National institute to focus on magnetic media

"The Magnetic Media Challenge: Preservation of Audio Tape and Videotape in Libraries and Archives" is the subject of a new national institute to be held May 21-22, in Atlanta, Ga. The deadline for registration is May 1.

The program has been developed by the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) Preservation of Library Materials Section (PLMS) and is cosponsored by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), Society of American Archivists (SAA) and Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET).

It is designed for librarians and archivists responsible for housing, maintaining and providing access to information stored on audio tape and videotape. The institute is specifically geared to media center librarians, television news archivists, curators of oral history collections, as well as preservation managers in public libraries, academic institutions and archives.

The in-depth program will provide an understanding of the history and composition of audio and videotape, analysis of analog and digital technology and practical recommendations on care and handling, storage systems, equipment selection and maintenance, staff and user training and emerging technologies.

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Nationally-recognized specialists in magnetic media technology, preservation and history will address the institute. Speakers include: Delos Eilers, Professional Audio/Video Products Division of 3-M; Cliff Kuhn, associate director, Georgia Documentation Project; Frederick Layn, Ampex Recording Media Corporation; Bill Storm and David Wickstorm, Belfer Audio Laboratory and Archive of Syracuse University, and Les Waffen, National Archives and Records Administration.

Registration fees are $145 for ALCTS members, $170 for American Library Association (ALA) personal members and members of ARL,, SAA and SOLINET and $205 for non-ALA members.

Brochures for the institute will be mailed to ALCTS, ARL, SAA and SOLINET members. For more information and registration forms, contact Yvonne McLean at ALCTS, 800-545-2433, ext. 5032, e mail: U47209@UINVM.

ALCTS, a division of the ALA, provides leadership and promotes library service and librarianship in the areas of collection management and development, acquisitions, cataloguing and classification and preservation of library materials. Its 5,900 members represent all sizes and types of libraries.