

News Release: American Library Association

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From: Peggy Barber, Director
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96TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
American Library Association
Detroit, Michigan
June 17 - 23, 1977

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Room: Cobo Hall, Hall C
Telephones: 313-963-7238 & 7244

Over 10,000 people will gather in Detroit for ALA's annual conference next month.

No matter what their interests as librarians or library users, they will find much of value in over 1,600 meetings and workshops ranging in subject from preserving library materials to conserving library energy.

They will also hear and meet a host of stimulating writers and commentators-- people ranging from Pulitzer Prize winning historian John Toland discussing his best-selling biography of Adolf Hitler to journalist and author Gail Sheehy discussing her best-selling book Passages to syndicated columnist Andrew Greeley and television newsman Geraldo Rivera discussing ethnic pluralism.

The conference opens on Friday, June 17 and closes on Thursday, June 23. Most activities, including exhibits and major meetings and events, will be centered in Cobo Hall, although adjacent downtown hotels, including the just-opened Detroit Plaza, will also house conference goers and programs. Part of the new \$350 million Renaissance Center, the 70-story Detroit Plaza is connected to Cobo Hall by the Civic Center Plaza.

Preconference institutes will feature programs on rare books, new media technology, the changing role of librarians in children's work and

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library services to the elderly, and will run from June 15 - 17.

Other conference highlights include workshops on literacy, information and referral, and the world premiere of The Speaker. . . A Film About Freedom starring Mildred Dunnock.

Also appearing at the conference will be noted First Amendment lawyer Charles Rembar who argued and won the case for Fanny Hill before the U.S. Supreme Court; author Richard Peck, whose latest book Are You Alone in the House?, deals with teenage rape; and Sol Gordon, psychologist, writer, lecturer, TV guest and host and a leading proponent of sex education.

Norman Isaacs, former newspaper editor and currently editor-in-residence of Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism, is the keynote speaker for the President's Program. Entitled "Issues and Answers," the program will focus on the major issues facing librarians and libraries.

Winners of the Newbery and Caldecott Medals for distinguished contributions to children's literature--including Leo and Diane Dillon, Mildred D. Taylor, Nonny Hogrogian and cartoonist William Steig--will be presented their awards during the conference.

Exhibits, which open on Saturday morning, June 18 and close on Tuesday afternoon, June 21, will include the products and services of nearly 450 library-related companies.

A placement service will be operating between June 18 and 21.

Press badges and news releases will be available at the ALA Press Room (Hall C, Cobo Hall, 313-963-7238 and 963-7244) starting Wednesday, June 15.

Members of the press wishing further information should contact Peggy Barber or Carol Felsenthal at ALA headquarters in Chicago or, after June 15, at the ALA Press Room in Detroit.