North Dakota State Library Offers Basic Website Design

The North Dakota State Library is pleased to announce a website development opportunity for North Dakota public libraries. If your website is too expensive, if your website is out of date, if you don’t have the expertise to develop a website, you are encouraged to consider an opportunity to have a website designed by professionals at the North Dakota State Library.

Through this opportunity, the State Library will design and publish a basic website for your library. The design will incorporate pertinent library information including hours, location, a building photo, and contact information. Additionally, the ability for library staff to post additional information and news is integrated into the design. Perhaps the most attractive aspect of this website design offer is the price - only $25 per year.

The initial design used the Stanley Public Library for development purposes. The site at www.stanleyndlibrary.com has been completed and may be consulted as an example of what the State Library can design for your library. The “What’s New” section in the design is where each library may post additional information or news about the library.

“We are very appreciative of the efforts of the State Library to provide the Stanley Public Library with a very low-cost website,” said Kelly Kudrna, director of Stanley Public Library. “This program is very important to our patrons because the library is only open 26 hours per week and has a very limited budget. Current patrons and new patrons will enjoy this added benefit and convenience,” Kudrna added.

For more information about this opportunity, please contact your State Library Field Services representative at http://www.library.nd.gov/fieldservices.html. To submit a website design application for your library, please download and complete the application at http://www.library.nd.gov/publications/librarywebsiteapplication.pdf. Requests shall be handled on a “date received” basis.

Tutor ND Webinars Announced

Tutor ND, a new service being provided by the North Dakota State Library, will provide free tutoring services to North Dakotans of all ages. Using the Tutor ND service, available at www.tutorND.com, users will be able to interact with professional tutors via the Internet or mobile device in a “one-on-one” format. Expert tutors will be available to offer assistance in subjects ranging from English to math, science to social studies, and more. Students in public schools, private schools, home schools, as well as students of colleges and universities will benefit from this new service.

To help you and your staff become familiar with this new service, the Training Department at the North Dakota State Library is offering a Tutor ND orientation webinar on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 AM. This webinar will provide an overview of Tutor ND. The trainer will demonstrate the features of the service, explain how Tutor ND works, check out the different resources centers, and examine free promotional materials you can use to promote this service.

The times and dates for Tutor ND webinars and all other North Dakota State Library webinars can be found on the online calendar at http://engagedpatrons.org/EventsCalendar.cfm?SiteID=9851. You may register by clicking on the link and selecting “Register Online” or you can call 800-472-2104 to register by phone.
North Dakota State Library to Host Library-Focused “Town Hall” Meetings

The North Dakota State Library is traveling to six locations throughout North Dakota in September. The purpose of these meetings is to talk to librarians, board members, and the public to receive feedback about State Library services during the last five years and to identify the services citizens like and expect from the State Library in future years. The information gathered will become the basis for the State Library’s updated long-range plan of services and its federal Five Year Evaluation and Federal 2013-2018 Five Year Plan.

This is an opportunity to tell the North Dakota State Library what you liked, what you no longer need, what you can’t live without, and what the State Library can do to help meet your patrons’ information requirements. Make plans to attend one of the six town-hall meetings in September!

DATES AND LOCATIONS

September 6
Bottineau Public Library 4:30 – 7:00 p.m.
(next door at 316 W. 5th Street)

September 7
Williston Community Library 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.
(1302 Davidson Drive)

September 8
Dickinson Area Public Library 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. MDT
(139 3rd St. W)

September 12
Grand Forks Public Library 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
(2110 Library Circle)

September 13
West Fargo Public Library 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.
(109 3rd Street E)

September 14
Bismarck Public Library 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.
(515 N 5th St.)

Northeastern North Dakota Heritage Association’s 25th Celebration

On Sunday, July 24, the Northeastern North Dakota Heritage Association celebrated its 25th Anniversary on a day declared by Governor Jack Dalrymple to honor the Association’s on-going work dedicated to telling the story of the settling of northeastern North Dakota. The celebration was held at the Icelandic State Park near Cavalier amid the many restored buildings that celebrate the region’s heritage. State Librarian Hulen E. Bivins attended upon the invitation of Rosemarie Myrdal who recently completed an outstanding term of service as a member of the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council. Ms. Myrdal is recognized by many as a strong supporter and advocate of the work of the Association. The libraries of the area hold an important collection of Icelandic literature for which the State Library provides assistance in cataloging for inclusion in resource records.
Three-Day Summer Breeze Colloquium a Success

North Dakota librarians and public library board members recently had the opportunity to attend the Summer Breeze Colloquium workshops, which were hosted by the North Dakota State Library. Beginning Monday, August 8th and continuing through Wednesday, August 10th in Bismarck, the workshops featured various library-focused topics. The workshops, presented by State Library staff, explored website presence, weeding, library policies, long-range planning, data analysis, basic bookkeeping, statistical reporting, social media, genealogy, supporting foundations, and information literacy. The Colloquium equipped librarians and library board members with the knowledge and skills necessary to improve their library’s value and benefit within the community.

Attending participants received individual flash drives containing templates that can be modified by individual libraries with data specific to their libraries. The resulting data documents included long-range plans, budget sheets, and library policies, plus other various library publications.

The State Library hopes to make this an annual continuing education opportunity for North Dakota librarians. For additional information about upcoming trainings and workshops available from the North Dakota State Library, or for assistance with library development opportunities at your library, please contact your State Library Field Services representative at http://www.library.nd.gov/fieldservices.html.

North Dakota Library Coordinating Council Announces New Grant Round

The 2012 Grant Guidelines and Grant Application from the North Dakota State Library and the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council are now available. The guidelines and application are on the North Dakota State Library website and may be accessed at www.library.nd.gov/librarian.html. Grant applications are due at the State Library by October 14, 2011. You may fill out the grant application and print it, but it cannot be saved. Secure the appropriate signatures on the signature page and then mail it back to the State Library.

This grant opportunity has one category, which is to aid participation in the statewide online library catalog through WorldCat.

If you have any questions, please contact Cynthia Clairmont-Schmidt at 800-472-2104 or ccclairmont@nd.gov.
State Library Staff Visit Velva School and Public Library

When Velva was in danger of flooding, volunteers from the community loaded nearly all of the books in the library, which serves both the school and the public, onto three buses to protect them from potential water damage. Fortunately the flood waters did not reach the school and the library was safe. With an “all clear” situation, librarian Iris Swedlund organized a volunteer effort to unload the books from the buses and place materials back in the library. However, getting the books back into the library was only half the battle. State Library staff members visited Velva to help get the books back to their correct places on the shelves. Though the library looks much better, the books are still not completely in order. Community members continue to help shelve the books and State Library staff members plan to make another visit to help get everything in place before school starts.

Former State Librarian Interview
Featured by Minitex

Former North Dakota State Librarian Doris Ott was interviewed and made a featured part in the discussion of MINITEX and the services of MINITEX as the organization, in July, celebrated the 40th Anniversary of Minitex. You may listen to the comments of Doris at http://www.minitex.umn.edu/40th/Ott.aspx.

Well done, Doris!
New Library Science Publications at the State Library

Library and information science research in the 21st century: a guide for practising librarians and students

The readers' advisory guide to graphic novels

Bite-sized marketing: realistic solutions for the overworked librarian

Twenty-first-century kids, twenty-first-century librarians

Going beyond Google: the Invisible Web in learning and teaching

Natives and academics: researching and writing about American Indians

The broom closet: secret meanings of domesticity in postfeminist novels by Louise Erdrich, Mary Gordon, Toni Morrison, Marge Piercy, Jane Smiley, and Amy Tan

Genre talks for teens: booktalks and more for every teen reading interest

A universal history of the destruction of books: from ancient Sumer to modern Iraq

Protecting intellectual freedom in your school library: scenarios from the front lines

Protecting intellectual freedom in your academic library: scenarios from the front lines

Teen spaces: the step-by-step library makeover

Disaster management in archives, libraries and museums

The 100 best business books of all time: what they say, why they matter, and how they can help you

1001 children’s books you must read before you grow up

CALENDAR

September
Library Card Sign-up Month

September 8-10
Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) Conference - Frisco, Texas

September 21-24
North Dakota Library Association Annual Conference - Minot

September 24 - October 1
Banned Books Week

October 16 - 22
National Friends of Libraries Week and National Teen Read Week

November 12
National Gaming Day
Banned Books Week: Celebrating the Freedom to Read

FREEDOM TO READ FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES GRANTS FOR BANNED BOOKS WEEK EVENTS

The Freedom to Read Foundation, via its Judith F. Krug Memorial Fund, has announced grants to six organizations in support of events during Banned Books Week, Sept. 24 - Oct. 1, 2011. Banned Books Week celebrates the freedom to access information while drawing attention to the harms of censorship. Among the awarded organizations is the North Dakota Library Association (NDLA) Intellectual Freedom Committee. The award is for $1,000 and Banned Books Week merchandise, sold by the American Library Association Store.

CELEBRATE INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM AT THE NDLA CONFERENCE

The NDLA Intellectual Freedom Committee, at the NDLA Annual Conference in Minot this September, shall conduct a read-out while wearing t-shirts featuring banned book covers. They will also distribute information about the literature and the importance of defending books against challenges. Additionally, there will also be a program on banned books during the conference.

PLAN YOUR BANNED BOOKS WEEK EVENT WITH HELP FROM ALA

Let the American Library Association help you plan your library’s Banned Books Week event! ALA has planning and promotional information available online. There are also posters, bookmarks, t-shirts and more available for purchase from the ALA Store. For more information, please visit http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/banned/bannedbooksweek/index.cfm.

Application for “Dakota Discussions” Series Available

The North Dakota Humanities Council is now accepting applications for the fall cycle of its popular book series “Dakota Discussions.” North Dakota civic groups, book clubs, and other interested groups of citizens are encouraged to make an application to bring a “Dakota Discussions” series to your community. Libraries may want to consider this opportunity.

Dakota Discussions is not simply another book discussion group. The goal of the series is to teach citizens to love classical literature; the series strives to help critical thinking skills as well. Past topics have been: banned books; immigration; the American Civil War; Jane Eyre; and, Hamlet.

Visit the North Dakota Humanities website for more information and download your application at www.ndhumanities.org, or call 800-338-6543.

Did You Know?

Templates and forms presented at the August “Summer Breeze Colloquium” are available from the State Library Field Services Staff.
Minot Public Library:
July 11 Flood Update from Director Jerry Kaup

The Minot Public Library has been very focused on recovery, although many of the areas of the city are still flooded. The dike at the Library and our proactive stance in monitoring the basement saved the library from having substantial damage, even though we did have damage in the basement. Had we not monitored the basement it would have filled with water and would have potentially threatened the first floor level of the library.

We began seeking bids for immediate cleanup and accepted a bid from SERVPRO to remove damaged sheetrock, insulation, and carpet and disinfect the basement. They began work on Friday, July 9th and as of Monday July 11 will have all of the physical damage removed. The basement will be disinfected later this week.

SERVPRO was very complimentary of actions taken by staff, volunteers, city staff, and the National Guard to save the basement from inundation. They indicated that our building was one of the few that kept water in check and humidity below saturation levels. We had around-the-clock removal of water and an enclosed system of circulation air in the basement. Mechanical air circulation in that portion of the building was completely locked down so air from the basement would not penetrate the rest of the building and the air duct work. We were able to maintain temperatures in the basement between 67 and 70 degrees for two weeks which kept mold to a minimum. Water is still up on the sides of the dikes while damaged material is being removed.

We hope to have the library open by this weekend to bring some normalcy back to the community. Staff and volunteers have been moving books back to the first floor children's library since Thursday, July 7 with the approval of the Emergency Operation Council.

I served on the Emergency Operations Council as an assistant public information officer until the library started taking on water in the basement on June 23. I am still attending morning meetings with the EOC and have been able to communicate with city staff, Corps of Engineers, and the National Guard to get assistance during this long flood event. Having direct communications with the EOC has been very beneficial for the library.

We are all looking forward to the NDLA conference in Minot!

Web Portal Created for North Dakota Disaster Relief

NDDisasterInfo.com was created by the State of North Dakota to provide a one-stop resource for individuals and businesses affected by disaster events. The site pulls together information from a variety of federal and state agencies, as well as private sector partners who provide both funding and informational resources during disasters.

It attempts to answer three basic questions:

- What funding is available for those impacted by a disaster? (Is there a deadline? Am I eligible? How do I apply?)
- How do I recover after a disaster?
- How do I prepare myself in case of a future disaster?

North Dakota libraries are encouraged to use these resources in association with the “Disaster and Emergency Plan” document composed by the North Dakota State Library. See http://library.nd.gov/publications/disasterplan.pdf.
NDLA to Hold Annual Conference

The 2011 North Dakota Library Association (NDLA) conference, themed “Librarians: Leadership for a New Decade”, will be held September 21-24 at the Grand International Inn, Minot.

The four-day conference begins with two pre-conference sessions on Wednesday, September 21. One pre-conference offers a leadership track with presenter Kostas Voutsas (Dickinson State University professor of business) who has been teaching management and human resource courses for over 15 years. Voutsas, an author, corporate trainer and keynote motivational speaker, will deliver a four-hour humorous, dynamic interactive workshop titled “Simple Solutions to Communication, Teambuilding, Conflict, Diversity and Leadership”. The session aims to provide participants with powerful tools for effective communication, leadership, team building, diversity and conflict management.

Another pre-conference is designed especially for library catalogers. Mark Ehlert of Minitex will present “RDA: Walking Through the New Cataloging Code”. Ehlert (coordinator with the Bibliographic and Technical Services unit of Minitex) participates in the Minitex Contract Cataloging Program and has a Master’s in Library and Information Science from Dominican University.

The continuing education track is geared toward school library media specialists who may earn two CE credits, while networking with other school librarians.

Other NDLA programs include an e-reader panel to discuss various e-book technologies, sessions offered by NDLA sections and roundtables, and a program entitled “Conference Book Club - Dakota, or What’s A Heaven For” by Brenda K. Marshall. Marshall, originally from the Red River Valley area, now resides in Michigan.

Keynote speakers Janet McAllister and Michelle Petersen will present “Delivering on Yes” at the Thursday evening awards banquet, offering specific tools and ideas to inspire library staff by tapping into creativity to give more to patrons and each other.

At the Thursday evening banquet, awards will be announced for Librarian of the Year, Benefactor of the Year and other recognitions. A fashion review and auction top off the evening’s activities.

On Friday morning, Flicker Tale winner Sarah Weeks, author of picture book *Sophie Peterman Tells the Truth*, will speak on “Courting the Muse” where she will discuss where she finds her inspiration. She has published more than 50 books, including picture books, humorous middle-grade fiction and young adult novels.

Saturday morning’s post-conference session on “Transitions: K-12 and Academic Librarians Working Together for College and Career Readiness” will be moderated by Kathy Hill of Grand Forks Red River High School, and Char Hill of Bismarck High School. The workshop format offers continuing education credits to K-12 school librarians.

Members of the staff of the North Dakota State Library shall be at the conference as presenters, facilitators, and attendees. The State Library shall also have a booth in the exhibit area. If you are at the conference, please say “Hello” and let us know of any way the agency may be of greater assistance to you or your library.

All librarians, library staff members and library trustees and boards are invited to attend the September conference. For a complete list of conference sessions and registration information, visit [http://ndla.info/Conference/11conf.htm](http://ndla.info/Conference/11conf.htm).
Legislative Documents Provide Accurate and Timely Information

As part of each session, the North Dakota Legislature devises a list of subjects to study during the interim period before the next session. The complete list for the 2011-2012 interim is at http://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/62-2011/docs/pdf/citation.pdf. Each study is assigned to a committee. Doing work of particular public interest this time around are the Health Care Reform Review Committee and the Property Tax Measure Review Committee.

The Health Care Reform Review Committee has been assigned to determine the potential impact of the new federal health care laws on North Dakota and to look into the feasibility of an alternative statewide health care plan. To this end, they will have regular meetings with consultants, state agency representatives, insurance companies, and other interested parties. The complete list of committee tasks and of its members is at http://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/62-2011/docs/committeestructure/hc.pdf.

The primary election ballot of June 2012 will include an initiative to eliminate most property taxes in North Dakota. The Property Tax Measure Review Committee has been formed to examine the ramifications of passage. Ballot initiative details are available at http://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/62-2011/docs/pdf/13.9018.01appendixb.pdf.

Committee meeting agendas and minutes are posted at http://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/62-2011/interim-info/minutes/index.html. The minutes include digital versions of all handouts and presentations at the meeting. The bulk of each meeting is testimony by experts in the field, not just discussion among the legislators. As with any committee, there is usually a lag of about four weeks for minutes to be posted because of the review and approval process.

Print versions of all minutes (but not agendas) are available via the North Dakota State Document Depository program. They may be requested through interlibrary loan by accessing the ODIN UFind catalog at ufind.odin.nodak.edu/vufind/. The depository libraries holding these and all other legislative committee minutes are the North Dakota State Library, the State Historical Society, North Dakota State University, University of North Dakota, Valley City State University, and Minot State University.

For patrons interested in either of these two hot-button topics, the work of the legislative committees is a primary and timely source of information.

NDSU Institute for Regional Studies
Publishes Book on 1957 Fargo Tornado

Jamie Parsley, Associate Poet Laureate of North Dakota, weaves a heartbreaking story of the 1957 Fargo tornado. It is a story of loss, poetry, pain, faith and, ultimately, renewal, and gives voice to those victims who, before now, were unable to speak for themselves. Fargo, 1957 is the story of the resilience and fortitude of those who survived and those who did not.

In the early evening of Thursday, June 20, 1957, a tornado struck the city of Fargo, North Dakota. When it was done, ten people lay dead (three more would later die from their injuries), a city was devastated and countless lives would never be the same. Among the dead were two relatives of Jamie Parsley.

In addition to the poetry of Parsley, included are numerous photographs taken of the event, most from the photographic collections of the Institute for Regional Studies, together with images taken by Parsley or acquired from the families affected by this tragic event.

The purchase price is $20.00, plus $4 shipping. Mail orders may be sent to the Institute for Regional Studies, NDSU Dept. #2360, P.O. Box 6050, Fargo, ND 58108-6050; or call 701-231-8338.
Grants Available for Association for Rural and Small Libraries Conference

Three $1,250 scholarships are now available for North Dakota librarians to attend the Association for Rural and Small Libraries national conference in conjunction with a day-long workshop hosted by Project Compass, a national initiative focused on supporting public libraries as they strive to meet the urgent and growing workforce development needs in their communities. This Project Compass workshop is made available as part of a grant funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The North Dakota State Library is excited to publish notice of the opportunity for three North Dakota librarians to attend the Project Compass Workshop and the ARSL Conference. Those who attend not only shall benefit individually, but the state shall benefit from the newly gained expertise they shall be able to impart.

WebJunction will be hosting the day-long Project Compass workshop on September 8, just prior to the Association for Rural and Small Libraries Annual Conference in Frisco, Texas, September 8-11. This workshop will introduce library staff to programs and services covering job-seeker information, personal financial skills, and resources for small businesses and entrepreneurs. At the session, participants from small and rural libraries will learn and exchange ideas, information, and resources.

North Dakota librarians are encouraged to consider this exciting opportunity! Further information about the ARSL Conference can be found at http://www.arsl.info/annual-conference-awards-calendar/frisco-conference-2011/. If you are interested in being considered to receive one of the three available $1,250 scholarships, please contact the State Library Field Services department by August 17th. Please call 701-328-4680 or 800-472-2104, or contact Eric Stroshane by email at estroshane@nd.gov.

North Dakota Library Staff Changes

Please submit North Dakota library news to Adam Emter at ndslpa@nd.gov.

INCOMING
Michael Jan - Heart of America Library (Rugby)
Susan Schwab-Kjelland - School for the Deaf
Linda Mahon - Ward County Library

Cal Ripken is Honorary Chair of Library Card Sign-up Month

This September, baseball Hall of Famer and author Cal Ripken will encourage children to get the most important school supply of all: a library card. As the Honorary Chair of Library Card Sign-up Month, Cal Ripken has donated his image to print and audio public service announcements (PSAs). Sample media tools are now available to remind the public of the resources available for free with a library card. Visit www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/celebrationweeks/card/index.cfm for promotional tools, including a sample press release, newsletter article, proclamation, and PSA scripts.
A Third Choice for eBooks

Libraries have learned a lesson in the past twelve months. The lesson is that any attempt by a library to plan and maintain an eBook collection is a difficult task because the eBook market is ever-changing and unpredictable. There is much uncertainty in the contracts that are signed, primarily because of unanswered questions. Will the rights be changed? Will your investment be for a dying model of a new format? Will the titles that you believe you have acquired continue to be available?

Many libraries have felt that their only choices for eBooks were to contract for: 1) high cost contracts for high-demand eBooks to third-party aggregator companies like Overdrive and 3M; or, 2) make acquisitions of lower-demand eBooks on the web at sites like Project Gutenberg or Librivox.

There is a third choice, however, and it is one that many believe could change the landscape of library eBooks for the better. Open Library is a project from the Internet Archive, a non-profit that gives web content like the Wayback Machine (historical snapshots of websites), the Audio Archive, the Moving Image Archive, and the Software Archive. The Internet Archive, based in San Francisco, has a long collaborated history of working with local libraries for services and collections.

Open Library is a digital library built partially from paper books from physical libraries. Anyone can access the 1,000,000+ free eBooks through their website. Additionally, Open Library contains a section (the Lending Library) that is a collection of 100,000+ eBooks from the 20th century, including many popular titles (though not those from the most recent 15 years or so). It is 100% free for any library to participate in the Lending Library if your library will send at least one paper book to the Internet Archive for digitization. It is the Lending Library section that makes this eBook collection different.

Users can access the entire collection after you set up authentication through EZ Proxy, WAM, etc. Book choices are downloadable to formats like PDF, ePub, Daisy, plain text, and Kindle. As previously noted, the eBook market is ever-changing and unpredictable.
Security for Mobile Devices

Many individuals use personal mobile devices to store data and information gained from their personal research at the local library. Unfortunately, people sometimes misplace their mobile devices. If you are one of these people, you might consider the following suggestions to safeguard the data and information you have placed on your device.

1. **Encrypt the data on your device and all backups.** Be sure that your mobile device is configured to encrypt all data automatically. This action can prevent someone’s attempt to force their way into the device. BlackBerry, iPad, and Android Honeycomb 3.0 provide the option to automatically encrypt data on your mobile device. If you frequently back up your data from a tablet to a PC, be sure to check that such data is encrypted.

2. **Do not “jailbreak” your device.** Jailbreaking is hacking a tablet so you can install non–App store “apps.” You might consider jailbreaking so that you may have access beyond what the manufacturer or cell carrier (almost any type of mobile device) wants you to control. While jailbreaking may give you more control over the device, it also shall remove most of the security controls that provides baseline security.

3. **Use virtual desktop solutions for access to data.** Tablets with large storage capacities tempt users to keep too much data on the mobile device. The amount of stored data creates a greater security risk if a mobile device is misplaced. As a safeguard, install and use solutions such as LogMeIn, or GoToMyPC to access your desktop computer from your mobile device and then, consolidate all your data on the desktop. Of course, the assumption is that the desktop is too big to be misplaced and as its location is known, the data therein is safe.

Best Websites for Teaching and Learning

The American Association of School Librarians recently released a list of recommended websites for teaching and enhanced learning. To compare your ideas with their selections, view their choices at [http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/guidelinesandstandards/bestlist/bestwebsitesstop25.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/guidelinesandstandards/bestlist/bestwebsitesstop25.cfm).
Carpool and Continuing Education Credits Available for AASL Conference

Earn two LMIS 700 continuing education credits from VCSU and get a free ride to Minneapolis for the national American Association of School Librarians (AASL) conference! The conference will be held October 27-29 in Minneapolis. Your tuition will get you a ride in the VCSU van from Valley City to Minneapolis and back, plus tuition for two continuing education credits when you attend the conference. A minimum of 20 people must register for the course at http://www.vcsu.edu/extend/ before October 1, 2011. If the minimum is not met, the course and the ride will be cancelled.

For additional information about the conference, please visit http://www.aasl11.org/. For information about the carpool and continuing education credit, please contact Donna James 701-845-7275 or donna.james@vcsu.edu.

Collection Development Choices for this Year

The June 27 issue of Publishers Weekly provided their selections as top publications of the year. Their selections for Art & Architecture (pg 18), Business & Economics (pg 26), Comics & Graphic Novels (pg 33), Cookbooks (pg 38), Literary Fiction (pg 44), Mystery & Thriller Fiction (pg 50), Romance (pg 56), Science Fiction, Fantasy & Horror (pg 62), History (pg 68), Lifestyle (pg 74), Literary Essay & Criticism (pg 81), Memoir (pg 88), Music (pg 94), Performing Arts (pg 98), Poetry (pg 104), Politics (pg 110), Science (pg 116), Social Science (pg 122), and, Sports (pg 129), provide a great beginning point for discussions of titles to be included in any library’s collection.

Pottermore

Most fans of the writing of J.K. Rowling know of the creation of the new website “Pottermore” that will take readers into the world of Hogwarts. The full capabilities of the site are scheduled to be functional in October. Librarians will want to know about the site as it shall be the exclusive outlet for digital audiobooks and e-books of the Harry Potter series. Rowling has promised that in the future the site shall have additional material about Harry and others that has not appeared in the published books. The website is a cooperative venture of Rowling and Sony Corporation. See: www.pottermore.com.

OMG Anime Club

Abby the Librarian writes: “The teen librarian at our neighboring library system has been encouraging me for months to start an anime program and we finally got it going. All the awesome things she told me about turned out to be true. It drew in kids that I’ve never seen before. It drew in high schoolers. It drew in boys. It was super easy to run. I have a feeling that the anime club kids are going to be loyal and keep showing up. The program basically ran itself.”

For more information, visit Abby the Librarian at http://bit.ly/nPHoHg.

SKILLS Act Reintroduced

The Strengthening Kids’ Interest in Learning and Libraries (SKILLS) Act (S. 1328), reintroduced by Senators Jack Reed (D-R.I.) and Thad Cochran (R-Miss.) on July 6, includes key provisions to support school libraries. The American Library Association lobbied for inclusion of this language in the SKILLS Act to ensure that all students in the United States have access to effective and up-to-date school libraries. The bipartisan bill was co-sponsored by Senators Patti Murray (D-WA), Jay Rockefeller (D-WV) and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI). “Knowing how to find and use information are essential skills for today’s students and tomorrows workers. A good school library, staffed by a trained librarian, is where students develop and hone these skills,” said Sen. Reed in his statement following the introduction of the bill.
Recently Announced Book Awards

CAMPBELL AND STURGEON AWARDS

Irish author Ian McDonald’s *The Dervish House* won the John W. Campbell Award for the best science-fiction novel of the year and Geoffrey A. Landis’s *The Sultan of the Clouds* won the Theodore Sturgeon Award for the best short SF of the year in a July 8 ceremony at the University of Kansas.

2011 THRILLER AWARDS

The International Thriller Writers announced the winners of the 2011 Thriller Awards on July 9. John Sandford’s *Bad Blood* was voted the Best Hard Cover Novel, J. T. Ellison’s *The Cold Room* won for Best Paperback Original Novel, and Best First Novel went to Chevy Stevens for *Still Missing*.

SPEAR’S BOOK AWARDS

The third annual Spear’s Book Awards were announced in London on June 27. Winning titles were chosen by authors and judges from both the literature and finance worlds. The winners included Michael Perino for his book *The Hellbound of Wall Street: How Ferdinand Pecora’s Investigation of the Great Crash Forever Changed American Finance* (Penguin) and Donald Sturrock for *Storyteller: The Life of Roald Dahl* (Simon and Schuster).

2011 MILES FRANKLIN LITERARY AWARD

Australia’s most prestigious literary prize, the Miles Franklin Literary Award, was presented to Kim Scott on June 22 for his novel *That Deadman Dance* (Picador), a story about relations between the Aborigines and the first European settlers along the south coast of Western Australia.

DOLMAN TRAVEL BOOK OF 2011

The Authors’ Club named Rachel Polonsky’s *Molotov’s Magic Lantern: Uncovering Russia’s Secret History* (Faber) the Dolman Travel Book of the Year for 2011. Polonsky was a Cambridge fellow in Russian literature before moving to Moscow in the mid-1990s. In her apartment block near the Kremlin, she discovered papers belonging to a former Soviet foreign minister and an old-fashioned slide projector. These finds prompted her to write the book, a travelogue through Russia’s recent history.

2011 BRANFORD BOASE AWARD

Jason Wallace has won the 2011 Branford Boase Award, honoring the most outstanding work of fiction for children by a first-time novelist, for *Out of Shadows*, a children’s novel set in 1980s Zimbabwe. The war is over, independence has been won, and Robert Mugabe has come to power, but Robert Jacklin soon learns that, for some of his classmates, the sound of guns is still loud.

CLPE POETRY AWARD 2011

The Centre for Literacy in Primary Education has announced that the winner of its Poetry Award for 2011 is Philip Gross for *Off Road to Everywhere*, illustrated by Jonathan Gross (Salt Publishing). The award, sponsored by Travelling Books, honors excellence in poetry written for children. Gross is a professor of creative writing at the University of Glamorgan in Wales.
FLICKERTALE 15 August 2011

AASL awards season opens with more than $50,000 in opportunities

The American Association of School Librarians’ (AASL) prestigious awards program will offer more than $50,000 in awards to AASL members in 2012. AASL’s 10 awards recognize excellence and showcase best practices in the school library field in categories that include research, collaboration, leadership and innovation. AASL personal members are required to fill out applications using AASL’s online awards database.

A full listing of all awards available and their individual criteria may be reviewed at www.aasl.org.

The deadline for submitting applications or nominations for most AASL awards and grants is February 1, 2012. For the National School Library Program of the Year (NSLPY) award, the deadline is January 2, 2012. All applications will close at 4:30 p.m. CST on the day of the deadline. The American Association of School Librarians, as a division of the American Library Association (ALA), promotes the improvement and extension of library services in elementary and secondary schools as a means of strengthening the total education program. Its mission is to advocate excellence, facilitate change and develop leaders in the school library field.

Amazon Launches Kindle Textbook Rental

Amazon has announced the launch of Kindle Textbook Rental, a program that offers up to 80% off textbook list prices when customers rent titles from the Kindle Store. Tens of thousands of textbooks are available for the 2011 school year from textbook publishers like John Wiley & Sons, Elsevier and Taylor & Francis. Students can find details about the program at www.amazon.com/kindletextbooks.

Kindle Textbook Rental offers the ability to customize rental periods to any length between 30 and 360 days, allowing students to only pay for the specific amount of time they need a book. Students can also easily extend any rental period in increments as small as one day or choose to purchase the book they are renting at any time.

Discover Earth Opportunities for Public Librarians

The Lunar and Planetary Institute is pleased to announce that the American Library Association (ALA) is now accepting applications to host an exciting new travelling exhibition! In addition to the exhibit itself, this project is accompanied by a wealth of resources and opportunities — including a new Explore! module! A link to the application and further information is available at http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ppo/programming/discoverearth/index.cfm.

Ten (10) public libraries will be selected to host an interactive exhibition called Discover Earth: A Century of Change. Discover Earth will tour from January 2012 to December 2013, visiting each of the ten selected sites for a period of eight weeks. The exhibition requires approximately 500-750 square feet of space for optimal display. Each site will be awarded a grant of $1,000 to support public programs related to the exhibition. Application deadline is September 2, 2011.
Website for Critical Thinking

Librarians should be aware of the website www.ProCon.org. It is the website for a 501(c)(3) nonprofit public charity with the expressed purpose “to provide resources for critical thinking and to educate without bias.” As a nonprofit, the organization seeks to accomplish its mission by researching issues that they feel are controversial and important. The stated goal is to present the issues in a balanced, comprehensive, straightforward, and primarily pro-con format. There is no charge to view the discussion topics (40+) nor the analysis of the topics. Information is provided as to how to footnote ProCon.org as a resource.

Beyond the development of critical thinking, the resource should also enhance the skills of speech and debate students as well as journalism scholars. It should be noted that ProCon.org has no government affiliations of any kind. The MARS section of the American Library Association has named ProCon.org as one of the best free reference sites of 2011.

Advocacy Work Plan

*Turning the Page 2.0* is a free public library advocacy training course developed and presented by the Public Library Association (PLA) with generous support from The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. In this six-week, facilitated online course, library staff and supporters will learn how to create and tell their library’s story, deliver effective presentations, develop a compelling case for library support, and build and sustain partnerships along the way. Participants are encouraged to come with a specific, self-determined advocacy goal for their library. At the end of six weeks, you’ll have a complete Advocacy Work Plan to guide your efforts. An upcoming session begins the week of October 31, 2011 and concludes the week of December 12, 2011.

*Turning the Page 2.0* consists of the following components: 1) Facilitator-led webinars which provide live instruction and collaboration once a week (one hour/week); 2) Independent work on assigned modules of the Turning the Page online site which offers a dynamic program of active and personal learning (one–two hours work/week); and, 3) Completion and submission of an Advocacy Work Plan. Participants also receive offline one-on-one feedback from facilitators. ALA membership is not required to participate in this program. Library staff, library Trustees, Friends, and others are eligible to participate in the program and there is no limit to the number of attendees per library.