says. Moreover, "On the internet, you can always find someone who will agree with you."

This online migration raises the issue of how to keep extreme-literature collections current in the future. "That's a very good question," Shoemaker says.

Digitized radical and fringe literature is definitely harder to monitor as it could be anywhere on the internet—and as it's easier to produce, there could be much more of it. That means gathering it comes down to resources and whether the library's special collections budget is better spent on such digital material. Shoemaker says that having the know-how to collect and make available born-digital material is a cutting-edge issue for which many repositories lack the resources.

Even so, there are things both Berg and Shoemaker would like to add to their respective extremist-literature collections. Berg's wish list: "We have only half the issues of *The Masses* [a socialist political magazine published from 1911 to 1918], and I keep apologizing to people for that. I'd like to fill those in," he says. In addition, he'd like to get more information on "the second wave of the feminist movement in the US, during the 1960s and 1970s."

Shoemaker, too, is interested in filling some gaps in publication runs at Brandeis, but after that, she'd like to acquire more recent works. "There's been a lot of political commentary on the left and the right on a variety of subjects since the 1980s, so that would certainly be of interest." But again, some of this material has gone—or soon will go—online, and paper publication may cease. At that point, these libraries will have to decide just how much digital material they can afford in order to keep their collections up to date. ■



MARIA R. TRASKA is a Chicago-based freelance journalist, author, and blogger.

Left to Our DEVICES

What librarians need to know about tablets and mobile apps

In November 2013, American Libraries Live hosted one of its most popular panel discussions, on tablets and mobile applications. The online show—archived at americanlibrarieslive.org, along with other past episodes and a schedule of upcoming shows—is excerpted here.



During the hourlong episode, moderator Heather Moorefield-Lang led a conversation about the role that libraries are playing in the emerging field of mobile technology, the challenges librarians face, the benefits these devices have on our institutions, and the considerations that must be made for broadband connectivity.

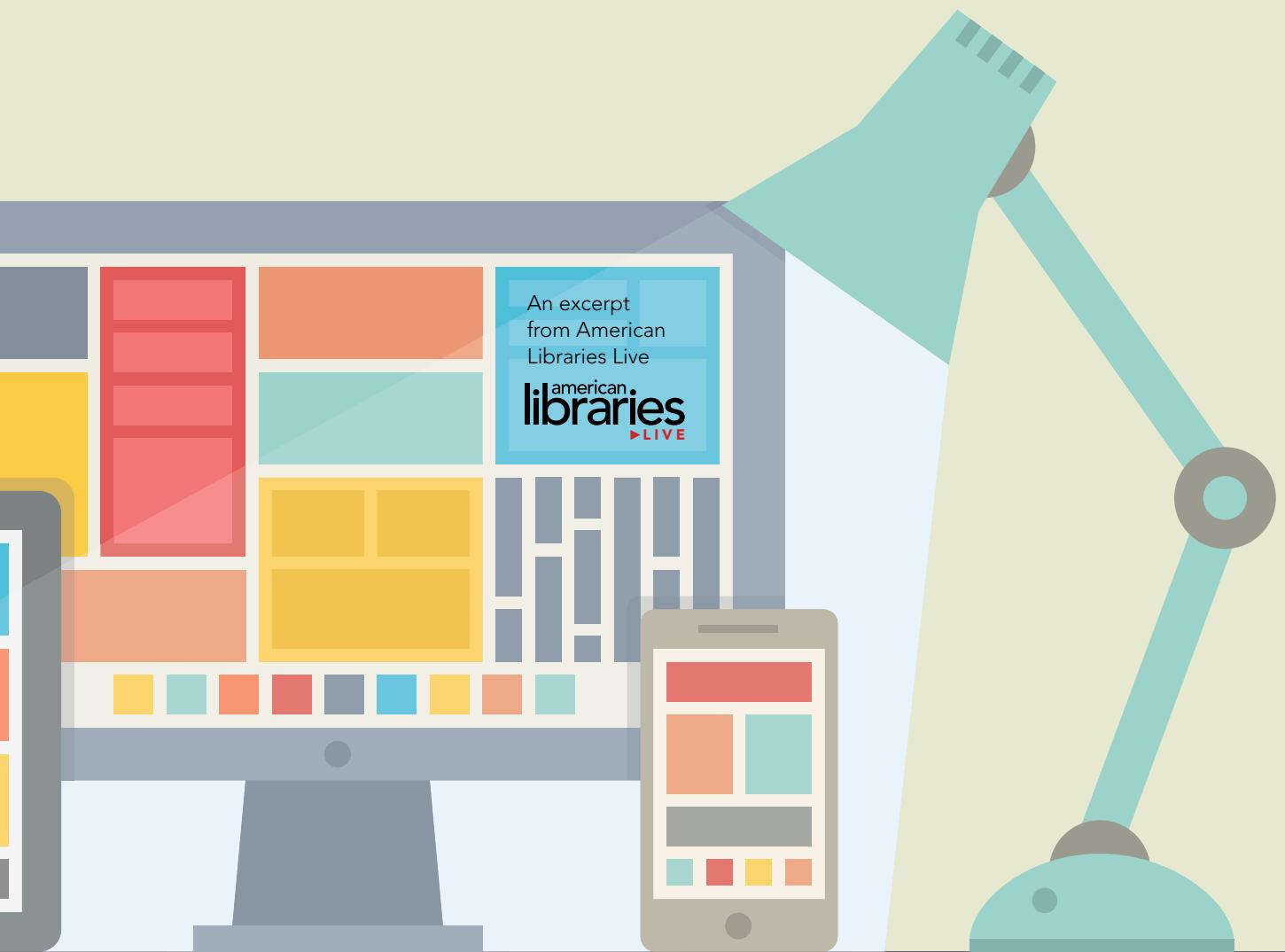
Moorefield-Lang, a former school librarian who is now education and applied social sciences librarian at Virginia Tech, was joined by Katherine Messier, managing director at Rhode Island-based Mobile Beacon, a non-profit that provides broadband service to libraries and other nonprofits; Bohyun Kim, digital access librarian at Florida International University Medical Library in Miami; and David Lee King, digital services director at Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library. The episode was sponsored by Mobile Beacon.

To watch the full episode or other AL Live shows, please visit americanlibrarieslive.org.

How do you see the environment for tablets and mobile technologies in libraries? How prevalent and integrated are they?

KIM: Four years ago, only two or three out of an entire class of medical students at my school said they owned a smartphone. Now everyone does, it seems. In medical school, students and faculty are inseparable from their smartphones. I also increasingly see students carrying around tablets. In my library, our mobile resources are captured in a tab on our library web page. We circulate and lend 10 Kindle devices loaded with ebook readings related to medicine and health sciences, as well as medical textbooks.

KING: In September 2013, stats showed that 30% of people who visited our website were using some type of mobile device, compared with a percentage in the teens



in 2012. About 20% of these devices were probably smartphones, and a good 10% were tablets. So customers are definitely using them, which means, on our end, we're very focused on building a mobile experience. It's going to continue to grow.

MESSIER: We work with a lot of libraries around the country, so we see a variety of ways that libraries are working with mobile and tablets. A local library here, Providence (R.I.) Community Library, is using our mobile hotspots and devices to do community outreach. It's bringing the bookmobile out to provide resources. It also has a loaner program where people in neighborhoods with low home broadband adoption can check out free home internet for a week by using a hotspot box to load to their computer, tablet, or mobile device. And generally, people are bringing in more and more mobile devices, so it's changing the way libraries respond to meet those needs.

What are the key benefits libraries offer, and can gain, from having tablets and mobile devices?

KING: For customers it's a great way to experiment with new technology that they haven't touched yet. Same thing for staff members; they really want to be able to dig into the ILS information and find that if a book's not on the shelf, where is it? Some ILS vendors are starting to make a mobile tool that lets you do that. And just being able to go out and about in the community—you get a little Wi-Fi device, and you're connected anywhere. You can access ebooks and show people how to do the same, and that's really a huge boon for us.

MESSIER: From staff members' perspectives, having that connectivity on the go will make them more efficient so they can check out books and demonstrate the technology. I love the idea of setting up mobile labs so staff

members can do computer training with the public. The whole industry is exploding with the growing number of apps now available. But without access, none of those resources are usable.

MOOREFIELD-LANG: For school libraries, after we may have gotten a grant for funding, we're able to buy the necessary tools. But then what's also important is the training. How are we going to use and integrate these tools? We can't just hand them to teachers, librarians, and students and say, "Well here you go, but we're not going to tell you what they're for or how to use them."

KIM: The biggest benefit for a library that integrates mobile technology into services and programs is keeping up to date with patrons who are experiencing it. At my library, we had a mobile website around 2010, and at the time most of our medical students did not have a smartphone. As time went by and adoption rates changed, we were there before they

were there. And that leaves a huge impression on our medical students and faculty; we anticipated what was going to happen and were fully ready when it became popular. For libraries, that's one of the chief benefits of investing in mobile technology.



It's important to make sure you have a written policy for how these devices are going to be used.

KATHERINE MESSIER



What are the challenges of having these mobile devices in our libraries?

MESSIER: You touched on one big one: making sure there's adequate training and support for both staff and patrons. For example, with libraries doing the loaner programs, circulating tablets, or providing access via hotspots, once patrons leave, they may call and say, "Hey, I forgot how to turn this on." Or, "I'm not sure I'm connected." Libraries need to have those resources available. It's really important to make sure you have a written policy for how these devices are going to be used and who is going to use them. That needs to be thought through. There are also device considerations. iPads come with certain



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challenges: To get apps, you need an iTunes account, for example.

KING: They're all practical: How do you recharge them, and where do you do that? How do you lock them down so they don't walk? We have two iPads out, and we have them so you can move them around but can't leave the building with them unless you bring in something to cut the wires. Also, how will you put apps on them? We solved that with getting iTunes gift cards. Somebody needs to figure out which apps to put on and when to update them. There are a lot of practical things to consider, especially in a smaller library, where you may be working the desk and have two or three other things to do.

KIM: We have a very diverse group of library patrons. Some are extremely tech savvy and can afford any type of mobile device. In comparison, there are some people who are not able to own a laptop. Libraries want to provide the services and resources for all types of patrons, so balancing the needs of patrons is a big challenge in terms of mobile technology adoption in libraries. Meeting the high expectations of library patrons who are used to standards they experience with their apps and other common features on mobile devices is also a very big challenge. Another challenge is letting users know that the mobile technology we provide can't be better than their own providers. When we got Kindle devices loaded with medical books, students called to ask for the account password so they could access and download them to their own Kindle devices, and it doesn't work that way. So informing users is a challenge.

How are these devices being used by your library or in your business?

KIM: Our medical school faculty and students use mobile devices all the time—to stay connected on campus, to see what people are doing where. They also use the devices for productivity. The one trend I've noticed is that more and more students are now trying to use an iPad or tablet device as a replacement for a laptop because it is lighter and easier to use, and people seem to prefer these devices to the traditional laptop. But they can't yet fully replace their laptops, and that's one complaint I hear a lot.

KING: I have a couple of tablets in the tweens area with age-appropriate games on them. We've experimented with having staff roam around the building. We've got some devices in what we call our tech toybox for staff to check out and use. They sometimes take them to conferences. In our public area, we've got an ebooks display area with tablet devices, so customers can see how they work before

buying one of their own. And most of our staff members have some type of device they always have with them.

MESSIER: I've seen some libraries that focus on integrating mobile devices in the children's department, where they're using tablets with interactive storybooks on them. One of my passion projects is about being able to take them out into the community, so having those loaner programs where you can take either a tablet or an e-reader but also have internet access so students can do their homework.

A question from our chat: "How are your libraries using tablets for information literacy instruction in the classroom? This can be tablets or smartphones."

MOOREFIELD-LANG: At Virginia Tech we have multiple iPad packs that we check out in groups of 30, where classes can use them throughout the semester. There are ways that these types of devices can be checked out.

KING: We have some practical classes that instruct on how to load ebooks onto your device. We have iPad-specific classes too. We're also a major meeting facility in our county, and all our meeting rooms are set up so you could use a tablet to do your presentation through the HDMI plug-in.

KIM: We have an iPad that our librarians check out when they go to a meeting or presentation. A lot of times they just hook it directly into the projector so they don't have to take computers. Carrying an iPad to a meeting is a really good idea because someone at the meeting may ask a library-related question, and you can provide the answer right away.

MOOREFIELD-LANG: One thing that makes information literacy instruction the strongest is when you can find sites that are online as well as apps that can be "device agnostic"—where you can access sites and use them for student response systems such as Socrative or Cahoot or those sites

DAVID LEE KING

A few years into the future, devices will do more cool stuff than they do now, and there will be more connectivity to our library materials.

where you can have student response and feedback. You can do multiple choice, short answer, polling, races, collaboration, whatever the case may be. But you don't have to have a specific type of device to access it. Whether that be Poll Everywhere or Answer Garden or anything where you can get student responses, you can get feedback from those who may be shy in class. Being device agnostic is very important, because if we're using just one type of device, it limits us.

How does the proliferation of mobile devices affect your concerns about bandwidth and connectivity? Are there changes that you have made or anticipate making?

KING: Bandwidth is a huge issue. In 2012, we bumped up from 50 MBs to 300 MBs. We're going to be budgeting and looking at that every year, similar to how you need electricity, you need water and heat. Now you need bandwidth. You have to get out in front of the needs. That's going to be hard, but if you want to give your customers a good mobile experience, that's what you'll need to do.

KIM: There's an insatiable demand for wireless. At our library, we're always fighting to provide more wireless access for students. Because mobile devices are so popular now, everyone is carrying one, two, or three devices. It only adds to the huge demand on bandwidth, so it's hard to stay up to date. Because of all this, our university's wireless access system has changed so that there is now this unique wireless network only for those authorized to get in, and there is a separate guest network for the public. The demand for increased bandwidth is creating changes in the university infrastructure to accommodate that.

MOOREFIELD-LANG: At Virginia Tech we've increased our wireless. Students want more space, more power for their laptops, and they want more wireless, and we're continuously looking to provide all those. And around exam time, more students will join us.

MESSIER: Broadband is 100% of the mission we're focused on. We provide broadband access exclusively to schools, libraries, and other nonprofits, because our mission is to break down the barriers to access. The way we try to do that is to supplement bandwidth constraints that are happening in the library. We have Wi-Fi modems and mobile hotspots that can be set up to create a separate network that you can offload traffic onto. And then there's the mobile aspect. Right now, you're able to, with a mobile hotspot, take a group out and hold training sessions and do all sorts of things outside of the library as well.

From the chat: "I feel there's some disconnect from reality. Improving things is easier if you have money."

MOOREFIELD-LANG: It can be difficult, especially when you hear folks saying, "Yes, there are tablets. Let's get tablets." I know people who have gotten them with grants. I know many people got them with textbook money. Or they get one or two, and they try them out and work with them creatively.

KING: Reality means that your administrators—or whoever's doing the budget—needs to sit down with the hard numbers and say, "We need this, and we need this. What's the priority for our library?" In the next 10 years, bandwidth should probably be more of a priority than some other things. It might need to start at a level higher than that, where your administrators are talking with the city or county or with university officials to say, "Here's the problem. Here's what we're experiencing. Here's what we need to do." With any size budget, you can figure out something. There are things you can do, but it's not always easy.

KIM: I work at a small library, and we do not have much of a budget. Particularly from the operating budget, there is no room to play with innovating new technologies. So I recommend checking out outside funding, because that might be your only chance to actually try this out. I wrote grant proposals and got money. Even though it wasn't a lot of change, we would not be able to do anything with mobile technology without those things. And if you fail, there are other things you can do. For example, if you want to create a mobile website, you can use WordPress. If you can't create a mobile website, maybe you can work more toward promoting your library's mobile resources. I don't think you should try to be 100% in every single aspect of mobile technology. You can focus on what you can do with whatever money you have and try to find more resources in any way you can. That's a good attitude: not to be too depressed by the success in large libraries you see.

Where do you envision tablets, mobile devices, and other hand-held devices in the next two to three years?



If libraries limit themselves to only one type of device, they're limiting their access, their users, and their audience.

HEATHER MOOREFIELD-LANG

MESSIER: One of the biggest changes we're going to see is with digital collections. We're going to see the physical space of the library probably change, where there are going to be fewer hard copies and books and a lot more online apps and e-readers.

KING: iPhones were only first released in 2007. A few years into the future, it's going to be completely different. There are going to be devices that can do more cool stuff than they're doing now, and there will be more connectivity to our library materials. That also means we will need to focus on staff training. Our staff will need to know how to use these many devices to help customers.

KIM: In two to three years, the biggest change will be that the mobile app is going to be the best option. And we're going to be seeing more and more device-agnostic patron behavior, that they will be expecting to make use of library resources no mat-

ter where they are or with whatever device they have. And they will expect to initiate their task at one platform, and they'll want to pick it up on another platform. The issue

is being really continuous, so they don't feel as though they are being interrupted. I am not actually convinced that this is all going to actually happen within library systems. But the major commercial trend is toward a more seamless workflow, so this will be supported more and more by commercial vendors.

MOOREFIELD-LANG: When it comes to the device agnostic, if you limit yourself to only one type of device, you're limiting your access, your users, and your audience. And we're going to have more providers, we're going to have more devices coming out, so it's going to be very interesting and incredibly exciting. ■

BOHYUN KIM

Focus on what you can do with whatever money you have, and try to find more resources in any way you can.

To view the full episode of this *American Libraries Live* webcast, visit americanlibrarieslive.org.

Did you know a group of kittens is called an *intrigue*?

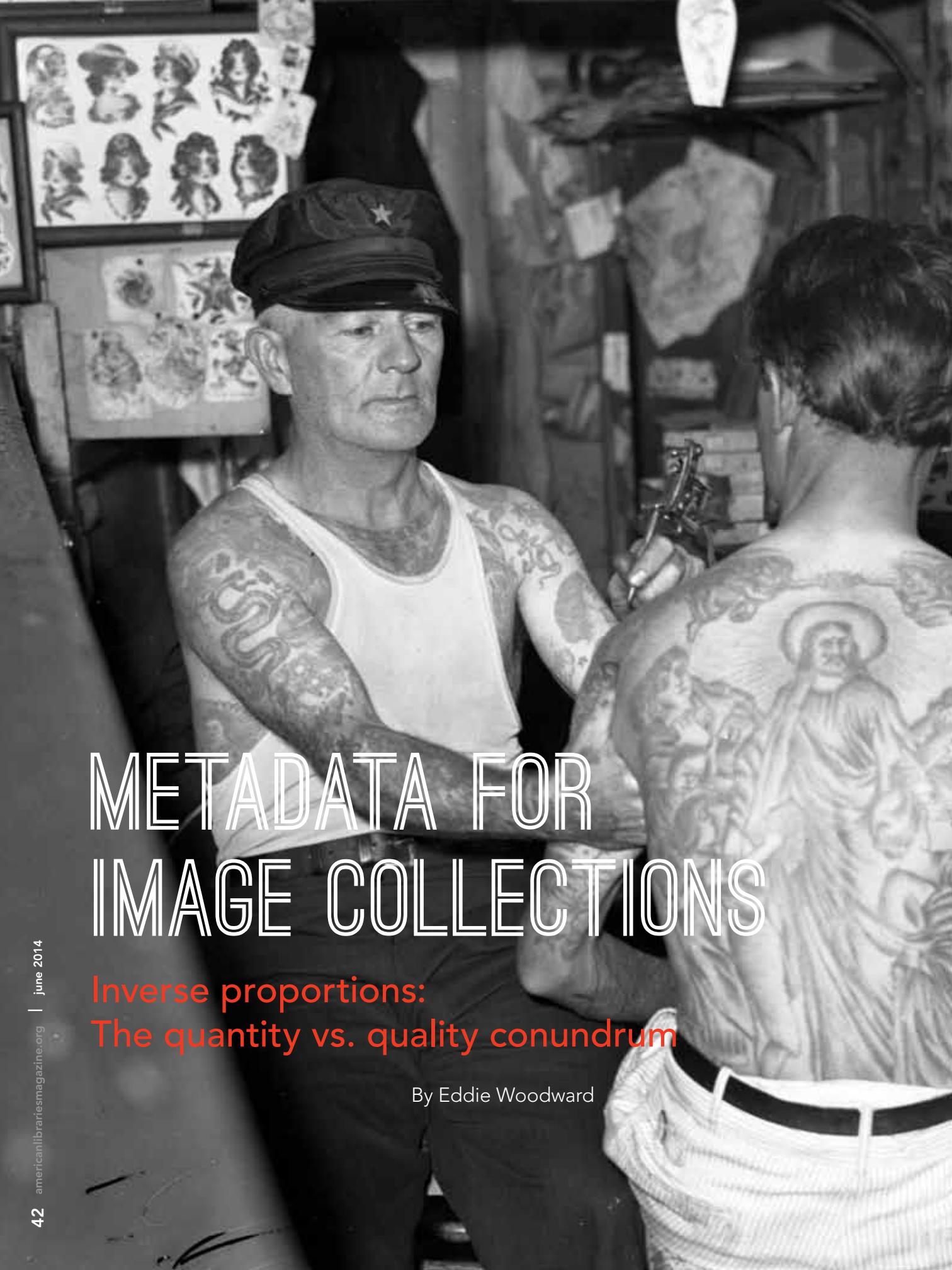
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METADATA FOR IMAGE COLLECTIONS

Inverse proportions:
The quantity vs. quality conundrum

By Eddie Woodward



Many libraries are eagerly digitizing their materials and making them accessible. This enthusiasm often stems from patrons, who are excited to make use of the resources online, or from administrators, who are intent on elevating the library's public profile.

But the push for digitization often puts pressure on library staff to make digital objects available before they have been properly prepared. This can turn into a numbers game in which the quantity of the images becomes more important than the quality of the descriptive metadata attached to them—resulting in images that are minimally described. Others might see crowdsourcing as a silver bullet to solve their description needs. While these might seem quick, convenient solutions, they do not make the images as findable as they would be with authoritative and detailed (low-level) metadata.

Here is one way to look at it: The quality of metadata is inversely proportional to the speed with which digital objects can be uploaded and published online. The more detailed and descriptive the metadata, the longer each record takes to complete and process. Less detailed descriptions take less time to create, and the records can be ingested more quickly by the repository's digital asset management system.

Simply put, records with broad or general (high-level) descriptions populate the database faster. This may work for born-digital records in some collections, but it is not really feasible for extensive collections of historical photographs, where each image is unique and an item-level description is desirable or required. Minimal descriptors may work for smaller photographic collections, but maintaining this standard will have an adverse effect as the collection grows.

RETRIEVING THE BEST IMAGES

The findability of items in a large collection is directly proportional to the level of description for each digital object. This might seem like a no-brainer, but if description is to be consistent throughout the database, the ultimate size of the collection should be taken into account at the outset, when the depth of description is standardized.

A researcher can effortlessly wade through a small collection with only a few descriptors; a results list of 10 hits in a database of 100 records is easily reviewed. The researcher who obtains longer results, however, will have a proportionally more difficult time identifying the material he is looking for.

Captain August Bernard Coleman tattoos Otto Trager at his tattoo parlor at 427 E. Main St. in Norfolk, Virginia, September 28, 1937. This and the other photos are from the Norfolk (Va.) Public Library's Sargeant Memorial Collection, where item-level descriptions are applied.

The findability of items in a large collection is directly proportional to the level of description for each object.

For example, 1,000 records will yield 100 hits; 50,000 records will yield 5,000 hits; and so on. In an online environment, users will click their way through the hits. You can recommend narrowing the search terms, but if the metadata is at a high level, the chances of refining the search successfully are minimal.

Even if you are planning to digitize a small collection, you should give serious consideration to implementing low-level descriptive standards. Collections often grow or merge unexpectedly, or they can become associated with others as part of repository-wide or regional collections. What's more important, you will have consistent descriptive standards at the outset, without needing to go back and edit or redescribe everything. In this type of federated environment, insisting on detailed descriptive standards throughout your institution will permit you to collate items from various collections into one results set. Using hyperlinked descriptors (keywords or subject headings)

pulled from controlled vocabulary lists makes this all the more meaningful by grouping together similar records. The more descriptors, the better the functionality and the findability.

THE FOLLY OF CROWDSOURCING

Finally, crowdsourcing can be used as a supplement to well-described metadata, but it should never be considered as a replacement or the standard for an entire collection. Though it presents an alluring, interactive vision, crowdsourcing offers little to increase the findability of records within a database.

An informal, unscientific survey that I conducted via the Society of American Archivists Metadata and Digital Objects discussion list revealed that only a handful of institutions with large photograph collections used crowdsourcing (fewer than I expected). When I examined these,

I could not find many comments or tags. Even though I had specifically requested examples of collections that were not hosted on social media sites like Flickr, survey respondents inevitably offered social media sites as crowdsourcing examples. Even in large Flickr collections, when images lacked in-depth description, they also lacked meaningful comment and were untagged. This indicates that without an adequate level of description, the images were not findable by those who wished to participate.

Often, when users did comment on images, they did so without providing useful information that might help to identify or describe the people or places depicted. I found comments like "Great photo!" or "Nice hair," but little else that added to the description. The most successful crowdsourcing initiatives were sites with small subsets of images that consisted of "mystery photos" or photos needing identification. These were always small, manageable groups that users could easily wade through. Crowdsourcing gets those users who are predisposed to participate interested and invested in the project, which is a good thing. But, at least for now, it does little to advance description and access. Crowdsourcing should be considered nothing more than added value.

And so, while the quality of metadata is inversely proportional to the speed of processing, the findability of images in a large photographic collection is directly proportional to the level of description applied to each record. Item-level records in a large collection with little or no descriptive metadata are of little use to anyone, even to willing participants in crowdsourcing efforts. In order for photographs to be useful to researchers, they must be described adequately. As a result, low-level descriptive standards should be put in place before the launch of any potentially large online digital photograph collection—regardless of the extra time involved. ■



EDDIE WOODWARD is digital projects coordinator at the Norfolk (Va.) Public Library. Contact him at eddiebu1@yahoo.com.



Photos of Norfolk, Virginia (left to right): night view of the Norva Theatre at 324 Granby Street, July 22, 1941; Smith Street USO Club for African Americans, World War II; the Monticello Hotel, 108 E. City Hall Ave., circa 1950.



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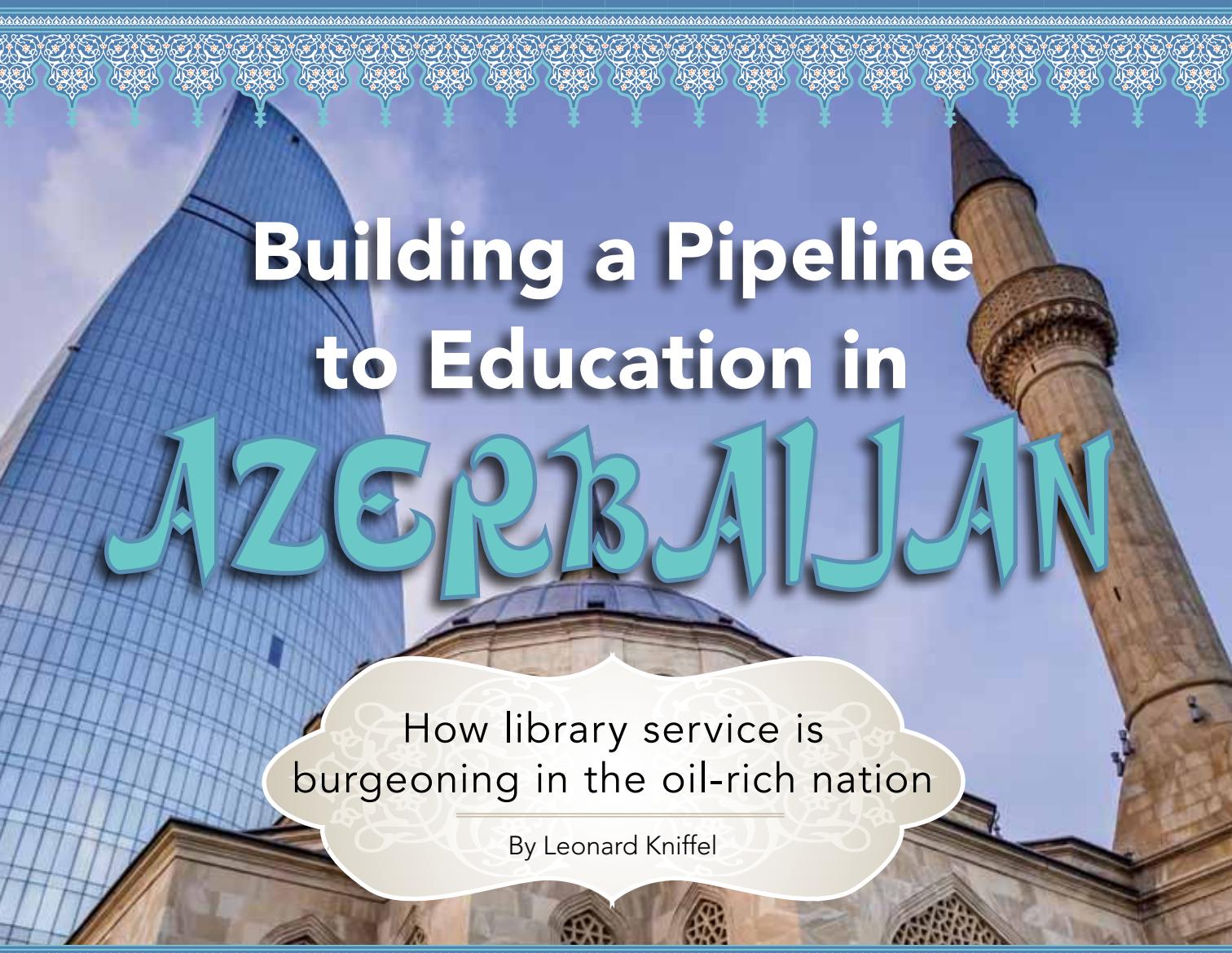


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Building a Pipeline to Education in AZERBAIJAN

How library service is
burgeoning in the oil-rich nation

By Leonard Kniffel

There is money in Azerbaijan and plenty of it. Petroleum wealth mostly. Two-thirds of the country is rich in oil and natural gas, and Western companies are tapping oil fields in the Caspian Sea that the Communist regime left untouched during the 70 years Azerbaijan spent as a part of the Soviet Union.

Change is accelerating since independence in 1991. By 2008, Azerbaijan had become a world leader in financial reform, halving the red tape required to start a business. The skyline of the capital city, Baku, reveals a jaw-dropping

building boom, with apartment complexes and condominiums rising more quickly than they can be occupied. The city is building hotels, museums, and parks, and a formidable new convention center opened in 2012. A bid for the 2024 Summer Olympics is in motion. Foreign investors are jumping in.

How has all this oil wealth affected the nation's libraries? Opened in 2013, the state-of-the-art library on the campus of the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy University (ADAU) is a prime example of the country's emerging emphasis on investment in education for international business. The stunning facility is at the center of a growing university campus that went from approximately 70 students in 2011 to 700 in 2013. Provost Patrick Quinn says the soaring growth knows no bounds, and 95% of the students are Azeri. The library's bookholdings have already shot up to 40,000, and plenty of shelf space is available for more material to support what ADAU Rector Hafiz Pashayev calls "a world-class institution dedicated to preparing innovative global leaders in diplomacy, public and international affairs, business, humanities, and

computer sciences.” The campus will be two or three times its current size in a few years, says Quinn.

“We’re moving along very quickly with everything,” says Library and Information Services Dean Martha Speirs. She came to the ADAU in 2011 specifically to develop the library, implement systems, hire staff, and stock the shelves with help from Blackwell Library Services. Despite the constant adjustments and rapid growth, or perhaps because of it, Speirs says, “it is exciting to be a part of something this vital.” Originally from Massachusetts, she has enjoyed an 18-year career in international librarianship that began with a stint at the American University in Cairo in 1996.

The library has attracted a talented and enthusiastic professional staff of eight, six of whom earned MLS degrees from Baku State University, Azerbaijan’s only library school. In addition, during its 65 service hours each week, the library employs six part-time student assistants, all of whom are eager to speak English and to transition to Western-style library operations. “Every library serves a community,” says Speirs, “patrons, clients, or customers. It has to be about service.” Since ADAU’s mission is to prepare students for global interaction, much of the collection is in English.

Designed by the US firm of EYP, which was the architectural firm for the entire campus, the library is a modern, multimedia student learning center with inviting study areas, a comfortable café, and regular programs and exhibits. It’s like walking into a first-rate medium-sized public library in the US, except that the collection is focused on ADAU’s six undergraduate degree programs: information technologies and systems engineering; computer science; international affairs; public affairs; business administration; and science in economics. Visitors to the library are greeted by a statue of Azerbaijan President Heydar Aliyev, considered the father of the country. His son, Ilham Aliyev, was elected to succeed him in 2003 and continues as president, his popularity bolstered by profitable oil deals with companies like British Petroleum.

Other libraries in Baku (a city in which 25% of Azerbaijan’s 9.1 million people live) are also moving, slowly and unsurely, into new models of library service.

Strides elsewhere

The library at the American Center in Baku is now called the Information Resource Complex (IRC) and is open to the public. Since 2003, the five additional American Centers in Azerbaijan have emphasized occupational programming, to the point where they have become de facto schools. The IRC is, in fact, a part of Azerbaijan University of Languages, with its 700



Above: The exterior of the recently renovated Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy University. Left: Jamila Talibova, deputy director of the Presidential Library, in his office.

teachers and approximately 4,000 undergraduate and 900 graduate students.

IRC Director Shahla Khudiyeva says, “Libraries have changed their mission; during the last 10 years, this program has helped change the consciousness of people—that they have free access to information, to the internet,” she says. “During the Soviet period [libraries] were moribund.”

Founded in 1922, the National Library of Azerbaijan now has some 360 employees and some 5 million items, about 40% of them in Russian. Totally renovated since the communist era, the library’s grand reading rooms and popular book collection are open to all. Digitization projects are flourishing but in stuffy little rooms staffed entirely by women who make about 120 manats (about \$152 US) a month for their repetitive work turning books into digital files, page by page.

National Library Director Karim Tahirov, who also teaches at the library school at Baku State, says the library’s biggest problem is space, but he also acknowledges that the implementation of information technology has been difficult. Tahirov boasts that the library’s budget has increased every year since 2005.

The Presidential Library, a reference library established in 2003 by merging two of the oldest city libraries in Baku and serving the executive branch of government, is also open to the general public. Deputy Director Jamila Tali-

bova says the library gets an average of five visits a day—university students, writers, researchers—but has created a dynamic website that is getting more traffic than the facility. With 60 staff members, the library maintains a unique and elegant presence. Asked about salaries, Talibova explains, “Librarians are valuable people who work for minimum salaries because libraries are free.”

The state-of-the-art library is a prime example of an investment in education.

High literacy rate

Elsewhere in Azerbaijan, many libraries are plugging along in a slightly modified version of the Soviet system, and library workers are still disgruntled about their low salaries and lack of professional recognition. Notwithstanding the Soviet system of libraries as agencies for government propaganda, Azerbaijan's adult literacy rate in 2007 was measured at 99.4%. (Compare that with the US, where 14% of the population can't read English and 21% of adults read English below the 5th-grade level, according to a 2003 study by the National Center for Education Statistics.) Ironically, in Azerbaijan, as in other former Soviet countries, the communist education system created a population that was literate and intelligent enough to overthrow the system itself.

The general perception is that only poor people use Azerbaijan's 4,000 public libraries, says Mushvig Imamverdiyev, ADAU reference and information literacy librarian. But used they are. The Maksim Gorki Biblioteka near Akhundov Park is booming on a typical weekday afternoon despite its rather dreary communist style. The librarians there are eager to invite patrons into the reference room, which they say is always filled with studious readers of all ages. School libraries, for the most part, remain rooms with books and an untrained employee or volunteer sitting at a desk watching over the collection.

Library education

Elchin Mammadov, head of technical services at the ADAU Library, is working on a PhD at Baku State University while teaching library science courses there. Many teachers, he says, supplement their low salaries by working as private tutors. "There is a market for their skills, since they can help students get through the competitive process of entering college," he says.

The program at Baku State has graduated 40–60 people each year since 1968, but Mammadov reports that only about 20% of those graduates have gone on to work in libraries. "Salaries are bad," he says. "With the National and Presidential libraries being exceptions, the average salary is about \$250 a month." Food prices, rent, and other costs of living expenses are about the same as in the US.

In 2001, the American Library Asso-



Above: Patrons of the National Library in the main reading room and Director Karim Tahirov. Right: Martha Speirs, library and information services dean at the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy University.



ciation organized a regional workshop, "Strengthening Library Associations in the South Caucasus," in Tbilisi, the capital of neighboring Georgia. Halil Izmaylov, then and now president of the Azerbaijan Library Association, recalls those heady times of more than a decade ago, when Azeri librarians were on the move, backed by key national library leaders. Now, he admits, his national library association is rudderless, with 370 members and no dues or benefits to speak of. Young professionals find the association irrelevant in the face of private-sector jobs in information technology, computer science, and publishing.

Azad Kurbanov, dean of the library school at Baku State, says the program is attempting to align the curriculum with actual practice, but it is doing so at a snail's pace. The school may be moving toward a progressive Western model, but so far that has not led to prestige or better salaries for the library profession. Of 100 graduates from the program last year, "only 25–30 actually went to work in libraries; others found more lucrative opportunities in business," Kurbanov notes.

The perception is that only poor people use Azerbaijan's 4,000 public libraries.

Oiling the machinery

Azerbaijan is arguably the least conservative of any predominantly Muslim country. Evidence of its resistance to religious fundamentalism seems most clear in the role of women in Azeri society. Modern dress



is the norm, and women are employed and visible in every area of the work force, especially libraries. President Aliyev, as his father before him, maintains power and popularity by making Azerbaijan as hospitable as possible to foreign money—from boulevards lined with expensive boutiques (often devoid of customers) to handsome brick walls that border the most traveled avenues and block out the blight behind them.

Everywhere in Baku, public librarians are service-minded and as friendly as the shopkeepers in the city's pedestrian-friendly downtown; they are eager to talk about their collections and their dedication to anyone who will listen. The men who tend the mosques pass out sweetened lavash bread wraps to departing visitors. Everyone seems to recognize and welcome Azerbaijan's connection to the West and the prosperity that it seems to be bringing.

Library oversight is shared among several government agencies. Public libraries fall under the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, and academic libraries report to the Ministry of Education—although ADAU is overseen by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the innovative leadership of its minister, Elmar Mammadyarov. Perhaps the ADAU Library will serve as an example to the government that



investing in libraries and education is the only way to elevate the nation's poor and make unnecessary those new walls blocking them from the sight of foreign visitors. ■



LEONARD KNIFFEL is a Chicago writer and former editor/publisher of *American Libraries*. He blogs at *PolishSon.com*. This article is based on interviews and library visits he conducted in Azerbaijan in November 2013.



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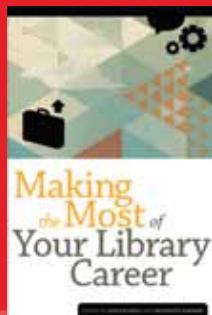
HOW TO

**MAKE
THE
MOST OF
YOUR**

**LIBRARY
CAREER**

Overcoming
workplace
status quo

By Katherine Farmer



An excerpt from *Making the Most of Your Library Career*, edited by Lois Stickell and Bridgette Sanders (ALA Editions, 2014)

Making your mark

Many thoughts percolated in my brain the day I started a new library position. I considered the new technologies, theories, and trends that I had encountered in graduate school, in journal articles, at workshops, and at conferences. I wondered how I could implement some of those ideas in my new position. I wanted to make my mark and show everyone what I was capable of accomplishing. I wondered, “How can I make everyone notice me as a leader and an agent of change and acknowledge what I can do? What changes can I put in place to make that happen?”

At this point I realized I needed to stop, take a breath, and think before making changes at my new library. “Change” is a scary word for many people, and it is not always necessary. Any librarian in a new position should take the time to consider a few points before discussing change.

Finding out which things are done a certain way

As a new librarian, you are expected to ask an abundance of questions.

You should use this time to ask specific questions about why certain things are done a certain way. You may be surprised by what you discover. (Hint: Old

may not be bad.) Your colleagues will probably be glad to explain the rationale for decisions. They want you to respect the process and history that existed before you came to the library. Rather than finding that your new colleagues have shied away from change, you may discover that they have tried or explored several different ways of accomplishing a task. Through trial and error, they may have concluded that the old method works best for the library and its patrons. Once you know why certain decisions were made, you may realize that the old way is perfect and change is not necessary.

During my first four months at Murray (Ky.) State University and with the Curriculum Materials Center, I devoted time to learning the history of the center, how it was organized, and the reasons behind decisions. For example, some materials at the center had been specifically placed in the collection by current faculty members. Due to their worn condition, I questioned whether the items should be retained. After I learned the history of the center and these materials, I worked with faculty to decide whether to weed certain items. Had I followed my first inclination and weeded them myself, I would have offended my colleagues and created a sense of mistrust. Instead, I fostered a positive working environment because I demonstrated respect for the head of the center and for other colleagues’ contributions to the library.

If you are part of the public face of the library, start to build relationships with patrons. They may tell you how they see the library operating and whether change is needed. This may arise through casual conversation or by asking the simple question: “Did you find everything that you needed?” If your library has a Friends organization, learn its history and meet the members. They have a vested interest and may also have insight into chang-

es that the public might wish to see.

Making suggestions for rational change

Change in any organization, especially a large one, can take time. After coming to an understanding of the library’s organizational structure, safely integrating yourself into the structure, and examining the library’s operational and organizational history, you should have concluded that change does not happen overnight. Small changes, like how to organize a department’s workflow, may happen in a matter of weeks. Larger changes, like those to the circulation policy, may require months to enact.

In spite of all these considerations, you may still see the need for changes. Before you open the office door to engage your colleagues in a discussion, consider the following points.

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TIPS FOR INITIATING CHANGE

- Find the right moment to introduce change;
- Analyze the situation and develop concrete reasons for change;
- Discover the library's tolerance for change through conversations with colleagues and by reflecting on projects already started;
- Make clearly stated suggestions for change and include a timeline;
- Allow colleagues to assist in developing changes;
- Keep the library's organizational structure in mind when suggesting change;
- Start small.

It can be tricky to find the right moment to make suggestions for change. Making suggestions during the first week, unless specifically asked, is tantamount to disaster. The library staff will think that you are trying to take over and that you do not appreciate what was done before you came. For example, a new librarian at my library who accepted a position that had been vacant for some time did not consult staff members who had operated the department before she developed a plan for change. When she presented the information and changes to the staff, she did not consider their points of view or show appreciation for their previous work. Her colleagues felt hurt and unap-

preciated and openly resisted her changes. The new librarian realized her mistake and had to immediately start repairing relationships.

Before making unsolicited suggestions, analyze the situation and develop concrete reasons for any changes. Research the problem in light of the library's history, current trends, and the actions of other libraries before presenting suggestions to colleagues.

When I was working with an established colleague at the Curriculum Materials Center, I noticed that the center's acquisitions process was cumbersome, time consuming, and haphazard. This often caused patrons' needs to go unmet. Understanding that a change was needed, I studied the situation from all angles, politely questioned the seasoned professional about the history of the current process, asked other library professionals for advice, and developed a new acquisitions process for the center. With a well-developed plan in hand, I was able to change the way the Curriculum Materials Center handled the acquisition process to better meet patrons' needs.

Consider certain factors when presenting change to colleagues. First, make sure your suggestions are clearly stated and easily understood. Second, include a time line of how long it will take to implement the change. (For example, you could state that the library will need to spend approximately one day to update the circulation policy to include elec-

**BEFORE MAKING
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SUGGESTIONS,
ANALYZE THE
SITUATION AND
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CHANGES.**

tronic books.) Finally, include information that helps your colleagues see the need for the change and explains how they can assist with the process.

After creating the proposal, examine the procedures for how things will be accomplished. Recognition of these procedures, or the proverbial red tape, should be included in your proposal to your supervisors, the head of the department, or the library director. Failure to consider potential roadblocks can cause your initiative to stall or fall flat.

Allowing your colleagues to assist with the development of a change and its implementation removes the atmosphere of negativity from the library. Negativity can derail improvements if staff members do not feel they are part of the process. If staffers feel they are stakeholders, the project has a greater chance of succeeding.

Always keep the library's organizational structure in mind when suggesting changes. If you are a member of the cataloging department and have a suggestion for a better way to catalog media items, the proper procedure would be to talk with your department head rather than taking the matter to the library director. This can avoid creating tense relationships.

Sometimes, however, following the chain of command does not work. Your department head may be too busy to entertain your suggestions. If this is the case, you may decide to address the situation with the library director or another department head. If you take this route, be up front with your department head. He or she may be pleased that you handled the situation. In my own experience, a faculty member at my university approached me about a project to create a display of local artifacts. She specifically requested assistance in developing the exhibit with artifacts from the library's archives. I contacted a col-

**TAKE RESPONSIBILITY
WHEN YOU MAKE A
MISTAKE. YOUR
COLLEAGUES WILL
RESPECT YOU MORE
FOR OWNING UP
TO THE ERROR AND
WORKING
TO CORRECT IT.**

league who could help her with the project. After setting up the meeting, I spoke to my director and apologized if I had overstepped my authority. In this case, he was glad that I had handled the situation. However, you may not always be so lucky when you act outside the established protocol.

Finally, start with small changes. These can build over time to create a major change at the library. As a point of consideration, you could break down any major project into smaller pieces so that the change will not appear threatening and overwhelming. Prioritizing small changes is key to making sure the project is realized successfully.

Taking responsibility for mistakes

Just because you plan carefully does not mean you will not make mistakes or push too hard. When you slip up (and you will, just as I have and every librarian before you has), take a moment to think before you react. The first reaction can be worse than the actual error. Don't become defensive and refuse to listen to others. If you listen to others, you may discover there is an easy solution.

Take responsibility when you make a mistake. Denying responsibility or blaming others will likely make things worse. Your colleagues will respect you more for owning up to errors and working to correct them. They will distance themselves from you if they think you will blame them for your slip-ups.

Finally, there will be instances when your colleagues feel pushed too hard to make changes. When it becomes apparent that you need to slow things down, don't be afraid to adjust deadlines or to break the project into smaller pieces.

Final thoughts

As you enter this new phase of your library career, don't be afraid of change or be discouraged by a lack of encouragement, as these will come eventually. Change is a sign that libraries evolve as society evolves.

Libraries exist to serve the needs of their patrons, and libraries must change as patrons' needs change. Remember that the old ways of doing things are not always bad and that tactful ways to introduce change do exist. ■



KATHERINE FARMER is director of the Curriculum Materials Center and education research and instruction librarian at Murray (Ky.) State University.

From the African Diaspora and Geographies of Identity

To the Politics of Embryonic Stem Cell Research

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Transforming Our
Libraries, Ourselves

ALA LAS VEGAS

ANNUAL CONFERENCE
& Exhibition

By Mariam Pera

Preview what Las Vegas offers attendees in 2014

It's been more than 40 years since ALA held its annual conference in Vegas, and many things have changed since then. But the 2014 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition, June 26–July 1, still brings together the professional development you've come to expect with exciting new ideas to help propel librarianship into the future.

Photo: Andrew Zarivny / Shutterstock.com

The program selection on display in Las Vegas continues the theme of the last two annual conferences, “Transforming Our Libraries, Ourselves.” While it’s easy to fall into the status quo, this year’s conference programming is evidence that librarians and ALA are evolving to meet tomorrow’s challenges. See the time line on page 62 for a look back at some of the biggest changes to happen at conference over the years.

Here is just a sample of the programs, special events, author appearances, award presentations, and other activities happening in Las Vegas. For a complete listing, visit alaannual.org.

Conference overview

Opening General Session, on Friday, June 27, 4–5:15 p.m. Jane McGonigal, alternate reality game designer and bestselling author of *Reality Is Broken: Why Games Make Us Better and How They Can Change the World*, will get you excited from the very first session of conference about the myriad possibilities for how games that tackle real-world problems can be integrated into a variety of library programming.

The **ALA Awards Presentation** will take place on **Sunday, June 29, 3:30–4 p.m.** during the ALA President’s Program. Daniel Handler (aka Lemony Snicket) will present the first ever Lemony Snicket Prize for Noble Librarians Faced with Adversity.

Also new this year, *Booklist* and the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) present the **Michael L. Printz Program and Reception, Friday, June 27, 8–10 p.m.** Marcus Sedgwick, the 2014 Printz winner for *Midwinterblood*, will deliver a speech following the presentation of awards to the four Printz Honor Book authors: Rainbow Rowell, *Eleanor & Park*; Susann Cokal, *Kingdom of Little Wounds*; Sally Gardner, *Maggot Moon*; and Clare Vanderpool, *Navigating Early*. After the presentation, Gillian Engberg, editorial director of Books for Youth at *Booklist*, will moderate a panel discussion with the authors. A reception will immediately follow the program. Tickets are available for \$34 in advance or \$40 onsite.

Join the **ThinkFit Power Flow Yoga Sunday, June 29, 7–8 a.m.** for a fun, high-energy break from your other conference activities. Practitioners of all levels are welcome. Tickets are available for \$15 in advance and \$20 onsite.

The **Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) Newbery-Caldecott Awards Banquet** will take place on **Sunday, June 29, 6–11 p.m.** This grand celebration honors the authors and illustrators of the year’s most distinguished books for children. Preregistration is required. Tickets are \$94.

End conference on a high note at the **Closing General Session, Tuesday, July 1, 9:30–11 a.m.** Join

award-winning actor and writer **B. J. Novak** as he discusses his *New York Times* bestseller, *One More Thing: Stories and Other Stories* (February 2014, Knopf) and his upcoming children’s book *The Book with No Pictures* (September 2014, Dial Books for Young Readers), which introduces children to the idea that “the right words can be as fun, exciting, and ridiculous as any pictures.”

The Closing General Session will be followed by the **Inaugural Brunch, 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m.** Join ALA President Barbara K. Stripling in honoring incoming President Courtney Young and division presidents-elect. This event includes food and entertainment. Tickets are available for \$50 in advance or \$55 onsite.

President’s Program Sunday, June 29 3:30–5:30 p.m.

Bestselling author **Lois Lowry** and Oscar-winning actor **Jeff Bridges** headline Stripling’s ALA President’s Program. Stripling will conduct an interview with Lowry, a two-time Newbery Medalist and one of the



Photo: Las Vegas News Bureau

Exhibits

Featuring more than 775 organizations, multiple pavilions and stages, and the hottest authors, the exhibit hall is an integral part of your learning, professional development, and networking at Annual Conference. Explore a wide variety of library products, services, books, online services, tools, and technologies.

Friday, June 27, 5:30 p.m.

The official **opening ceremony and ribbon-cutting**, featuring a brief welcome by ALA and Las Vegas dignitaries, will follow the Opening General Session. The Opening Reception includes food, drink, and entertainment in the exhibit hall, giving exhibitors and attendees their first chance to network as the exhibits kick off.

EXHIBIT HOURS

Friday, June 27, 5:30–7 p.m.

Saturday, June 28, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Sunday, June 29, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Monday, June 30, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.

Individual booths will hold **Meet the Author/Illustrator** events, an opportunity to meet and greet favorite adult and children's authors and illustrators throughout the conference.

SPECIALTY PAVILIONS

Find the latest publications, products, and technologies ideal for libraries.

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■ **DVD/Video Pavilion**—showcases recorded materials for libraries of all types.

■ **Government Information Pavilion**—provides information from featured government agencies.

■ **International Publishers Pavilion**—the place to find multilingual and multicultural publications and library materials.

■ **Library School and Instruction Pavilion**—
ALISE



institutional members and other schools showcase LIS educational programs.

■ **Mobile Applications Pavilion**—see the latest apps to manage libraries, improve service to patrons, and help readers of all ages.

■ **Technology/Library 2.0 Pavilion**—features the latest products and services designed to increase the efficiency, effectiveness, and creativity of today's librarians.

■ **Zine Pavilion**—includes zine creators, librarians who manage zine collections, and a display of topical zines which will be raffled off to a library at the close of the exhibits.

DON'T MISS

■ **What's Cooking @ ALA Demonstration Stage**, for mouth-watering displays of the latest cookbooks. Chefs will be there every day to prepare the hottest recipes on the Demonstration Stage and to autograph their latest books.

■ **The PopTop Stage**, focusing on extremely popular librarian favorites: mystery, humor, romance, technology, and travel. Features readings, discussions, panels, and presentations over the course of the exhibits.

■ **Graphic Novel/Gaming Stage**, to hear from authors, illustrators, and creators of popular games and graphic novels.

■ **BookBuzz Theater**, where favorite publishers entertain and inform you about their newest titles, including fiction and nonfiction for young readers and adults alike. Visit the participating publishers in their booths on the exhibit floor to see the full range of their new and most popular titles and to continue the conversations.

■ **Wrap Up/Rev Up** celebration. Join the fun in the exhibit hall, and look for special offers and prize giveaways. **Monday, June 30, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.**

First-Timers

AT CONFERENCE

With so many different and interesting programs taking place, navigating Annual can be intimidating. Here are some tools to help you make the most of conference.

ALA division and round table **Conference 101** programs offer valuable assistance to attendees, especially first-timers. These programs are crafted to help you plan your conference experience based on your work or the type of library in which you work. Programs especially for new attendees are highlighted in the program guide.

If you selected “I am a first-time registrant of the ALA Annual Conference” during registration, you were automatically signed up to get a personal welcome from an **ALA Ambassador**—an ALA member who is a longtime conference-goer. ALA Ambassadors can help you make connections to programs, people, and places before conference so your time is well spent once you get there. If you haven’t signed up for a Mentor Slot already, check out the **ALA Membership Pavilion** in the registration area to see if slots are still available for someone to get you started finding your way around.

Also in the Membership Pavilion: You can connect with colleagues from the New Members Round Table, other members, as well as staff members who can answer any questions about conference, membership, and other happenings at ALA.

world’s most beloved and versatile authors for children and young adults, and moderate a Q&A with the audience.

Community engagement

Here are just a few programs targeted toward building relationships and input from the communities you serve:

Saturday, June 28, and Sunday, June 29, 8:30–10 a.m. and 1–2:30 p.m.

“**Turning Outward to Lead Change in Your Community.**” ALA’s Libraries Transforming Communities initiative seeks to strengthen librarians’ roles as core community leaders by developing and distributing new tools, resources, and support for librarians to engage with their communities in new ways. Explore those tools in a series of four sessions (Aspirations, Turn Quiz, Intentionality, and Sustaining Yourself) led by trainers from the Harwood Institute for Public Innovation. Each stand-alone session focuses on a single tool; taken together, they become a powerful framework for engaging community and leading change.

**Saturday, June 28
10:30–11:30 a.m.**

From religion to health care to immigration—controversial subjects can pose a unique challenge for librarians. In “**Managing Challenges, Maximizing Impact: Policies and Practices for Controversial Programming.**” intellectual freedom advocates and experienced programming librarians will discuss how to prepare and host events that may attract controversy but also can increase visibility and foster community engagement.

**Saturday, June 28
1–2:30 p.m.**

In “**Supporting Community Transformation: Becoming a Community-Engaged Academic Library.**” a panel explores the collaboration of researchers and academic libraries involved in community-engaged learning, service, and scholarship through two current University of Nevada, Las Vegas projects: one that teaches community members about business opportunities using librarian-curated resources and strategies, the other an oral history project that engages and strengthens ties within the local African-American community.

**Saturday, June 28
4:30–5:30 p.m.**

“**The Pros and Cons of Coming in 3rd Place**” offers suggestions on how to advocate for school libraries as a third place where students can be themselves away from home and the constraints of the classroom. Learn to make the most of what you have and encourage others to invest in the library by promoting resources, giving students “ownership” of the library, and giving potential investors complete communications.

**Sunday, June 29
8:30–10 a.m.**

Join Eric Friedenwald-Fishman, creative director/founder of Metropolitan Group and coauthor of *Marketing That Matters: 10 Practices to Profit Your Business and Change the World*, in “**PR Forum: Stories Matter—13 Tips and One Cautionary Note for Powerful Narratives that Drive Social Impact.**” He will discuss how the social impact of a narrative is influenced by the identity of the people setting the narrative and how they present it.

Making at the library

Saturday, June 28
8:30–10 a.m.

Learn how three libraries are bringing self-published works to life with programming opportunities and community collaborations in “**The New Library Imprint: Libraries and Self-Publishing.**” Provincetown (Mass.) Public Library, State University of New York at Geneseo, and Sacramento (Calif.) Public Library discuss their successes, cautionary tales, and how they sustain their self-publishing programs.

Saturday, June 28

1–2:30 p.m.

Diane Sarantakos, director of development, Metropolitan Library System in Oklahoma City, moderates “**3D Printers and Library Policies,**” a United for Libraries panel that will discuss concerns and issues to address when creating policies related to patron access to 3D printers. Speakers include Corinne Hill, executive director, Chattanooga (Tenn.) Public Library; Charlie Wapner, information policy analyst, Office for Information Technology Policy; and Barbara Jones, director, Office for Intellectual Freedom.

Saturday, June 28

1–2:30 p.m.

Much of the philosophy behind making is mentoring youth in tin-

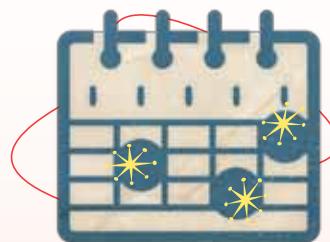
Customize

YOUR CONFERENCE

Use the ALA Annual Conference Scheduler to see the full scope of all Annual has to offer and to plan and organize your conference activities. Highlights of the Scheduler include:

- The ability to browse sessions in multiple ways;
- Easy-to-create personal calendars that can be shared or kept private;
- Tailored recommendations based on division, groups, library type, and interests specified in user profiles;
- Ease of adding, prioritizing, and updating sessions and events;
- Ease of adding booth visits and meetings with specific exhibitors;
- A Quick-Start Guide to the Scheduler and other ways to get help and learn more.

Look for the **Conference Scheduler mobile app** for access at your fingertips.



NETWORKING UNCOMMONS

The **Networking Uncommons** is a dedicated small-group meeting area in the convention center, featuring tables, chairs, free Wi-Fi, and projectors and screens, along with technology to help push out content in real time. Sign up for specific time slots or drop in. There’s enough space so that more than one group can use the room at a time. Be sure to check out the daily topics geared to specific interests.

kering and experimentation, and teaching the making process as one of inquiry and inevitable failed attempts. In “**Teaching Teens How to Fail: Library Spaces and the Maker Movement,**” participants will be

introduced to the maker movement and get a list of comprehensive resources; explore low-barrier entry to maker activities (low-cost technology); and explore proven mentorship practices.



Jane Fonda



Jennifer Kahnweiler



Stan Lee



Alexander McCall Smith



Azar Nafisi



Philippe Petit



Ilyasah Shabazz

Featured speakers

Saturday, June 28
8:30–9:30 a.m.

Jane Fonda, award-winning actress and bestselling author, opens the Auditorium Speaker Series by discussing her advocacy work focusing on adolescent reproductive health and the empowerment of women and girls. Drawing from her book *Being a Teen* (March 2014, Random House), Fonda will make the case that young people are still not getting the information they need.

Saturday, June 28
10:30–11:30 a.m.

Azar Nafisi, award-winning author of *Reading Lolita in Tehran*, returns to Iran and her childhood in her latest book, *Things I've Been Silent About*. This portrait of a woman, a family, and a troubled homeland explores pain over family secrets and a mother's lost life, the discovery of the power of sensuality in literature, and the price a family pays for freedom in a country beset by political upheaval. Nafisi will also

discuss her next book, *The Republic of Imagination: A Portrait of America in Three Books* (October 2014, Viking) and her engagement in promoting literacy and reading books of universal literary value.

Saturday, June 28
noon–1 p.m.

Stan Lee, the man whose superheroes propelled Marvel to its pre-eminent position in the comic book industry, will talk about his illustrated novel *Zodiac* (January 2015,

The Job Hunt

HRDR
JobLIST



Provided by ALA's Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment (HRDR), the ALA JobLIST Placement Center, located in the north hall of the Las Vegas Convention Center, is open **Saturday, June 28**, and **Sunday, June 29**, 9 a.m.–5 p.m., with an orientation on **Saturday, June 28**, 8:30 a.m.

As part of its continuing efforts to help job seekers retool their skills, the Placement Center hosts a free **Open House Sunday, June 29**, 10:30 a.m.–noon. Free services for job seekers include résumé posting on the JobLIST website, career guidance workshops, conversation with a career counselor, résumé review, and the chance to talk to employers in the Placement Center.

New this year, the Placement Center is offering a **Professional Photography Service**, where visitors can have a professional photo taken and receive a set of digital images created for their use in job applications, social media, and other networking opportunities. Cost is \$15 in cash, check, or money order only.

Discover how to capitalize on the

first impression, become familiar with behavioral interviewing technique, and adapt your style based on various interview formats in **"Answering Tough Questions as You Improve Your Interviewing Skills"** with **Lila Fredenburg**, director of administrative services at Rutgers University Libraries, on **Saturday, June 28**, 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Brian Keith, associate dean for administrative services and faculty affairs for George A. Smathers Libraries at the University of Florida, provides a review of the selection process and lots of specific pointers for those seeking their first or next position in **"The Ins and Outs of Job Hunting for Library Positions: An Insider's Perspective"** on **Saturday, June 29**, 1:30–2:30 p.m.

Learn how to effectively use LinkedIn, Twitter, YouTube, Facebook, and Pinterest to network and find employment in **"Become a Social Media GURU in Your Job Search"** with **Angelique Simmons**, chief librarian at

Throckmorton Library in Fort Bragg, North Carolina, **Natasha Dass-Ford**, youth services manager at Cumberland County (N.C.) Public Library and Information Center, and **Naomi House**, founder/publisher of INALJ.com (I Need a Library Job) on **Saturday, June 29**, 3–4:30 p.m.

Lara Phillips, reader services librarian at the University of the South Pacific in Suva, Fiji, and **Kate Holvoet**, library and learning commons supervisor at Zayed University in Abu Dhabi, UAE, discuss working for a foreign library and how to decide if a foreign job is the right move for you in **"Getting a Library Job in a Foreign Country: How (and Why) to Do It and How to Thrive Once You Do"** on **Sunday, June 29**, 9–10:30 a.m.

Disney Publishing Worldwide). Based on the Chinese Zodiac and cowritten with Stuart Moore and illustrated by Andie Tong, it follows Steven Lee, a young Chinese-American teen who is drawn into a conspiracy surrounding 12 mystical pools of energy and a power-hungry secret organization. Lee remains chairman emeritus of Marvel and is chairman and chief creative officer of POW! Entertainment, a multimedia entertainment company he cofounded.

Saturday, June 28
3:30–4:30 p.m.

Alexander McCall Smith, author of the internationally acclaimed No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency series, will discuss his newest book, *The Forever Girl* (February 2014), a novel about love, following one's heart, and the unexpected places to which this can lead us. Born in what is now Zimbabwe and educated there and in Scotland, McCall Smith was professor of medical law at the University of Edinburgh, and has been a visiting professor at universities in Italy and the US, among others.

Sunday, June 29
10:30–11:30 a.m.

Community organizer, activist, and author of the critically acclaimed *Growing Up X*, **Ilyasah Shabazz**—daughter of Malcolm X and Betty Shabazz—will talk about what inspires and motivates her. The founder of Malcolm X Enterprises and a trustee for the Malcolm X and Dr. Betty Shabazz Memorial and Educational Center, Shabazz promotes higher education, interfaith dialogue, and building bridges between cultures for young leaders of the world. She also produces a youth empowerment program, the WAKE-UP Tour.

Monday, June 30
8:30–9:30 a.m.

Hear from the subject of the Academy Award-winning 2008 documentary *Man on Wire*, **Philippe Petit**, about his new book, *Creativity: The Perfect Crime* (May 2014). Petit has been artist-in-residence of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine for more than 30 years and has performed on the high wire more than 80 times around the world. His Auditorium Speaker appearance doubles as **United for Libraries President Rod Wagner's program**. A book signing will follow the presentation.

Monday, June 30
10:30–11:30 a.m.

Bestselling author of *Quiet Influence: The Introvert's Guide to Making a Difference*, **Jennifer B. Kahnweiler** will talk about how and why introverts can be highly effective leaders, influencers, and colleagues when they build on their inherent strengths instead of trying to act like extroverts. Her appearance is also the **Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) President Genevieve S. Owens's program**.

Division presidents' programs

Saturday, June 28
10:30 a.m.–noon

American Association of School Librarians (AASL), President Gail Dickinson. Hear author and teacher **Donalyn Miller** describe how she inspires and motivates her middle school students to read 40 or more books a year. In her latest book, *Reading in the Wild*, Miller collects responses from 900 adult readers and uses this information to teach lifelong reading habits to her students.

Connect

AND STAY
INFORMED

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- Track #alaac14 on Twitter
- Join the 2014 ALA Annual Conference Facebook Event at bit.ly/alaac14fb
- Get the latest on Google+ at bit.ly/alaac14gp
- Follow the Pinterest board at pinterest.com/alaannual
- Keep up on Tumblr at ala-con.tumblr.com
- Follow the fun on Instagram at bit.ly/ALAIstagram
- Check out the ALA Annual Conference Scheduler at alaannual.org/scheduler—and look for the mobile app in June—to receive updates, plan and organize your conference time, get tailored recommendations, and create a sharable calendar.



Saturday, June 28
10:30 a.m.–noon

Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), President Trevor A. Dawes. Hear Ferris State University President **David Eisler** and *Washington Post* columnist and financial educator **Michelle Singletary** highlight ways in which librarians and libraries can partner with others on and off campus to aid our students in “**Financial Literacy at Your Library.**”

Saturday, June 28

10:30 a.m.–noon

Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA), President Catherine Friedman. In “Leaders as Followers: You Don’t Have to Be in Charge to Be a Leader,” **Carrie Messina**, vice-president of human resources at Wynn Las Vegas, will share insights into why the best leaders first know how to be great followers.

Saturday, June 28

4–5:30 p.m.

Reference and User Services Association (RUSA), President M. Kathleen Kern. Join **Wayne Bivens-Tatum**, librarian and author of *Libraries and the Enlightenment* and the Academic Librarian blog; **Wayne Wiegand**, library historian, academic, and author of several books, including *Main Street Public Library*; **Lisa Carlucci Thomas**, librarian, consultant, and founder of Design Think Do; and **Jeanne Goodrich**, executive director of Las Vegas–Clark County Pub-

lic Library District, for a thoughtful debate on how our values and self-perceptions affect how we provide services within our communities.

Sunday, June 29

10:30 a.m.–noon

Association of Specialized and Co-operative Library Agencies (ASCLA), President Sara G. Laughlin. Connected Learning is an exciting educational approach that is attracting increasing attention from educators, librarians, foundations, and governments. Join **Kylie Pepler**, advisor to the Connected Learning Research Network, to learn more about the connected learning approach, underlying research, and how it can be successfully leveraged in the design of library spaces and programming targeted at today’s youth.

Sunday, June 29

3–4 p.m.

Library and Information Technology Association (LITA), President Cindi Trainor Blyberg. Join

Kimberly Bryant, founder of Black Girls Code, which introduces computer coding lessons to young girls from underrepresented communities in programming languages such as Scratch or Ruby on Rails. Black Girls Code seeks to introduce programming and technology to a new generation of coders who will become builders of technological innovation and of their own futures.

Monday, June 30

1–2:30 p.m.

ALSC, President Starr LaTronica. Learn how library and community collaborations can be the nexus of support for children and families. **Amy Dickinson**, syndicated advice columnist, will speak about her collaboration with the Family Reading Partnership of Ithaca, New York, to launch the campaign “A Book in Every Bed” that then sparked a national movement. **Anna McQuinn**, author of *Lola at the Library*, will bring an international perspective to proceedings

Time Line



and speak of her work in the United Kingdom with young children and their families. The program will round out with a panel of librarians from across the country discussing their innovative partnerships that support children and families.

Monday, June 30 1–3 p.m.

YALSA, President Shannon Peterson. Discuss how to create learning opportunities for teens in your library and in your community in “**A Burning Need to Know: How Passion Connects to Learning.**” In this highly interactive program, participants will be able to talk with connected learning coaches (librarians from schools, public libraries, and library schools) who will answer questions and facilitate discussion about how to bring the ideas of connected learning into the school and public library for and with teens.

Program sampler

As part of this year’s **Now Showing @ ALA Film Program**, the Intellectual Freedom Committee is partnering with the Library History Round Table, the Black Caucus of the ALA, and the Association of American Publishers to revisit the controversy over the 1977 ALA-produced film, *The Speaker*, on **Sunday, June 29, 10:30 a.m.–noon** and **Monday, June 30, 8–10 a.m.**, and ask what we can learn as our Association and profession continue into the 21st century. Now Showing will offer a variety of films and documentaries throughout the day from **Saturday, June 28, to Monday, June 30**, and many will offer a chance to meet the film’s writer, director, or subjects.

Saturday, June 29 8:30–10 a.m.

During the **ALA Washington Office Update**, former US Sen. Jim Webb of Virginia will discuss the upcoming national election season and detail ways that the political cycle will affect libraries. Following the Update, the Washington Office will host several breakout sessions from 10:30–11:30 a.m. that will offer hands-on training to improve library services on net neutrality; reimagining national public policy and library advocacy; libraries and e-government; and proven grassroots strategies for Friends, trustees, advocates, and foundations.

Sunday, June 29 7–9:30 a.m.

The Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table (EMIERT) and the Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee celebrate the year’s best African-American authors and illustrators of books for children and youth at the **Coretta Scott King Book Awards Breakfast**. The Coretta Scott King–Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement recipient will also be honored.

Sunday, June 29 8–10 a.m.

Hear from noteworthy and award-winning authors Daniel J. Brown, Tessa Dare, and V. E. Schwab at RUSA’s “**Literary Tastes: Celebrating the Best Reading of the Year.**” These authors’ books are among RUSA’s annual selections and also celebrate the art and craft of writing with fellow book lovers.

■ **Daniel J. Brown:** *The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics* (Viking, 2013), RUSA Notable Book Nonfiction category winner. A story of eight oarsmen

Business AND FINANCIAL MEETINGS

FRIDAY, JUNE 27

- ALA Executive Board I, 8:30–11:30 a.m.
- ALA Budget Analysis & Review Committee (BARC), noon–3 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 28

- Council Orientation Session, 8–10:30 a.m.
- Council/Executive Board/Membership Information Session, 3–4:30 p.m.
- ALA Membership Meeting, 4:30–5:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 29

- ALA Council I, 8:30–11 a.m.
- ALA Planning and Budget, 1–2:30 p.m.

MONDAY, JUNE 30

- ALA Council II, 8:30–11:30 a.m.
- ALA Executive Board II, 1–4:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JULY 1

- ALA Council III, 7:45–9:15 a.m.
- ALA Executive Board III, 1–4:30 p.m.

and their coxswain struggling to overcome the choppy waters and the hardships of the Great Depression in their pursuit of glory.

■ **Tessa Dare:** *Any Duchess Will Do* (Avon, 2013), the top pick for the Reading List’s Romance category in 2014. A humorous and cleverly told story about how the very desperate-for-grandchildren Duchess of Halford strikes a bargain with

Carnegie Medals

FOR EXCELLENCE IN FICTION AND NONFICTION

**SATURDAY, JUNE 28
8–10 P.M.**

Don't miss the announcement and presentation of the third Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Nonfiction, ALA's only single-book awards for adult trade fiction and nonfiction. The ceremony will be followed with a dessert and drinks reception.

Here are the 2014 finalists for the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction:

■ *On Paper: The Everything of Its Two-Thousand-Year History*, by Nicholas A. Basbanes. Published by Alfred A. Knopf, a division of Random House.

■ *Five Days at Memorial: Life and Death in a Storm-Ravaged Hospital*, by Sheri Fink. Published by Crown Publishers, an imprint of the Crown Publishing Group, a division of Random House.



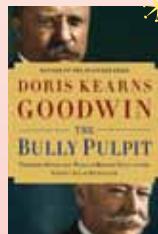
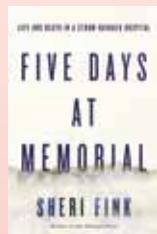
■ *The Bully Pulpit: Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, and the Golden Age of Journalism*, by Doris Kearns Goodwin. Published by Simon & Schuster.

The 2014 finalists for the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction:

■ *Americanah*, by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. Published by Alfred A. Knopf, a division of Random House.

■ *Claire of the Sea Light*, by Edwidge Danticat. Published by Alfred A. Knopf, a division of Random House.

■ *The Goldfinch*, by Donna Tartt. Published by Little, Brown and Company, a division of Hachette Book Group.



her only son, Griff: Pick a woman—any woman. If she can transform her son's choice into duchess material, he must marry the girl. Griff picks the least likely candidate in bluestocking barmaid Pauline, only to quickly realize he has no idea whom he is dealing with.

■ **V. E. Schwab:** *Vicious* (Tor Books, 2013), the top pick for the Reading List's Fantasy category in 2014. Masterfully told, the story tells of a friendly rivalry turned vicious when college friends Victor and Eli obtain superhuman powers and use them for very different purposes. This dark paranormal fantasy, a riveting tale of vengeance and redemption, proves that extraordinary powers don't necessarily make superheroes.

**Sunday, June 29
5:30–7:30 p.m.**

Laugh out loud at **United for Libraries' "The Laugh's On Us,"** sponsored by SAGE, featuring Paula Poundstone, author of *I Heart Jokes: Paula Tells Them in Boston*. Poundstone will be joined by Anthony Breznican, senior staff writer for *Entertainment Weekly*; Stephanie Evanovich, bestselling author of *Big Girl Panties*; Eric Kaplan, coexecutive producer of *The Big Bang Theory*; and Issa Rae, creator of the series *The Misadventures of Awkward Black Girl*.

**Monday, June 30
2–4 p.m.**

Enjoy tea and sweet treats at **United for Libraries' Gala Author Tea**, sponsored by ReferenceUSA. Featured authors include Heather Gudenkauf, *Little Mercies*; Laurie R. King, *The Beekeeper's Apprentice*; Jean Kwok, *Mambo in Chinatown*; Emily St. John Mandel, *Station Eleven*; and James Rollins, *The 6th Extinction*. ■



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Join us at ALA

BOOTH # 1043

GIFTS and GIVEAWAYS



A Taste of

LAS VEGAS

Where to eat on and off the Strip By Laura Daily

Buffets, 99-cent shrimp cocktails, and cigarette smoke-choked “gourmet rooms” once defined the Vegas culinary scene.

The goal: Feed gamblers quickly so they can get back to the slot machines and roulette wheels. Not anymore. The city of neon has lured some of the world’s best chefs and restaurateurs, all eager to build their brand (and sometimes experiment with new cooking styles) in a place packed with hungry foodies.

Vegas dining choices are endless and often expensive. A multicourse tasting menu in a chi-chi spot can easily set you back four figures; even coffee and a pastry may cause sticker shock. There are bargains, but you may have to search harder, drive farther, or be willing to bet on the unfamiliar.

Some insider advice: Everything in Vegas is farther away than it appears. What looks like a short stroll can turn into an hourlong slog. And while the

monorail speedily connects the Strip to the Convention Center, the rails run on the backside of the resort-casinos, not down the center of Las Vegas Boulevard. Local bus service is fine only if you aren’t in a hurry. Opt for cabs, especially if you are headed off the Strip or downtown.

All Vegas hotels have at least one 24-hour restaurant serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner. That’s your best bet for breakfast. When you tire of the one at your hotel, another is next door. The Las Vegas Convention Center is so large it practically has its own zip code. Just a handful of restaurants are within walking distance and most are open only for dinner. Cabs are plentiful, so grab one for a 10-minute ride downtown, off-Strip, or to Chinatown if you seek an affordable, tasty lunch.

There is no comprehensive list of every Vegas restaurant, but one of the best resources is LasVegas.com/

restaurants, where you can search restaurants by cuisine, price range, and location.

Around the Convention Center

THE BARRYMORE

99 Convention Center Dr.
(Royal Resort Hotel) 702-407-5303
barymorelv.com

Don’t be put off by the suspect-looking Royal Resort. Inside is a real find: modernized Rat Pack–infused glamor with blue-tufted booths and a ceiling lined with antique movie reels. A chic but unpretentious menu includes pan-roasted duck breast, seared ahi tuna, squash curry, and bone-in rib-eye. Pair your meal with local craft beer or one-of-a-kind vinos.

D daily **\$\$\$**

PIERO’S

355 Convention Center Dr.
702-369-2305 pieroscuisine.com
Sitting in the shadow of the Convention Center, Piero’s is old-school Vegas—so old school, it was featured in the movie *Casino* (staff will point out the table that hosted Robert De



Niro and Sharon Stone). The fresh, authentic Italian cuisine that attracted the city's founding fathers continues to draw local bigwigs and celebrities. Though the kitchen prepares veal more than half a dozen ways, order the osso buco, Piero's signature dish.

D daily **\$\$\$**

Good for large groups

The Strip

BACCHANAL BUFFET

3570 Las Vegas Blvd. S.
(Caesars Palace) 702-731-7110
caesarspalace.com

Las Vegas is synonymous with the buffet, and Bacchanal at Caesars Palace may be among the most decadent, with more than 500 items. The menu runs from classics such as made-to-order omelets and prime ribs, to the cutting edge—regional comfort food like baked-to-order soufflés, red velvet pancakes, oak-grilled lamb chops, handmade Chinese dim sum, even roasted South Carolina shrimp and grits.

B, L, D daily **\$5-\$\$\$**

BOUCHON

3355 Las Vegas Blvd. S. (Venetian)
702-414-6200 bouchonbistro.com
For a decade, America's culinary king, Thomas Keller (of French Laundry fame), has constantly wowed Vegas diners with Bouchon. The restaurant serves a menu of

hearty bistro classics and daily specials, but it's the baked goods that have locals salivating. If you can't afford to drop a bundle on breakfast or brunch, make it a point to find one of the three Bouchon Bakeries inside the Venetian for a grab-and-go brioche and jam, chocolate croissant, or baguette with Nutella. Brunch (Sat., Sun.), B, L, D daily **\$\$\$**

BUDDY V'S RISTORANTE

3327 Las Vegas Blvd. S. (Venetian)
702-607-2355 buddyvlasvegas.com
Television celebrity baker Buddy "Cake Boss" Valastro brings a taste of his *famiglia* and heirloom recipes to town at Buddy V's. Meals here often feel like Sunday dinner at Grandma's, with "Nonna's lasagna" and "My wife's eggplant parm" on the menu, along with Italian-American classics and family favorites. An eclectic mix of furniture, Valastro family photographs, and light fixtures made of repurposed whisks and water jugs adds to the homey vibe.

L, D daily **\$\$**

CARMINE'S LAS VEGAS

3500 Las Vegas Blvd. S.
(Forum Shops at Caesars Palace)
702-473-9700 carminesnyc.com
"A great place to bring an army" is how Brock Radke, food editor at *Las Vegas Weekly*, describes this outpost of the New York City-based Italian restaurant located inside the Forum Shops at Caesars. Every dish is served family style. That means huge portions of fried calamari, penne in vodka sauce, rigatoni, and homemade chocolate cannoli.

L, D daily **\$\$**

Good for large groups



CHINA POBLANO

3708 Las Vegas Blvd. S.
(The Cosmopolitan) 702-698-7900
cosmopolitanlasvegas.com
As its name implies, China Poblano cooks up both Chinese and Mexican fare. This isn't some strange goulash, though. Innovative chef José Andrés offers essentially two authentic styles of cooking on a single menu: half devoted to Mexican classics like tacos, quesadillas, and ceviche, and the other half to dim sum and noodles. Stick with one set of flavors or mix and match.

L, D daily **\$\$**



Average price per person for
entrée without appetizers, drinks,
tax, or tip.

\$: under \$14

\$\$: \$15-\$24

\$\$\$: \$25-\$50

\$\$\$\$: \$51 and up

CRUSH

3799 Las Vegas Blvd. S. (MGM Grand)
702-891-3222 mgmgrand.com

This laid-back wine bar is ideal for small groups that enjoy tapas-style small plates and sharing larger family-style portions. Among the signature dishes are shrimp risotto, Angus mini burgers with buttermilk blue cheese, and California sea bass with braised kale and tomato chutney. Or choose from one of seven wood-fired pizzas.

D daily **\$\$**



Chefs toss fresh pizza crust at Secret Pizza.

DELMONICO STEAKHOUSE

3355 Las Vegas Blvd. S. (Venetian)
702-414-3737 emerilsrestaurants.com

Bam! Owned and operated by chef Emeril Lagasse, Delmonico Steakhouse delivers soul-stirring New Orleans-style cuisine with the signature bold flavors for which Lagasse is famous. House specialties: bone-in rib-eye steak, Nawlins barbecue shrimp, double-cut pork chop, and chicken for two carved tableside. Take the advice of Eater Vegas editor Susan Stapleton and stop at the bar and ask for Max. "He has a secret whiskey menu of drinks only available when he's there."

L, D daily **\$\$\$\$**

EL SEGUNDO SOL TAQUERIA

3200 Las Vegas Blvd. S.
(Fashion Show Mall) 702-258-1211

elsegundosol.com
Mexico's vibrant flavors are the draw at this local hot spot where tortillas are made from scratch daily. Enjoy enchiladas, fajitas, and of course, tacos, as authentic as something

you'd find across the border. Grab a seat at the outdoor patio, perfect for people-watching, and try the guaca-

mole, Baja shrimp taco, and a prickly pear margarita (on the rocks or frozen), not too sweet or sour.

B, L, D daily **\$\$**



ESTIATORIO MILOS

3708 Las Vegas Blvd. S.
(The Cosmopolitan) 877-551-7776

cosmopolitanlasvegas.com
Recognized by critics as one of the world's finest Greek restaurants, Estiatorio Milos has a reputation for serving exquisite fresh fish imported daily from around the world.

While dinner will leave a serious dent in your wallet, the three-course lunch special is a steal at \$22. Among the imaginative yet authentic Greek options are a toma-

to and feta salad, shrimp with couscous, and lavraki (grilled Mediterranean bass).

L, D daily **\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

FIVE50 PIZZA BAR

3730 Las Vegas Blvd. S. (Aria)
702-590-7111 aria.com

No matter how you slice it, Five50 Pizza Bar is an easy way to sample award-winning chef Shawn McClain's fare at bargain prices. The come-as-you-are spot serves hand-crafted East Coast-style pizza like the Farmstead (with prosciutto, crème fraîche, farm eggs, and country olives) and the North Beach (topped with clams, smoked mozzarella, sweet onions, and oregano).

L, D daily **\$\$**

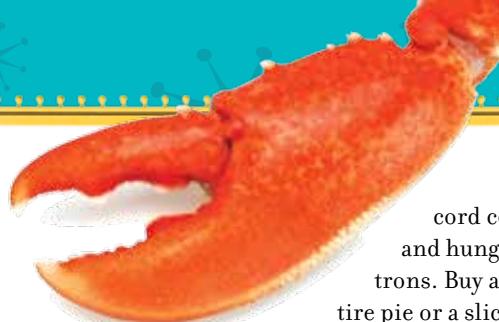
GUY FIERI'S VEGAS KITCHEN & BAR

3535 Las Vegas Blvd. S.
(The Quad Resort and Casino)
702-731-3311 guyferi.com

Chef, author, and television host Guy Fieri's first foray into Vegas dining features is as extravagant as his personality. Don't miss the Mac and Cheese Bacon Burger. The winner of the 2013 Food Network New York City Wine and Food Festival Burger Bash is a massive hunk of meat topped with applewood bacon, six-cheese macaroni and cheese, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickle, and more melted cheese on a garlic-toasted brioche bun.

L, D daily **\$\$**





**MICHAEL MINA
PUB 1842**

3799 Las Vegas Blvd. S. (MGM Grand)
702-891-3922
mgmgrand.com

Well known for his innovative gourmet fare, chef Michael Mina now takes the casual route. This tavern-style restaurant serves pub grub with a playful twist, including some of the best burgers on the Strip. For example, the Peanut Butter Crunch Burger: American Wagyu beef cooked over a wood-fired grill topped with bacon jam, potato chips, and pimento cheese. Brock Radke, food editor at *Las Vegas Weekly*, calls it “oddly delicious.” Try one of the more than 50 ales, pilsners, stouts, and lagers, or order a beer flight to sample several American and international brews.

L, D daily \$\$\$

PIN-UP PIZZA

3667 Las Vegas Blvd. S. (Planet Hollywood) 702-785-5555
planethollywoodresort.com

Vegas does everything big, and this takeout joint is no exception. It sells by the slice only, but the standard 30-inch pizza means a single slice is huge. The New York-style pies come in seven varieties: cheese, white, sausage, pepperoni, artichoke, margherita, and meatball. Non-pizza choices include stromboli pin-wheels, garlic knots, and cannoli.

L, D daily \$

SECRET PIZZA

3708 Las Vegas Blvd. S. (The Cosmopolitan) 702-698-7860
cosmopolitanlasvegas.com

The worst-kept “secret” in Vegas is this pint-size pizza place tucked away at the end of a corridor on The Cosmopolitan’s third level. You won’t find any signs, so look for a long hallway lined with vintage re-

cord covers and hungry patrons. Buy an entire pie or a slice, and then elbow your way to one

of the few stools or head to the hotel’s “lounging” area, where you’ll find sofas and a pool table.

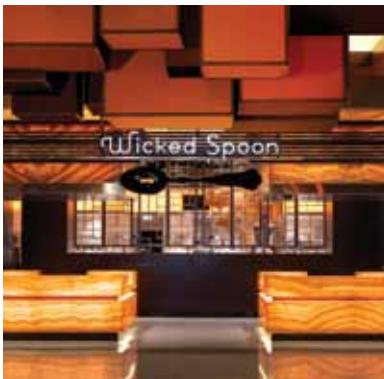
L, D daily \$

**TOM COLICCHIO'S
HERITAGE STEAK**

3400 Las Vegas Blvd. S. (Mirage)
702-791-7111 mirage.com

New York transplant Colicchio focuses on meats prepared over an open flame, from wood-burning ovens to charcoal grills. It’s steakhouse fare—rib-eyes, filets, a 32-ounce porterhouse for two—but Colicchio appeals to varied palates with fun twists like charred octopus, buffalo carpaccio, and spice-roasted lobster.

D daily \$\$\$\$



WICKED SPOON BUFFET

3708 Las Vegas Blvd. S. (The Cosmopolitan) 702-698-7870
cosmopolitanlasvegas.com

This bustling food hall turns the traditional buffet on its ear. Instead of scooping out food from large pans or bowls, you pick up individual servings. The bone marrow draws raves as does the octopus salad, made-to-order mac and cheese, and the gelato bar.

B, L, D daily \$\$-\$\$\$

Off-Strip



ALIZÉ

4321 W. Flamingo Rd. (The Palms)
702-942-7000 alizelv.com

Perched atop the Palms Casino Resort, Alizé boasts jaw-dropping panoramic views of the neon-lit Strip. This Michelin-starred restaurant isn’t famous just for its floor-to-ceiling windows: French chef André Rochat’s menu is the talk of the town. *Las Vegas Review-Journal* restaurant critic Heidi Knapp Rinella recommends the foie gras, lobster thermidor, and Dover sole prepared three ways. For a truly decadent end to your evening, pre-order one of the dessert soufflés.

D daily \$\$\$\$

CASA DI AMORE

2850 E. Tropicana Ave.
702-433-4967 casadiamore.com

The Rat Pack favored this neighborhood spot, and it remains a local favorite, says *Las Vegas Review-Journal* critic Heidi Knapp Rinella. Classic rustic Italian dishes like cioppino, osso buco, baked lasagna, and chicken parmigiana are all prepared the old-school way. Casa di Amore is backed with live music and a full bar, featuring a video poker lounge. An even better excuse to try their fare: a free ride. Just give them a call between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. and they’ll arrange comp limo service to and from your resort.

D daily \$\$\$

CULINARY DROPOUT

4455 Paradise Rd. (Hard Rock Hotel)
702-522-8100 hardrockhotel.com

This high-energy gastropub sports a

Photos: Wicked Spoon Buffet, courtesy of The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas; Alizé, courtesy of Palms Casino Resort.

rock'n'roll vibe. Grilled cheese sliders, burgers, fried chicken, and meatloaf populate the menu, as do unique antipasti offerings that showcase hard-to-find meats, cheeses, and vegetables. There's no problem finding a great brew, with two-thirds of the menu dedicated to beer (draft, cans, and craft) and wine.

Brunch (Sat., Sun.), L, D daily **\$\$**

FERRARO'S

4480 Paradise Rd.
702-364-5300 ferraroslasvegas.com
House-made pastas (whole wheat and gluten-free available), legendary osso buco, homemade sausage ... it's little wonder locals flock to this Italian restaurant and wine bar across from the Hard Rock Hotel. Dinner favorites include papardelle mimmo, a long, wide pasta with scallops, lobster, asparagus, butter, sage, and truffle; polpette, Italian meatballs in tomato sauce; and, of course, the osso buco, a veal shank braised in red wine reduction. A "Love Your Lunch" special runs just \$9.95 for two courses.
L (M-F), D daily **-\$\$\$\$**



FU

4455 Paradise Rd. (Hard Rock Hotel)
702-522-8188 hardrockhotel.com
Satisfying the tastes of the Hard Rock Hotel's large Asian clientele, Fu serves Korean, Vietnamese, Chinese, and Thai cuisines. *Las Vegas Weekly* food editor Brock Radke recommends the spicy Thai basil chicken lettuce wraps, traditional Chinese-style pork barbecue ribs, and the spicy Mongolian beef.

Lunch bowls served with jasmine rice and soup du jour are available from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

L, D daily **\$\$**



NOBU

4455 Paradise Rd. (Hard Rock Hotel)
702-693-5090
noburestaurants.com/las-vegas
Las Vegas Weekly food editor Brock Radke calls it "one of the best Japanese restaurants in town and potentially one of the most expensive." Created by chef Nobu Matsuhisa and his pupil, Iron Chef Morimoto, Nobu serves trendsetting Japanese cuisine. Fine Wagyu beef is sold by the ounce, and you can get eel, sea urchin, and squid. Set yourself up at the sushi bar stocked with fish flown in daily from Tokyo, or simply hand over your credit card and order the *omakase* multicourse chef's tasting menu. So worth it.
D daily **\$\$\$\$**

Downtown



ANDIAMO ITALIAN STEAKHOUSE

301 Fremont St. (The D Las Vegas)
702-388-2220 thed.com
Vintage Vegas atmosphere permeates this downtown restaurant where the waiters sport tuxedos but patrons don't need to don a tie. A traditional steakhouse menu sits beside classic Italian fare. Caesar salad is prepared tableside. Indulge

in a 24-ounce porterhouse, whole Maine lobster, rack of lamb, or osso buco. Expect a large wine selection and even larger meatballs.
D daily **\$\$\$**

EAT

707 Carson St.
702-534-1515 eatdtlv.com
Ask a Vegas local where to go for breakfast or lunch and the answer is likely to be Eat. Brainchild of chef Natalie Young, the intimate spot is all about comfort food and a healthy dose of self-indulgence. Your biggest problem won't be the line but choosing between beignets with homemade jam, golden-brown pancakes, shrimp and grits, or a "killer" grilled cheese of aged cheddar on sourdough.
B, L daily **\$**

LA COMIDA

100 Sixth St.
702-463-9900
facebook.com/LaComidaLV
A former laundromat is transformed into a chic cantina in the newly revitalized Fremont East District. Don't expect combo plates or nachos. Instead, the tidy menu offers an eclectic spin on south-of-the-border dishes such as the Mexican burger, complete with ancho chilies and jalapeño bacon with sweet-potato fries on the side. La Comida serves unlimited family-style rice and beans with its entrées for everyone at the table to share.
L, D daily **\$\$**
Good for small groups

OSCAR'S

1 Main St. (Plaza Hotel and Casino)
702-386-7227 oscarslv.com
Former Las Vegas mayor Oscar B. Goodman collected plenty of memorabilia during his



Photos: Fu, courtesy of Erik Kabik; Nobu, courtesy of Jon Warfel; Andiamo Italian Steakhouse, courtesy of the D Las Vegas

12-year tenure. See it for yourself at this steakhouse inside the iconic dome of the Plaza Hotel and Casino overlooking Fremont Street. Flavorful, tender, and juicy, the beef is cooked to perfection and is accompanied by high-quality, made-from-scratch sides. Adjacent to the steakhouse is Oscar's famous bar, pouring a variety of handcrafted cocktails, including legendary martinis, Goodman's signature drink.
D daily \$\$\$

PIZZA ROCK

201 N. Third St.
702-385-0838 pizzarocklasvegas.com
What does an 11-time world pizza champion do for an encore? Open a gourmet pizzeria in downtown Las Vegas, of course. Tony Gemignani's Pizza Rock serves every style of pizza imaginable, baked in one of the restaurant's four ovens. Highlights include the Neapolitan-style margherita and the Cal Italia (asiago, mozzarella, imported Gorgonzola, sweet fig preserve, prosciutto di Parma, Parmigiano-Reggiano and balsamic reduction), which won the Food Network's pizza champions' challenge. The pizzeria also has winning panini, calzones, stromboli, grinders, and meatball subs.
L, D \$-\$\$

Further Afield

Grab a cab and take a 10-minute ride along Spring Mountain Road to what locals call "Chinatown," a series of strip malls housing a delicious variety of Asian restaurants.

CHADA THAI AND WINE

3400 S. Jones Blvd. #11A
702-641-1345
chadavegas.com

Named one of the best sommeliers of the year in

2013 by *Food and Wine*, Bank Atcharawan is both sommelier and chef at this intimate spot lauded for its take on southern and Bangkok-style Thai cuisine. Try fried pig's ears, garlicky charbroiled prawn and eggplant, and crispy pork belly stir-fried with broccoli. Chili peppers on the menu cue diners to what is hot, hotter, and smokin'. Wine is as important as the main dishes, with staff eager to help you pair the perfect pinot blanc or merlot with your selections.
D daily \$\$

MONTA RAMEN

5030 Spring Mountain Rd., Ste. 6
702-367-4600 montaramen.com
This authentic, Tokyo-style ramen noodle house serves the real deal. Raves Eater Vegas editor Susan Stapleton, "It's toe-curling good." Thin handmade noodles swim in a creamy cloudy white broth made from pork bones that have been boiling for days. The tangy, savory soy sauce added to the Shoyu Ramen is imported from Japan. Prices are low, so don't be shy if you want *kae-dama*, or extra noodles (\$1.50), for your soup.
L, D daily \$

RAKU

5030 W. Spring Mountain Rd. #2
702-367-3511 raku-grill.com
The wildly popular Raku specializes in charcoal-grilled fare. With a menu that runs from foie gras with glazed soy sauce and Kobe beef liver to poached egg with sea urchin and salmon roe, your best bet is to tell your server what you like and don't like and let them go to town.
D (M-Sat.) \$-\$\$



LAURA DAILY is a travel writer and executive editor of *livingonthecheap.com*.



DINING OPTIONS FOR VEGETARIANS AND VEGANS

GO RAW CAFÉ (LAKE EAST)

2910 Lake East Dr.
702-254-5382

GO RAW CAFÉ (WINDMILL LANE)

2381 E. Windmill Lane, Unit 18
702-450-9007

RAW FOOD EXPRESS

5105 S. Fort Apache, Unit 110
702-992-0499

SIMPLY PURE

707 Fremont St., Ste. 2310
702-810-5641

FRESH MAMA'S

(inside Vegas Hot Yoga and Pilates)
5875 S. Rainbow Blvd., Ste. 104
702-726-2621

VEGGIE DELIGHT

3504 Wynn Rd. (Chinatown)
702-310-6565

VEGGIE HOUSE

5115 Spring Mountain Rd.
(Chinatown)
702-431-5802



Currents

- In May **Sandi Allen** retired as manager of Jennings (Fla.) Public Library.
- May 12 **Mario Ascencio** became college librarian and managing director of the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California.
- March 25 **Hedi Ben-Aicha** became vice president and dean of the library and electronic course materials for American Public University System.
- March 31 **Marquita Boehnke** retired as youth services consultant at the Central Kansas Library System in Great Bend.
- Sallie Logan Public Library in Murphysboro, Illinois, named **Loretta Broomfield** director in March.
- In March **Ben Carter** became director of Conyers (Ga.) Rockdale Library System, after serving as interim director since June 2013.
- In March **Susan Chandler** became director of Nesbitt Memorial Library in Columbus, Texas.
- In April **Kate Chang** left her position as children's librarian at Bruton Memorial Library in Plant City, Florida, to take a



Hedi BenAicha



Shauna Collier



Mike Furlough



Elizabeth Marcus

- similar position with Marion County (Fla.) Public Library System.
- April 1 **Anna Coats** became head of youth services at Livingston (N.J.) Public Library.
- **Shauna Collier** joined the Smithsonian Libraries in Washington, D.C., as founding librarian of the National Museum of African American History and Culture Library January 13.
- In May **Michael Devine**, director of the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum in Independence, Missouri, retired.
- **Jill Dorman** recently became children's librarian at Mendocino County (Calif.) Library's Willits branch.
- **Richard Eloë** retired after seven years as manager of the Lake Arrowhead branch of San Bernardino County (Calif.) Library in Bluejay in March.
- In April **Emily Ferren** left her position as director of Charles County (Md.) Public Library to join Maryland's Deaf Culture Digital Library.
- **Barbara J. Ford** retired after more than 10 years as director of the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs at the

- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in May.
- **Laura Frizol** left her position as director of La Salle (Ill.) Public Library in May.
- May 19 **Mike Furlough** became executive director of HathiTrust.
- **Jane Goh** became senior director of marketing and product management for Boopsie Inc. in Sunnyvale, California, in March.
- In March **Elizabeth Gulick** retired after almost 28 years as director of Blair Memorial Library in Clawson, Michigan.
- March 31 **Janine Harris-Wheatley** retired as CEO of Essa Public Library in Angus, Ontario.
- **Jessica Hudson** became Contra Costa County (Calif.) librarian April 14.
- **Thai Jones** recently became the Herbert H. Lehman Curator for American History at Columbia University's Rare Book and Manuscript Library.
- **Erika Kosin** recently became library services manager at Rowan (N.C.) Public Library.
- Wilkinson Public Library in Telluride, Colorado, promoted **Sarah Landeryou** to director in March.

CITED

- **Rich Gause**, government documents librarian at the University of Central Florida Libraries in Orlando, was appointed to a three-year term on the Government Printing Office's Depository Library Council June 1.
- **Hal Mendelsohn**, reference librarian and patents and trademarks librarian at the University of Central Florida's John C. Hitt Library in Orlando, received the university's Excellence in Librarianship Award April 2.
- **Janet Sims-Wood**, assistant chief librarian at Howard University's Moorland Spingarn Research Center in Washington, D.C., from 1987 until her 2005 retirement, and currently a part-time reference librarian at Prince George's Community College in Largo, Maryland, received the 2014 James Partridge Outstanding African American Information Professional Award from the University of Maryland College of Information Studies and Citizens for Maryland Libraries April 11.

■ April 15 **Elizabeth Marcus** became research and instruction librarian at Western Carolina University's Hunter Library in Cullowhee, North Carolina.

■ March 31 **Sheila Mikkelson** became director of Margaret E. Heggan Free Public Library in Sewell, New Jersey.

■ **Melody Moxley** recently retired as library services manager at Rowan (N.C.) Public Library.

■ March 31 **Diana Neal** retired from Woodbury (Conn.) Public Library after 34 years as a librarian.

■ **Lydia Neeley** recently became children's librarian at Butte County (Calif.) Library's Chico branch.

■ March 5 **Matthew Nojonen** became director of North Central Regional Library's Leavenworth (Wash.) Public Library.

■ May 5 **Robert "Bob" Pasicznyuk** became director of Douglas County (Colo.) Libraries.

■ **Carolyn Pennington**, children's librarian at Burlleson (Tex.) Public Library for more than 25 years, retired in March.

■ April 28 the State Library of Michigan in Lansing appointed **Randy Riley** as state librarian.

■ April 30 Michigan State Librarian **Nancy R. Robertson** retired.



Elizabeth Skene



Joe Thompson

OBITUARIES

■ **Eliza Dresang**, 72, Beverly Cleary Professor of Children and Youth Services at the University of Washington Information School in Seattle since 2008, died April 21 of breast cancer. A champion of children's literature and digital resources, Dresang was author of *Radical Change: Books for Youth in a Digital Age*, and had chaired committees for the Newbery Medal, Pura Belpré Award, Batchelder Award, and Notable Children's Books list. Dresang previously served as associate professor at Florida State University in Tallahassee, a children's librarian at Los Angeles Public Library and Atlanta (Ga.) Public Library, and a school media specialist for Lapham Elementary School in Madison, Wisconsin. Her most recent research, Project VIEWS2, was focused on measuring early literacy outcomes for children.

■ **Birdie MacLennan**, 57, director of the University of Vermont Libraries' Resource Description and Analysis Services Department in Burlington, died March 10. MacLennan joined the

library in 1990 after working at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Merrimack College in North Andover, Massachusetts. She was known as a steward of Vermont history, serving as project director and principal investigator for the Vermont Digital Newspaper Project.

■ **Jean Mangan**, 59, information services manager at Rockford (Ill.) Public Library since 1986, died April 23. Mangan held, at various points, several managerial positions with the library, including managing the library's Rock River and Rockton Centre branches.

■ **Martha Vines**, 63, children's librarian at Emmaus (Pa.) Public Library since 1988, died of brain cancer April 8. Vines was active in the community, helping to organize Emmaus's 250th anniversary celebration in 2009, offering storytelling sessions at the borough's seasonal festivals, and creating the annual Community Heroes Day at the library after the September 11 terror attacks.

■ **Anne Shirako** recently became manager of the Willits branch of Mendocino County (Calif.) Library.

■ May 1 **Elizabeth Skene** became digital initiatives librarian at Western Carolina University's Hunter Library in Cullowhee, North Carolina.

■ **Barbara Skyles** joined Williford Library in Hardy, Arkansas, as librarian March 1.

■ **Philip Alan Smith** was recently named director of

Florence County (S.C.) Library System.

■ **Sarah K. Steiner** became head of research and instruction services at Western Carolina University's Hunter Library in Cullowhee, North Carolina, May 1.

■ **Joe Thompson** became senior administrator of public services at Harford County (Md.) Public Library in March.

■ **Laura Wark** was appointed CEO of Essa Public Library in Angus,

Ontario, March 31.

■ In May **Cindy Weir** became director of Sault Ste. Marie (Ontario) Public Library.

At ALA

■ Human Resources Assistant **Sharon DeBates** retired March 28.

■ **Courtney Jones** became awards coordinator for ALSC March 31.

■ **Maighdlin "Maggie" Reagan** joined *Booklist* as Books for Youth editorial assistant April 28. ■

Send notices and color photographs for *Currents* to Mariam Pera, mpera@ala.org.

The Myth of Busy Summers

Youth librarians serve kids, parents, and advocates all year long

by Linda W. Braun

When library staff members serving youth tell me how much busier they are when school is out for the summer (and in preparing for students' vacation time), it makes me a little crazy. I say to myself, "Shouldn't library staff be this busy all year long?" And really, what message does it send when talking with colleagues, administrators, community members, and elected officials that spring and summer are most busy for youth-serving staff? Mightn't anyone



We need to think about how we position summer programming in the full spectrum of our work.

be justified in asking, "If that's the only time you are so busy, why do we need so much of your services the rest of the year?"

We need to think differently about the

way we position summer programming within the full spectrum of our work with youth. We shouldn't consider that work to be special because it makes us so busy; it should be special because we're interacting with young people when they have more free time, which they may choose to spend on library-related learning activities.

A helpful way to think about this is to look at summer programming goals and objectives. A primary goal

is to help mitigate the summer slide—alleviating loss in reading skills and learning loss in math and science.

Are our desired results different during the school year? From fall through spring, we are still striving to support youth learning. It's just that the focus and allocation of our time, our tactics, and our visibility need to differ.

Think about what you are going to be doing once school starts again in the fall. Will you be less busy? No. During the school year you may perform tasks like maintaining the collection, but you will still be connecting with children, teens, and community members September through June. So the allocation of time shifts to these different priorities. It's just a matter of how much time you are rededicating to which services.

If our buildings have fewer children and teens in them during some hours of school-year months, even during out-of-school time, then we need to go where the youth in the community are, whether in pre-schools, community centers, out-of-school-time service provider spaces, or coffee shops and malls. Throughout the school year we need to spend time making connections with those in the community we can work with to support year-round learning. Combine these school-year outreach activities with some other work that needs your attention, such as materials, staff, and facilities. Then you won't say you are

super busy only during the summer. You'll be busy all year, just on different things and in different ways.

Consider these activities for your fall 2014 calendar:

- Evaluate the summer program with staff and youth and develop outcomes for 2015;
- Attend and organize meetings with members of the community who also serve youth to plan for year-round activities and ways to collaborate;
- Participate in community events that include youth voices, such as school open houses, programs at local Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCA/YWCAs, and other youth organizations;
- Host out-of-school-time programs inside and outside the library that provide opportunities for youth and their families to gain skills and/or connect to a passion or interest;
- Learn something new by taking an online or face-to-face class.

These are just a few ways you can work to make fall 2014 through spring 2015 just as busy as the summer. Get out of the "I'm so busy in the summer" trap and move into the "We are busy year-round actively serving, learning how to better serve, and preparing to serve youth and families in our community" outlook. ■

LINDA W. BRAUN is youth services manager at Seattle Public Library, an adjunct faculty member of the Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science in Boston, and a past president of ALA's Young Adult Library Services Association.

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Librarian's Library

Building the Collection

by Karen Muller

Building the collection is a core activity in any library. A school library collection is built to support the curriculum and provide for voluntary reading; an academic library collection is developed for current and future student and faculty research, in lines of inquiry that might be hard to imagine today; and a public library collection provides for all these things, but above all for active community use. Selecting the right titles for the right audience is an art, but over the years, a certain amount of science has been added through collection evaluation tools.

Through her long career, Peggy Johnson, author of *Fundamentals of Collection Development and Management*, now in its third edition, has been one of many librarians who have taken the profession from book selection and purchasing to collection management by addressing such issues as cooperative collection development, collection analysis, and scholarly communications. Her book's introduction explains the shift: After the enormous growth of libraries, particularly academic libraries, in the 1960s and early 1970s, the focus evolved from amassing sizable collections to developing collections that met user needs and made effective use of tightening resources.



With continued strained resources, inflationary pressures, and new technology, it became necessary to learn to work with new models. Johnson presents the issues for all types of libraries and also covers the additional areas of weeding, policy development, and marketing and liaison activities. Each of the nine chapters has been expanded from the prior edition, with content on new tools and digital collections, and each includes an extensive bibliography. There is also a glossary. INDEXED. ALA EDITIONS, 2014. 568 P. \$75. 978-1-61069-022-5.

Kay Bishop's *The Collection Program in Schools: Concepts and Practices*, in its fifth edition, presents a similar range of issues, but specifically for the school library. She devotes chapters to the role of the school library collection, the importance of a selection policy statement, and a few of the metric-based evaluation processes frequently used in school libraries. There is a substantial section with pointers on how to include a range of media in the collection, along with a discussion about supporting the school curriculum with electronic resources. Supplementing the discussion are both websites



Selecting the right titles is an art, but over the years, a certain amount of science has been added.



and traditional bibliographies for further reading. INDEXED. LIBRARIES UNLIMITED, 2012. 263 P. \$55. 978-1-61069-022-5.

Rethinking Collection Development and Management, edited by Becky Albitz, Christine

Avery, and Diane Zabel, gathers essays covering the full range of collection development, from selection to acquisition to shared access to preservation. It complements Johnson's book by exploring in depth such issues as acquiring self-published materials, using demand-driven acquisitions, and working with floating collections. INDEXED. LIBRARIES UNLIMITED, 2014. 402 P. \$60. 978-1-61069-305-9.



A thread running through these books is the importance of collection evaluation. Does this item really belong here and why? Although techniques specific to library collections are detailed by both Johnson and Bishop, *Getting Started with Evaluation*, by Peter Herson, Robert E. Dugan, and Joseph R. Matthews, presents an overview of more general evaluation techniques and metrics. Using a toolkit format, this volume looks



at the importance of evidence for decision making and measuring effectiveness and the value of the library to its community.

INDEXED. ALA EDITIONS, 2014. 256 P. \$65.
978-0-8389-1195-2.



The challenge of collection development in today's libraries is that it isn't just about books but also about digital and other media. It also isn't just about research and reading but rather building a learning community. To this end, consider *Leading the Learning Revolution: The Expert's Guide to Capitalizing on the Exploding Lifelong Education Market*, by Jeff Cobb. Following an overview of the development of a learning economy and the growing demand for learning opportunities, only some of which will be delivered in traditional ways, Cobb addresses audience, business models, delivering value, learning design, delivery, and (of course) evaluation.

INDEXED. AMACOM, 2013. 240 P. \$29.95.
978-0-8144-3225-9. (ALSO AVAILABLE AS AN EBOOK.)

Holly Hibner and Mary Kelly, in *Making a Collection Count: A Holistic Approach to Library Collection Management*, go beyond collection development basics to discussions on presenting a collection to its users.



What is the vision for the collection? What kind of signage makes for useful wayfinding? When is an inventory necessary? Unlike the Johnson and Bishop books, this is not a definitive guide but rather an inspirational discussion of how to look at a collection in a new way. In its second edition.

INDEXED. CHANDOS PUBLISHING, 2013. 216 P. \$80.
978-1-84334-760-6. (ALSO AVAILABLE AS AN EBOOK.)

KAREN MULLER is librarian and knowledge management specialist for the ALA Library.

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Taylor and Francis is using CrossMark in a pilot program made up of 25 journals, with hopes to extend the service to every article published from January 2014 onward in all of its 1,800 journals.

For more information, visit tandfonline.com and crossref.org.

Timelines Brings History to Life

World Book has introduced a digital product that offers a new way to engage with history.

Timelines allows users to map and interact with important world events by seeing how they relate to each other chronologically. Appropriate for all age groups, Timelines is especially beneficial to visual learners as it allows them to see history unfold on the screen before



their eyes. Four-hundred-and-twenty-five time lines with over 12,000 events pre-built into them are currently available on select World Book digital titles, including *World Book Student*, *Advanced*, *Info Finder*, *Online Reference Center*, *Discover*, and *Academic*. Topics span multiple genres, from arts, humanities, and history to sports, science, technology, and geography.

Customizable capabilities enable users to build and share their own time lines for research and entertainment purposes. Students can use Timelines to craft school presentations, and library patrons can use it to construct family history maps. Synopsized historical notes, images, and video for select events are available as well, allowing for the creation of multimedia personalized histories.

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User (pictured): Henry Bankhead, town librarian at Los Gatos (Calif.) Library

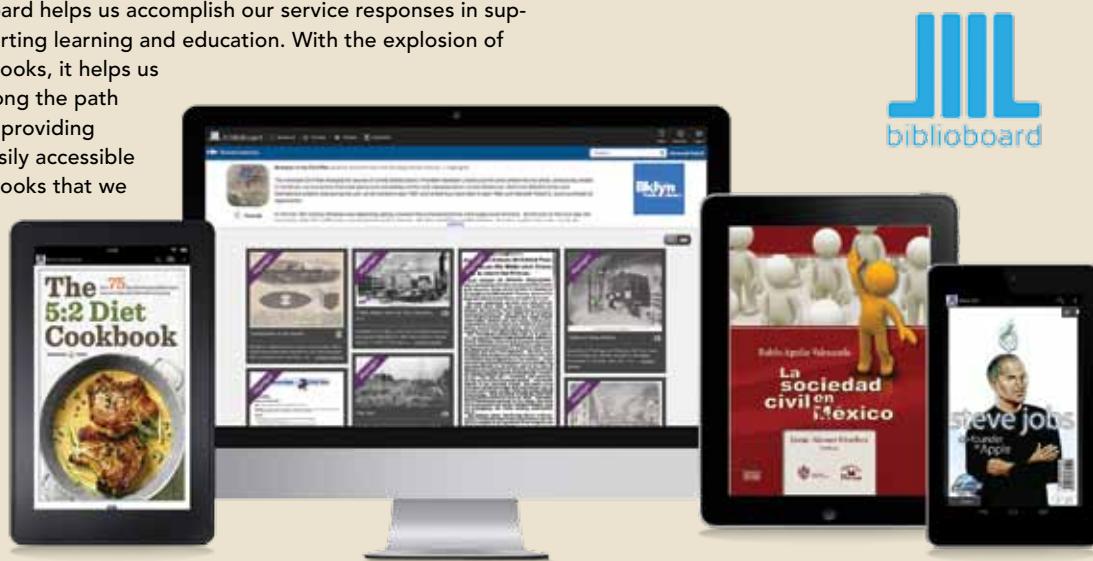
How do you use BiblioBoard? We use BiblioBoard to provide Common Core educational materials to patrons, with an emphasis on the product's ability to provide tablet- and internet-based multimedia instructional content to teachers at Los Gatos High School. In addition, we are using it as a platform to expand our patrons' access to unlimited, simultaneous-use ebooks. We also intend to use BiblioBoard's Creator aspect to allow local content producers to share their stories with the community and the world.

How does it serve Los Gatos Library's needs? BiblioBoard helps us accomplish our service responses in supporting learning and education. With the explosion of ebooks, it helps us along the path of providing easily accessible ebooks that we

can exercise actual ownership over—a rare thing in the public library ebook market. Also, our community has been very active in documenting local historical experiences, and BiblioBoard allows us to truly tell the stories of our community in a multidimensional, multifaceted, and continuously evolving fashion.

What are the main benefits? The main benefits are: the depth of the Core content (more than 20,000 items); the flexibility of the service provider to respond to our needs for incorporating new ebook content; the additional aspect of moderated content creation with BiblioBoard Creator; and the ability for us to provide ebooks that we can own outright.

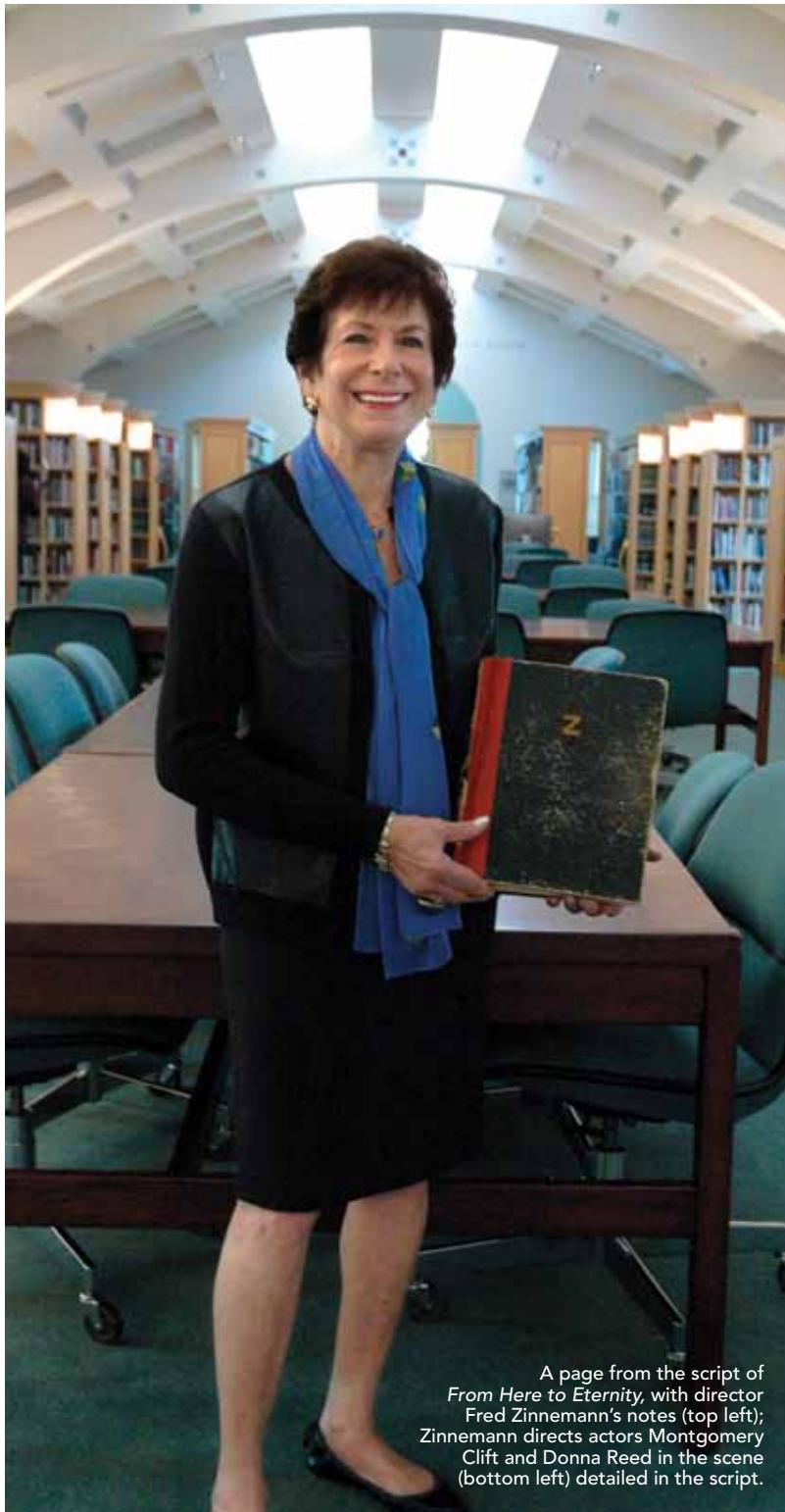
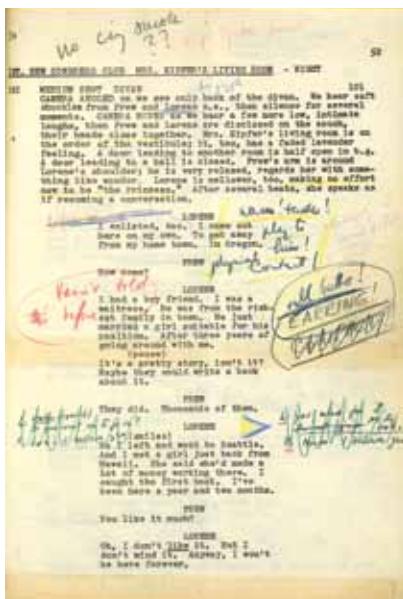
What would you like to see improved or added? The anthology model works well for the collections. However, the public library organizational paradigm is founded on a per-item organizational structure. BiblioBoard has done well to provide per-item MARC records for its Core content, and it is working to display single items. We are looking forward to this increased functionality. We would like to see more ebooks in EPUB format, with the ability to make them reflowable; PDF is fine for historical content, but it isn't very readable. As they form more relationships with publishers, we expect to have wider access to ebooks in the EPUB format. We are looking forward to the upcoming development of a more streamlined process for ingesting mass content and metadata from other platforms.



To have a new product considered for this section, contact Phil Morehart at pmorehart@ala.org.

STAR POWER HOLLYWOOD'S HOLDINGS

As director of the Margaret Herrick Library at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in Beverly Hills, California, Linda Mehr is charged with collecting and preserving some of the film industry's most valuable and cherished items. Standing in the Cecil B. DeMille Reading Room, Mehr holds one of the library's prized possessions: director Fred Zinnemann's shooting script for the Academy Award-winning 1953 film *From Here to Eternity*, filled with his handwritten production notes.



A page from the script of *From Here to Eternity*, with director Fred Zinnemann's notes (top left); Zinnemann directs actors Montgomery Clift and Donna Reed in the scene (bottom left) detailed in the script.

Our newest feature, *The Bookend*, showcases librarians, their work, and their work spaces. For consideration, please send high-resolution images and any press material to americanlibraries@ala.org.

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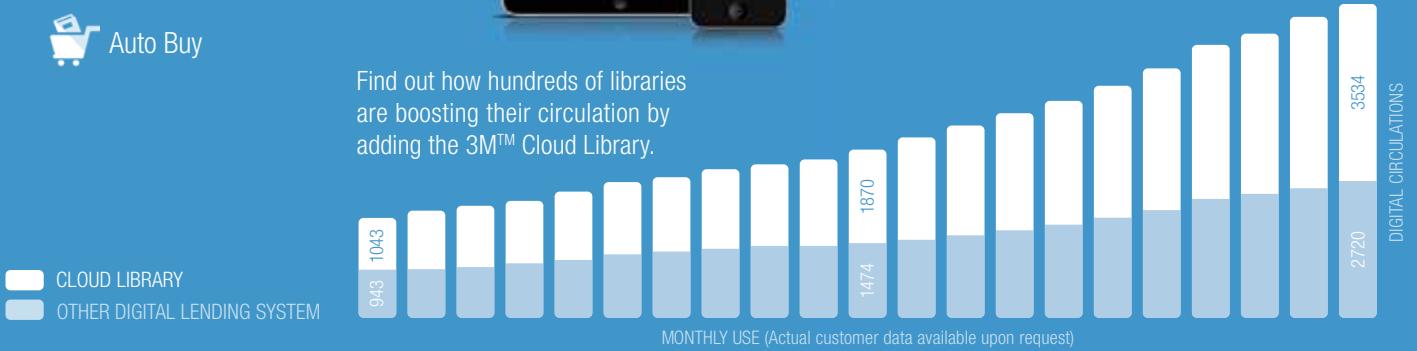
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