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Trending...The Latest From **PLOnline**

- This past September, the Cuyahoga County (Ohio) Public Library (CCPL) teamed up with eight other library systems to promote the "A Card for Every Kid" initiative, which aimed to raise awareness of the importance of library card ownership for children and teens. During September, every library in the county actively encouraged children and teens to sign up for a free library card, and offered one-time fine forgiveness to children and teens who had been blocked or barred from using their library cards because they owed fines. Read "A Card for Every Kid."
- It's November and that means National Novel Writing Month is here again! Participating in National Novel Writing Month, or as it is more commonly known, NaNoWriMo, is a great way for public libraries to support aspiring authors, and to motivate patrons who have always wanted to write a novel but for some reason or the other never got started. NaNoWriMo begins every November 1 and lasts until November 30. Participants (Wrimos) aim to write at least 50,000 words during the month of November, ending with a rough draft of a completed novel, or with the first 50,000 words of a longer one. Read "November is National Novel Writing Month."
- 'Books are obsolete.' We've all heard this a million times. Yet in my library, electronic materials represent only three percent of the total circulation. Of that, e-books are only one percent. It reminds me of a time, not long ago, when people said paper would be obsolete. I admit various industries are pushing hard to make this a reality, but I do not see it happening. Every day I see people in the library printing out electronic communications so they can review and have the information on paper: bank statements, emails, receipts, coupons, directions.

 People like paper, which brings me to the conundrum at my library. Read "The Paper Conundrum."
- When I was a child, the library was my escape. I couldn't always afford to buy books. Often while others were out playing I was immersed in a stack of books borrowed from the library. This included everything from sci-fi to biographies of

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writer, and are in large part the reason I am an author. The ride there was two miles each way, no small trek for a kid on an old ten speed. I often wished I lived closer, or could move the library closer to my house. Read "Bringing the Library Home: Mixed Income Housing and Libraries."

• Jade Chang's novel *The Wangs Vs. The World* traces the rollicking road trip of a brilliant family. The story kicks off when Charles Wang, a wealthy industrialist, loses all his money in the wake of the 2008 financial collapse. Left without a place to stay, he gathers up his two youngest children: Andrew, a college student who dreams of becoming a stand-up comedian, and Grace, a death-obsessed teenager. They pile into an ancient Mercedes station wagon to drive cross country to the home of the oldest sibling, Saina, a conceptual artist reeling from a devastating break-up. As the characters adjust to their diminished financial means, they also navigate new territories in their personal lives as well. *The New York Times* praised the book as "unendingly clever" while *Newsday* called it "a firecracker of a debut." Jade Chang spoke to Brendan Dowling via telephone on October 27th, 2016. Photo credit: Teresa Flowers. Read "Jade Chang On "The Wangs Vs. The World.""

Midweek Media MashUp

A Choice Selection of Links for Your Perusal

- School's Pop-Up Courses Respond to Current Events
- Librarians Can Save Us From Fake News
- OED Word of the Year
- Google Offers Thanksgiving Travel Tips Based On Historic Maps Data
- America's Tumultuous Election Gives Teachers Opportunity to Revive Civics Education.

Ask Us Anything

If you have questions about PLOnline, *Public Libraries*, PLA or anything else, send them in. Just hit reply and send your question on its way! We'll get back to you as soon as possible. Thanks for reading!

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A division of the American Library Association 50 E Huron Chicago, IL 60611 Contact: **About Us**

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