

american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | January 3, 2008

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SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

- ✓ Teacher-selected Content
- ✓ 71 Subjects – Aligned to Curriculum
- ✓ 3 Million High-quality Sites Searchable



U.S. & World News

[Omnibus bill mandates access to scientific research](#)

A \$555-billion omnibus spending bill approved by Congress December 19 and sent to the White House contains a \$3-million appropriation earmarked for the reinstatement of walk-in service at the Environmental Protection Agency's 10 regional libraries. The funding is \$1 million more than proposed by the Senate in June to reopen four libraries, including the headquarters library in Washington, D.C., and restore scaled-back hours elsewhere. President Bush signed the bill December 26....



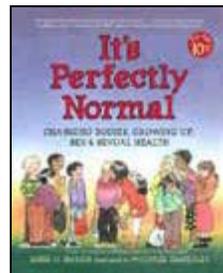
[Congress approves strengthened FOIA legislation](#)

Both houses of Congress have approved a bill intended to toughen the Freedom of Information Act and increase the penalties on government agencies that fail to comply with requests. Introduced December 14 by Sens. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) and John Cornyn (R-Tex.), the Senate passed by unanimous consent the Openness Promotes Effectiveness in our National (OPEN) Government Act, S. 2488, then sent it on to the House, which approved it by voice vote December 18. President Bush signed the bill December 31....



[Perfectly Normal protester pleads not guilty](#)

JoAn Karkos, who checked *It's Perfectly Normal: Changing Bodies, Growing Up, Sex and Sexual Health* by Robie H. Harris out from the public libraries in Lewiston and Auburn, Maine, and refused to return them in September, pleaded not guilty to a civil charge of failing to return library property December 19. Her trial was set for May 28....



[Presidential Records Act Amendments bill still stalled](#)

The Presidential Records Act Amendments bill (H.R. 1255) is currently being prevented from a vote in the U.S. Senate for unknown reasons. Previously, it had been put on hold for several months by Sen. Jim



Will fund the start-up of 10 community news ventures in 2008. Each may receive up to \$17,000 in grants. Apply at: www.j-newvoices.org
Due: Feb. 20, 2008
 Administered by J-Lab with funding from John S. and James L. Knight Foundation



[ALA Midwinter Meeting](#)

in Philadelphia, January 11–16. The [Event Planner](#) is up and running. Check out the currently scheduled [Special Events](#).



Bunning (R-Ky.), who refused to state his reasons for doing so. The White House has threatened to veto the measure. H.R. 1255 would remove restrictions placed by President Bush's 2001 Executive Order 13233....

District Dispatch, Dec. 31



ALA News

[Senior FBI official to speak at Midwinter](#)

Special Agent Bassem Youssef, the chief of the FBI unit responsible for administering two highly controversial warrantless search programs, will speak at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia. The session, "Inside the FBI: A Whistleblower Speaks Out," will take place 8 a.m., January 12, at the Pennsylvania Convention Center....



[New ALA website design concept will debut in Philadelphia](#)

A draft version of a redesign for the ALA website will be available for review and comment at the Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia, January 11-16. Computer kiosks in the Grand Hall of the Pennsylvania Convention Center will present mock-ups of the site's graphical makeover and request feedback about the redesign, scheduled for launch in the spring....



[American Libraries online forum](#)

American Libraries Online Reader Forum is a discussion spot for topics covered in the magazine, issues at ALA, or anything else in librarianship. View the postings freely, or sign up as a registered user to leave your own comments....

[When you renew, take a survey](#) (PDF file)

Have you been meaning to respond to the member demographics survey but just kept forgetting? Now you can answer the very short (five questions) survey as you exit the membership renewal portal (or when you join). Learn more about the current responses to the survey and where to access the online renewal site....

[First candidate completes CPLA program](#)

Lois Blythe, head of adult services at the Burlington (Iowa) Public Library, is the first candidate to complete the Certified Public Library Administrator program. Blythe completed the requisite seven courses in record time,



In [Strategic Planning for Results](#), Sandra Nelson, senior editor of the Results Series, focuses on the essential steps to draft a results-driven, strategic planning process that libraries can complete over the course of four months, regardless of organizational structure or size. Reflecting on the current planning environment for public libraries, Nelson makes the case for strategic rather than long-term planning and includes a wealth of information about understanding and managing the change process. **NEW! From ALA Editions.**

In this issue
January/February
2008



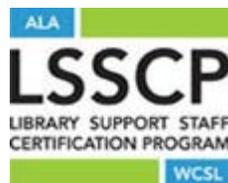
**From Hoops to Ink:
An Interview with
Kareem Abdul-
Jabbar**



becoming the first public librarian to earn the designation of CPLA. The CPLA program, administered by the American Library Association–Allied Professional Association, is a voluntary credential for public librarians....

[New LSSCP website](#)

The Library Support Staff Certification Program (LSSCP), a project to develop a national voluntary certification program for support staff in public and academic libraries, has a new [website](#) that houses informational documents, minutes from discussions by its Advisory Council, and contact information....



Welcome to Philly

Design Thinking

Librarians in the Jury Box

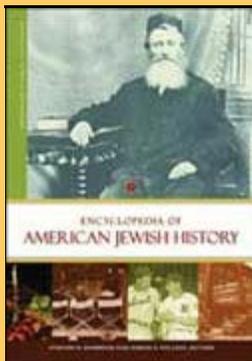
Putting Students First

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Reference](#)

Norwood, Stephen H. (editor), and Eunice G. Pollack (editor). *Encyclopedia of American Jewish History*. Aug. 2007. 775p. ABC-CLIO, hardcover (978-1-85109-638-1).

This new encyclopedia uses an interdisciplinary, thematic approach to explore American Jewish history. A total of 125 scholars contributed articles, and Sir Martin Gilbert contributed maps that locate the sites of pogroms, Nazi death and concentration camps, and points of immigration from Eastern Europe to the United States. Archival photographs enrich the text. Each volume is divided into 26 broad thematic chapters, and each chapter contains several articles exploring the theme in depth....



@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....



[Download](#) the new **ALA Graphics catalog**, or view it online ([PDF file](#)).

Career Leads from



[Reference/Subject Librarian](#). California State University at Chico seeks a full-time (12 month with 10 month option) tenure track, reference / instruction / subject librarian in sociology, multicultural and gender studies, and health and community services. The position is available August 1....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Philadelphia Update

[The Other Midwinter: Unofficial events](#)

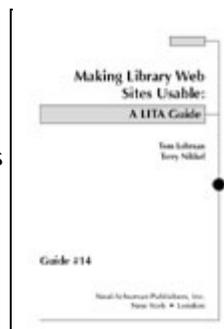
When the committee meetings are over for the day (or before they start), check out these goings-on: a Real Life/Second Life Meet-up, TDNet educational sessions, the ALA Gaming Spotlight, IEEE and ARTstor breakfasts, WebFeat client showcases, and more....

Midwinter 2008 wiki

Division News

[New LITA website usability guide](#)

In *Making Library Web Sites Usable*, a LITA guide to be published by Neal Schuman on February 11, authors Tom Lehman and Terry Nikkel show library webmasters, usability teams, and library administrators how to turn confusing, unappealing websites into the kind of friendly, efficient information gateways that students will choose. In clear, nontechnical language, the book breaks down what usability assessments are, why they are important for libraries, and what the most common challenges are....



[LITA happy hour at Midwinter](#)

Join the LITA Membership Development Committee and members from around the country for networking, good cheer, and great fun at Cebu Restaurant and Bar, 123 Chestnut Street, Old City, Philadelphia, 5–7 p.m. on Friday, January 11....

[Donham and Tilley named coeditors of *SLMR*](#)

Jean Donham and Carol L. Tilley have been named coeditors for AASL's online journal *School Library Media Research*. Donham and Tilley take over for Daniel Callison, who stepped down earlier this year after serving as editor for the past decade....

[AASL to cohost forum on technology standards](#)

AASL will cohost an open forum on the [National Educational Technology Standards for Teachers](#) on Friday, January 11, during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia. Also hosted by the International Society for Technology in Education, the forum will help ensure that librarians' voices are heard as ISTE revises the standards for teachers....

[AASL sponsors two Emerging Leaders](#)

AASL will sponsor Victoria Goode and Carrie Turner for the 2008 ALA Emerging Leaders program. Goode currently serves as a library media specialist at Londonderry (N.H.) School District, and Turner is a high school library media specialist at the Westside Community Schools in Omaha, Nebraska....

[ASCLA to house consortial data](#)

ASCLA will house the Library Networks, Cooperatives, and Consortia final report data, collected from more than 200 participating library networks, cooperatives, and consortia through a [project](#) administered by the ALA Office for Research and Statistics and funded in part by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services....

Round Table News

[Raise your cup for Planet Earth](#)

The Social Responsibilities Round Table's Task Force on the Environment would like Midwinter attendees to bring reusable mugs and water bottles to support efforts encouraging ALA to reduce its carbon footprint. The new campaign, "Cup by Cup for a Greener ALA," will show that ALA members are ready to make lifestyle changes for sustainable conferences....

SRRT Task Force on the Environment

[Join EMIERT at the World Café Live](#)

The Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table will hold



Preparations for the Smithsonian's [Jazz Appreciation Month 2008](#) (April) are underway. [Send in](#) your events for posting on the calendar.

Digital Library of the Week



The [Claremont Colleges \(Calif.\) Digital Library](#) offers a variety of historical collections, including: voices of the key participants in the American occupation of Japan; Japanese woodblock prints and illustrated books (17th–20th c.); drawings and photographs of Edward Vischer (1809–1878); and prints by Francisco Goya (1746–1828). The Claremont collection of [Murals of Northern Ireland](#) includes images of both Republican and Loyalist street paintings. The murals are vivid records of historical events, political standpoints, community concerns, and ideological statements.

a fundraiser on January 12, 7–11 p.m., at the [World Café Live](#), 3025 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, for an evening of socializing and refreshments. Tickets can be purchased at the event. Contact [Roberto Delgado](#) for details.

Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table

Awards

[ALA awards deadline extended](#)

The deadline has been extended to February 1 for five ALA awards: the Beta Phi Mu Award, the Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award, the Equality Award, the Scholastic Library Publishing Award, and the Sullivan Award for Public Library Administrators Supporting Services to Children....

[2008 CALA scholarships available](#)

LIS students can apply for four Chinese American Librarians Association scholarships by March 15. Winners will be announced by May 31 and presented with their awards at the CALA Awards Banquet during ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, June 26–July 2. CALA scholarships are designed to encourage professional and leadership development in Chinese-American librarianship....



[Broward branch named Government Building of the Year](#)

Broward County's first green building, the South Regional/BCC Library in Pembroke Pines, Florida, has been recognized by the Building Owners and Managers Association of Fort Lauderdale and the Palm Beaches as the Government Building of the Year. The branch, which opened February 1, 2007, is the county's first building registered with a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification with the U.S. Green Building Council.



Broward County Library, Dec. 27

[Dame Lynne Brindley](#)

Lynne Brindley, chief executive of the British Library, has joined Helen Mirren and Judi Dench as a Dame Commander of the British Empire (DBE). The recognition is for services to education in the UK New Year's Honours List. Since her appointment in 2000, Brindley has led a major strategic repositioning and modernization program to ensure that the British Library continues to provide relevant services to users in the 21st century....



The Scotsman, Dec. 29



Seen Online

[Washington State librarian cuts go too far](#)

As has happened in other states, cash-strapped schools in Washington

Managed by the Claremont Libraries, the CCDL was established in 2004/2005 by the academic deans of the Claremont Colleges upon their approval of recommendations from cross-colleges Task Force.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#)

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"After spotting a rare and valuable book in the stacks at the University of Tulsa—it was Mabel Dodge Luhan's early treatise on southwestern painting, *Taos and Its Artists*—I wondered if I could smuggle it past the low-tech librarian. But my better judgment prevailed, and I left it in place."

—Steve Martin, *Born Standing Up* (Scribner, 2007), p. 120.



Brenda Bailey-Hainer, executive director of the Bibliographical Center for Research, writes about the merger of the Collaborative Digitization Project with BCR in April 2007 and how the new [CDP@BCR](#) continues the CDP tradition of providing best practices,

are dropping librarians to save money: This year, Federal Way cut 20 librarian positions. Spokane reduced 10 librarians to half-time. Darrington cut two librarians. A school in Marysville eliminated its half-time librarian. But one school's parents are saying: Enough is enough....

Los Angeles Times, Dec. 23

[Illinois school librarians won't go quietly](#)

As librarians increasingly are swapped for aides or technology instructors, and literature takes a back seat to technology, library professionals are pushing back. They're calling on state education officials to require all Illinois school districts to employ certified information specialists. But local educators are balking at the plan because they say it's too expensive to hire certified librarians and it's hard to find qualified candidates....

Chicago Southtown Star, Dec. 23

[LC names Children's Literature Ambassador](#)

Jon Scieszka, author of *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales* and the Time Warp Trio series, gets the imprimatur of the Library of Congress January 3 as the first National Ambassador for Young People's Literature. The library's Center for the Book has teamed up with the Children's Book Council, a publishing industry trade association, to create the National Ambassador program....

Washington Post, Jan. 3



[Boston gov docs to go online](#)

A digital library partnership, including two nonprofit organizations and the Boston Public Library, is preparing to begin making digital copies of the library's paper-based government documents collection, which will then be made available on the internet. The project is being undertaken by [Public.Resource.Org](#), a nonprofit group seeking to open public access to government records, and the Internet Archive, a San Francisco-based digital library....

New York Times, Dec. 27

[Pittsburgh votes to replace oldest Carnegie library](#)

The Pittsburgh (Pa.) City Council cleared the way December 27 for a new Carnegie Library in the city's north side to replace one damaged by a lightning strike. A new Federal Street library will replace the historic Allegheny Regional Library, which closed in April 2006 after lightning struck the library's clock tower and did \$2 million worth of damage. The library was the first opened by steel magnate Andrew Carnegie in what was then the city of Allegheny in 1890....

Pittsburgh (Pa.) Tribune-Review, Dec. 28



[BP donates \\$840,000 to Anchorage libraries](#)

Oil company BP Alaska has donated \$840,000 to the Anchorage Public Library. BP Alaska President Doug Suttles says the funds are targeted to several capital projects to renovate and expand Anchorage library buildings. A majority of the gift will go for a new 10,000 square-foot library and learning center in Mountain View that will open next fall....

Anchorage (Alaska) Daily News, Dec. 18

training, consulting services, grant opportunities, and digital resource access to libraries and other types of cultural heritage institutions in the West. In the [Winter 2007 issue](#) of ASCLA's *Interface*.

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. Our library needs to get on board with 2.0 technologies. What are some resources for us, and how can we find out what other libraries are doing?

A. Using Web 2.0—including blogs, wikis, podcasts, online videos and video blogs, online photos, social networking websites—to reach out to library patrons is an area of growing interest. In the past year, several new books and numerous articles have been written, including the regular columns in *American Libraries*. Several prolific bloggers cover the topic (and either presently or previously contributed technology columns to *American Libraries*), including Meredith Farkas and [Information Wants to Be Free](#), Michael Stephens and [Tame the Web](#). ALA's own

[Web playgrounds for the very young](#)

Forget Second Life. The real virtual world gold rush centers on the grammar-school set. Trying to duplicate the success of blockbuster websites like Club Penguin and Webkinz, children's entertainment companies are greatly accelerating efforts to build virtual worlds for children. "Get ready for total inundation," said Debra Aho Williamson, an analyst at the research firm eMarketer, who estimates that 20 million children will be members of a virtual world by 2011, up from 8.2 million today....

New York Times, Dec. 31



[Overdue books and bad credit](#)

A library fine is not really a debt, attorney Abraham Kleinman argues, and should not be covered by regulations that allow collection agencies to report bad consumer behavior. "That's his opinion," said Kenes Bowling, a spokesman for Unique. For 15 years, his company has operated a successful "materials collection" business as a debt collector for libraries (one of them is the [Queens Library](#)), and it relies on its ability to threaten scofflaws with negative credit reports....

New York Times, Dec. 26

[NYPL's sage of the stacks](#)

David Smith, a bookish but boyish 54, is officially a supervising librarian in the Allen Room and the Wertheim Study at the Humanities and Social Sciences Library on Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street. But a business card, printed for him as a 50th birthday gift by the author Christine B. Whelan (whom he helped with her doctoral dissertation for Oxford and who wrote *Why Smart Men Marry Smart Women*), reads "Librarian to the Stars."....

New York Times, Dec. 31

[Australia requires national filtering software](#)

Australian Telecommunications Minister Stephen Conroy says it will be mandatory for all internet service providers to offer to homes and schools ISP filtering software that blocks pornography and inappropriate material. Online civil libertarians have warned the freedom of the internet is at stake, but Conroy says that is nonsense. Meanwhile, British web experts have already [defeated](#) the CleanFeed blocking system that Conroy hopes will halt internet porn....

Australian Broadcasting Corporation News, Dec. 31; News Limited, Jan. 3

[Scottish authors appalled at English tag](#)

Leading Scottish literary figures have criticized a decision by the Library of Congress to reclassify their work as a subsection of English literature. The move means Scottish literature will no longer have its own section in the world's biggest library. A spokesman for the library said it would be reconsidering the controversial decision....

BBC News, Dec. 22

[Canadian libraries protest proposed copyright law](#)

Libraries and their patrons across Canada have added their voices to the growing dispute over proposed copyright legislation that could impose levies on iPods, memory cards, and raise the price of blank CDs and cassette tapes in 2008. The levies, proposed by the Canadian Private Copying Collective, are aimed at preventing users from copying illegally shared files to disc, and increasingly, to mass-storage digital players such as the ubiquitous iPod....

Victoria (B.C.) Times Colonist, Dec. 23

Jenny Levine and [The Shifted Librarian](#). Jessamyn West and [librarian.net](#). Karen G. Schneider and the [Free Range Librarian](#). and Sarah Houghton-Jan and [Librarian In Black](#). Farkas also began [Library Success: A Best Practices Wiki](#), which provides a pathfinder to some of these issues. As yet, there is no comprehensive directory of library 2.0 activity, though the ALA Library has begun to track this—using social software, of course! See the list of links compiled at the [del.icio.us account](#) for the ALA Library under the tag [libsocialsoftware](#). See the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#) for more....

@ The [ALA Librarian](#) welcomes your questions.

Calendar

Apply for:

By Jan. 25:

The National Endowment for the Humanities and ALA's Public Programs Office offer 3,000 [We The People](#) bookshelves on the theme "Created Equal" to public and school libraries.

By Jan. 31:

The Institute of Museum and Library Services seeks nominations for 15 \$10,000 [Coming Up Taller](#) awards for outstanding after-school, out-of-school,

HOW DO YOU MAINTAIN PUBLIC COMPUTERS?

Librarians want to know.

Tell us

MaintainIT

www.maintainITproject.org

Tech Talk

[Hacking Firefox: Instructions and stuff](#)

Andrea Mercado tells you how to install basic Firefox plug-ins, install and configure add-ons, hide menus, and lock down the browser on your public machines: "I tried to make the instructions as clear as possible without too much tech speak, and without drowning you in too much minutia, while actually giving you proper instructions."...

Library Technics blog, Dec. 20

[10 things that will change your future](#)

Nick Galvin writes: "So Google and Wikipedia took you by surprise? It's easy to forget that as little as a decade ago all these innovations that are part of daily life had yet to be dreamed of. What follows is a smorgasbord of websites, services, concepts, and gadgets (including the [Chumby](#)) that at first glance seem to have little to do with each other, but which taken together give a picture of where our brave new networked world may be heading."...

Sydney (N.S.W.) Morning Herald, Jan. 1



[30 technology predictions for 2008](#)

Stephen Abram writes: "I rarely do this formally but I'm in the mood this year! I prefer to work in 3-5 year timeframes. Anyway, here's a few things, in no particular order, that I think will happen in 2008 that might have an impact on our little library world." No. 24 is: "eBooks will go mainstream in the business and professional space. Standards issues won't be solved in 2008 and that's sad for everyone, including libraries."...

Stephen's Lighthouse blog, Dec. 30

[Coming soon: A notebook with a terabyte](#)

Asus, the Taiwanese computer maker, will come out with a notebook that sports two 500GB hard drives from Hitachi Global Storage Technologies. Combined, this will give a fully configured Asus M70 notebook a terabyte of storage. Put another way, the notebook will be capable of storing 1,000 hours of video, or more than 350 feature length movies, or 250,000 four-minute songs. That will probably tide you over for even the worst airport layovers....

C|Net Tech News blog, Jan. 2

[Disable some of Vista's annoying features](#)

Vista4Experts is an appropriately named free application that lets a user turn on and off some of the things that make Windows Vista feel more like a neurotic babysitter than an operating system. If you know you can live without security center pop-ups, the frequent User Account Control question dialogs, Automatic Update notifications, and other features, it's a great all-in-one power user tool....

Lifehacker, Jan. 3

[The Google algorithm has changed](#)

Google paid a big price when it started to

and summer arts and humanities programs for underserved children and youth.

By Feb. 1:

AASL has teamed with a consortium of educational publishers to offer the 2008 [Innovative Reading Grant program](#). The purpose of this program is to support the planning and implementation of an innovative program designed to encourage reading, especially among struggling readers. One \$2,500 award is presented to the most outstanding applicant. The innovation of proposed programs should be a natural outgrowth of current reading research, practice, and policy. Applications will be assessed based on a variety of criteria, including the program's ability to measure and demonstrate its impact on student learning as well as its potential for replication.

By Feb. 1:

The [Tiger Woods Foundation](#) empowers young people to reach their highest potential by initiating and supporting community-based programs that promote the health, education, and welfare of America's children. The Foundation currently provides grants to nonprofit organizations that focus on underserved youth, ages 5-17, living in urban American cities. Specific areas of



index pages faster and show them in the search results minutes after they're published. Google now artificially inflates the rankings of the recently created pages based on historical data and the few backlinks that are detected. Duncan Riley [notes](#) that the search engine now prefers more recent posts, including from Digg, over informative articles related to the search term, such as Wikipedia, which would have normally had the top or near to the top position....

Google Operating System blog, Jan. 1; TechCrunch, Jan. 1

[For the travelin' librarian](#)

Thanks to the ingenious ThinkGeek robot monkeys, you can display current wi-fi signal strength to yourself and everyone around you with this stylish Wi-Fi Detector Shirt. The glowing bars on the front of the shirt dynamically change as the surrounding wi-fi signal strength fluctuates. Finally you can get the attention you deserve as others bow to you as their reverential wi-fi god, while geeky chicks swoon at your presence....

ThinkGeek



Learn what other **librarians** are doing to serve **teens!**
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Homework Happenings!

Actions & Answers

[12 resolutions for the New Year at your library](#)

AL columnist Mary Pergander offers 12 ways you can make a difference this year in your professional life and those of your library colleagues....

"Working Knowledge," *American Libraries* 39, no. 1/2 (Jan./Feb.): 78

[Top school library things to think about in 2008](#)

Joyce Valenza writes: "I went through my posts since this blog started back in June, and I culled the major themes—those themes with legs, those that excite me with their possibilities, those that keep me up at night. I present my own highly subjective list of things school librarians and other educators and librarians need to consider deeply in the coming year."...

NeverEndingSearch blog, Jan. 2

[Libraries not losing relevance, survey says](#)

Members of Generation Y (ages 18–30) are the leading users of libraries for help in solving problems and in more general patronage, according to a Pew Internet and American Life Project survey, "Information Searches That Solve Problems" ([PDF file](#)). The survey results challenge the assumption that libraries are losing relevance in the internet age. Libraries drew visits by more than half of Americans (53%) in the past year for all kinds of purposes. Gary Price [asks](#) some questions that the report does not address, and ALA President Loriene Roy [comments](#) on the results....

Pew Internet and American Life Project, Dec. 30; Resource Shelf, Dec. 31

[National Film Registry selections for 2007](#)

interest include programs that enhance the learning process for youth as well as year-round mentoring and tutoring programs. Requests are reviewed quarterly.

By Feb. 5:

The [Youth Literacy Grants Program](#),

offered by Dollar General, provides funding to K-12 schools, public libraries, and local nonprofit organizations to help with the implementation or expansion of literacy programs for new readers, below-grade-level readers, and readers with learning disabilities. Instruction must be designed to meet the varying learning preferences and needs of the defined target population. Applying organizations must be located within 20 miles of a Dollar General Store.

By Mar. 31:

General Mills offers grants of up to \$15,000 to 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations and public schools for community improvement projects through the [My Hometown Helper](#) program. Applications will be accepted beginning February 1.

By Mar. 31:

The John Wiley and Sons [For Dummies Library Display Contest](#) offers prizes of *For Dummies* books, Dummies gift items,

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington on December 27 named 25 motion pictures—classics from every era of American filmmaking—to the National Film Registry of the Library of Congress, including *Bullitt*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, *Grand Hotel*, *Oklahoma!*, and *12 Angry Men*. The selections were made as part of a program aimed at preserving the nation's movie heritage. This year's selections bring to 475 the number of motion pictures in the registry....

Library of Congress, Dec. 27



and staff pizza parties for outstanding Dummies-branded library displays. Entries will be accepted beginning January 17.

@ [More...](#)

[You mean I can't throw these out?](#)

Marc Meola writes: "James Cortada, a historian of computing who works for IBM, has a nice [screed](#) at the American Historical Association that heaps a bit of anger on us lil' old academic librarians. Fresh from reading Nicholson Baker and full of Google digitization anxiety, Cortada charges that a new spectre is haunting libraries: heartless librarians ruthlessly discarding old PC-DOS manuals. Apparently no one told Cortada that when librarians discard books it's called deselection."...

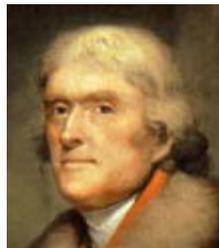
ACRLog, Dec. 18



[Thomas Jefferson's library added to LibraryThing](#)

Tim Spalding writes: "An unusual member has finished adding his [4,889 books](#) to LibraryThing—the third president, Thomas Jefferson. He was assisted by 16 LibraryThing members, who worked from scholarly reconstructions of Jefferson's 1815 collection, tracking down records in 34 libraries around the world. As is well known, Jefferson sold his books to the Library of Congress, replacing the one the British destroyed during the War of 1812."...

LibraryThing blog, Jan. 1



[From virtual reference to participatory librarianship](#)

R. David Lankes discusses the possibility of moving virtual reference toward participatory librarianship. He suggests that VR can be done by answering questions using pools of expertise provided by different sources. Librarians are one type of source. Users might also be able to see the answers to their questions coming from different sources with different contexts and points of view....

ASIS&T Bulletin 34, no. 2 (Dec./Jan.)

[DLF to survey moving-images archives](#)

With support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Digital Library Federation has begun an environmental scan of traditional moving-image archives, major public and university libraries, museums, and other cultural institutions (such as public television broadcasters) with significant film and video collections in the United States. The goal of this project is to summarize which moving-image collections are potentially available for digitization, with an emphasis on open access to increase the volume of online content for teaching and learning....

CLIR Issues 60 (Nov./Dec.)

[Do you live in a literate city?](#)

Jack Miller, president of Central Connecticut State University, has once again released his rankings of America's Most Literate Cities, based on six key indicators of literacy: newspaper circulation, number of

Contact Us

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AL Direct FAQ:
www.ala.org/aldirect/

All links outside the ALA website are provided for informational purposes only. Questions about the content of any external site should be addressed to the administrator of that site.

American Libraries
50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611

bookstores, library resources, periodical publishing resources, educational attainment, and internet resources. The library stats are based on the FY 2005 *Public Libraries Survey and Library Statistics Program*, released by NCES in 2007....

America's Most Literate Cities

[Sexy librarians will help you upload videos to YouTube](#)

Marshall Kirkpatrick writes: "Imagine a future when you go to the library with a five-minute video you've just made about last night's Presidential debates and that librarian says to you: 'You should upload it to YouTube and tag it with these four tags



CC Librarian Avenger on Flickr

—two broad and two more specific to existing communities of interest on YouTube and the topic of your video. Then you should embed that video in a blog post along with some text introducing it and linking to some of your favorite posts by other people who have also written about the debates.'"...

ReadWriteWeb, Dec. 20

[Retail and publisher metadata](#)

Karen Coyle writes: "There's been talk and action lately around libraries making use of data provided by publishers or retailers. We need to do some serious studies of bibliographic metadata created outside libraries. For example, libraries use the title on the title page, while others focus on the cover title. Retailers and publishers use the form of the author's name on the book itself and do not concern themselves with unique identification."...

Coyle's InFormation, Nov. 30

[NYPL to get a façadelift](#)

The New York Public Library is undertaking a three-year restoration of the Fifth Avenue façade of the historic building now formally known as the Humanities and Social Sciences Library. The project will include a complete cleaning of the building's Vermont marble, repair of almost 3,000 cracks, protection and preservation of the many sculptural elements, and repair of the building's roof, stairs, and plazas. The restoration will be completed in time for the building's centennial in 2011....



New York Public Library, Dec. 20

[Evolution of the card catalog](#)

Larry Nix offers a timeline of card catalogs from 1789 to 1925. Did you know that Harvard College Librarian Thaddeus William Harris (right) made the first reference to a card catalog in an American library in 1840? It was called a "slip catalogue" back then, and it was in use at Harvard until 1912....



Library History Buff

[What do you know about copyright?](#)

'Brary Web Diva Kelli Staley summarizes the results of her Survey Monkey [survey](#) on copyright and libraries. She asked members of the Rutgers Online MLIS program, Rutgers' LISSA mailing list, PubLib discussion list, the SLA-Illinois mailing list, and readers of her blog to participate. Staley found that nearly 80% thought that in order to get a copyright, the author must publish the work (incorrect)....

'Brary Web Diva blog, Dec. 4

www.ala.org/alonline/

800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

[Joining the real to the representational at Pullman](#)

Andrew H. Bullen writes: "The Pullman House History Project is a part of the Pullman State Historic Site's virtual museum and [website](#), which links together census, city directory, and telephone directory information to describe the people who lived in the town of Pullman, Illinois, between 1881 and 1940.

This demographic data is linked through a database/XML record system to online maps and Perl programs that allow the data to be represented in various useful combinations."...

Code4Lib Journal, no. 1 (Dec. 17)



[New collaboration for scholarly publishing](#)

Five university presses have announced a collaboration that seeks to find a way to reduce costs of scholarly publishing and to allow more books to be released. The collaboration, created with funds from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, will set up a joint operation for copyediting, design, layout, and typesetting for the work in American literatures. The presses will retain complete control over book selection and distribution....

Inside Higher Ed, Dec. 28

[Seal with a zeal for murals](#)

Collins Memorial Library at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington, was open 24 hours a day during finals week. Because only one staff member was on duty, the students got away with some pranks. But the staff was both amused and bemused when they found this, in the arts section: an illuminated seal, motorized so that the head turned and tail flipped, studying Otto Demus's *Romanesque Mural Painting*....

Flickr, Dec. 20



[Project for Awesome](#)

Angela Reynolds writes: "On Monday, December 17, Nerdfighters took over YouTube. According to John Green, author of *An Abundance of Katherines* and one half of [Brotherhood 2.0](#), a Nerdfighter is like a regular person, only instead of being made of bones and things, a Nerdfighter is made of awesome. The plan was simple: Nerdfighters would take over YouTube by posting bookish videos and by commenting and rating *en masse*. For nearly 24 hours, the most discussed and highest rated videos on YouTube all had the same center screen and all promoted a charity." Check out [Project for Awesome: Libraries and First Book](#) (4:55) by Liz and Kristina, filmed at the King County (Wash.) Issaquah Library....

ALSC Blog, Dec. 21



AL Direct, January 3, 2008

Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail? Click here [[util.viewHtmlLink %>\].](#)]

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | January 3, 2008

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[<http://www.schoolrooms.net>]

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Omnibus bill mandates access to scientific research

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/december2007/omnibus.cfm>]

A \$555-billion omnibus spending bill approved by Congress December 19 and sent to the White House contains a \$3-million appropriation earmarked for the reinstatement of walk-in service at the Environmental Protection Agency's 10 regional libraries. The funding is \$1 million more than proposed by the Senate in June to reopen four libraries, including the headquarters library in Washington, D.C., and restore scaled-back hours elsewhere. President Bush signed the bill December 26....

Congress approves strengthened FOIA legislation

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/december2007/foiareform.cfm>]

Both houses of Congress have approved a bill intended to toughen the Freedom of Information Act and increase the penalties on government agencies that fail to comply with requests. Introduced December 14 by

Sens. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) and John Cornyn (R-Tex.), the Senate passed by unanimous consent the Openness Promotes Effectiveness in our National (OPEN) Government Act, S. 2488, then sent it on to the House, which approved it by voice vote December 18. President Bush signed the bill December 31....

protester pleads not guilty

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2007/december2007/protester.cfm>]

JoAn Karkos, who checked It's Perfectly Normal: Changing Bodies, Growing Up, Sex and Sexual Health by Robie H. Harris out from the public libraries in Lewiston and Auburn, Maine, and refused to return them in September, pleaded not guilty to a civil charge of failing to return library property December 19. Her trial was set for May 28....

Presidential Records Act Amendments bill still stalled

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=328>]

The Presidential Records Act Amendments bill (H.R. 1255) is currently being prevented from a vote in the U.S. Senate for unknown reasons. Previously, it had been put on hold for several months by Sen. Jim Bunning (R-Ky.), who refused to state his reasons for doing so. The White House has threatened to veto the measure. H.R. 1255 would remove restrictions placed by President Bush's 2001 Executive Order 13233....

District Dispatch, Dec. 31

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[<http://www.tech-logic.com/>]
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ALA News

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Senior FBI official to speak at Midwinter

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/december2007/wouupdate122007.htm>]

Special Agent Bassem Youssef, the chief of the FBI unit responsible for administering two highly controversial warrantless search programs, will speak at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia. The session, "Inside the FBI: A Whistleblower Speaks Out," will take place 8 a.m., January 12, at the Pennsylvania Convention Center....

New ALA website design concept will debut in Philadelphia

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/december2007/graphic07.htm>]

A draft version of a redesign for the ALA website will be available for review and comment at the Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia, January 11-16. Computer kiosks in the Grand Hall of the Pennsylvania Convention Center will present mock-ups of the site's graphical makeover and request feedback about the redesign, scheduled for launch in the spring....

online forum [<http://al.ala.org/forum/>]

American Libraries Online Reader Forum is a discussion spot for topics covered in the magazine, issues at ALA, or anything else in librarianship. View the postings freely, or sign up as a registered user

to leave your own comments....

When you renew, take a survey

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/ors/reports/MemberDemogSummary01022008.pdf>] (PDF file)

Have you been meaning to respond to the member demographics survey but just kept forgetting? Now you can answer the very short (five questions)

survey as you exit the membership renewal portal (or when you join).

Learn more about the current responses to the survey and where to access the online renewal site....

First candidate completes CPLA program

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/candidate08.htm>]

Lois Blythe, head of adult services at the Burlington (Iowa) Public Library, is the first candidate to complete the Certified Public Library Administrator program. Blythe completed the requisite seven courses in record time, becoming the first public librarian to earn the designation of CPLA. The CPLA program, administered by the American Library Association–Allied Professional Association, is a voluntary credential for public librarians....

New LSSCP website

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/december2007/LSSCP07.htm>]

The Library Support Staff Certification Program (LSSCP), a project to develop a national voluntary certification program for support staff in public and academic libraries, has a new website

[<http://www.ala-apa.org/certification/supportstaff.html>] that houses informational documents, minutes from discussions by its Advisory Council, and contact information....

Featured review: Reference

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2312666]

Norwood, Stephen H. (editor), and Eunice G. Pollack (editor).

Encyclopedia of American Jewish History. Aug. 2007. 775p. ABC-CLIO, hardcover (978-1-85109-638-1).

This new encyclopedia uses an interdisciplinary, thematic approach to explore American Jewish history. A total of 125 scholars contributed articles, and Sir Martin Gilbert contributed maps that locate the sites of pogroms, Nazi death and concentration camps, and points of immigration from Eastern Europe to the United States. Archival photographs enrich the text. Each volume is divided into 26 broad thematic chapters, and each chapter contains several articles exploring the theme in depth....

@ Visit Booklist Online [<http://www.booklistonline.com>] for other reviews and much more....

Philadelphia Update

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The Other Midwinter: Unofficial events

[http://wikis.ala.org/midwinter2008/index.php/Unofficial_Events]

When the committee meetings are over for the day (or before they start), check out these goings-on: a Real Life/Second Life Meet-up, TDNet educational sessions, the ALA Gaming Spotlight, IEEE and ARTstor breakfasts, WebFeat client showcases, and more....

Midwinter 2008 wiki

Division News

New LITA website usability guide

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/december2007/LITA07.htm>]

In *Making Library Web Sites Usable*, a LITA guide to be published by Neal Schuman on February 11, authors Tom Lehman and Terry Nikkel show library webmasters, usability teams, and library administrators how to turn confusing, unappealing websites into the kind of friendly, efficient information gateways that students will choose. In clear, nontechnical language, the book breaks down what usability assessments are, why they are important for libraries, and what the most common challenges are....

LITA happy hour at Midwinter

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/december2007/happy07.htm>]

Join the LITA Membership Development Committee and members from around the country for networking, good cheer, and great fun at Cebu Restaurant and Bar, 123 Chestnut Street, Old City, Philadelphia, 5–7 p.m. on Friday, January 11....

SLMR [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/editors08.htm>]

Jean Donham and Carol L. Tilley have been named coeditors for AASL's online journal *School Library Media Research*. Donham and Tilley take over for Daniel Callison, who stepped down earlier this year after serving as editor for the past decade....

AASL to cohost forum on technology standards

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/nets08.htm>]

AASL will cohost an open forum on the National Educational Technology Standards for Teachers [<http://cnets.iste.org/teachers/index.html>] on Friday, January 11, during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia. Also hosted by the International Society for Technology in Education, the forum will help ensure that librarians' voices are heard as ISTE revises the standards for teachers....

AASL sponsors two Emerging Leaders

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/emerging08.htm>]

AASL will sponsor Victoria Goode and Carrie Turner for the 2008 ALA Emerging Leaders program. Goode currently serves as a library media specialist at Londonderry (N.H.) School District, and Turner is a high school library media specialist at the Westside Community Schools in Omaha, Nebraska....

ASCLA to house consortial data

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/LNCC08.htm>]

ASCLA will house the Library Networks, Cooperatives, and Consortia final report data, collected from more than 200 participating library networks, cooperatives, and consortia through a project

[<http://cs.ala.org/ra/lbcc/>] administered by the ALA Office for Research and Statistics and funded in part by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services....

Round Table News

Raise your cup for Planet Earth

[http://wikis.ala.org/midwinter2008/index.php/Cup_by_Cup]

The Social Responsibilities Round Table's Task Force on the Environment would like Midwinter attendees to bring reusable mugs and water bottles to support efforts encouraging ALA to reduce its carbon footprint. The new campaign, "Cup by Cup for a Greener ALA," will show that ALA members are ready to make lifestyle changes for sustainable conferences....

SRRT Task Force on the Environment

Join EMIERT at the World Caf e Live

The Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table will hold a fundraiser on January 12, 7–11 p.m., at the World Caf e Live,

[<http://www.worldcafelive.com/directioninfo.html>] 3025 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, for an evening of socializing and refreshments. Tickets can be purchased at the event. Contact Roberto Delgadillo [<mailto:rdelgadillo@lib.ucdavis.edu>] for details.

Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table

Awards

ALA awards deadline extended

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/december2007/extension07.htm>]

The deadline has been extended to February 1 for five ALA awards: the Beta Phi Mu Award, the Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award, the Equality Award, the Scholastic Library Publishing Award, and the Sullivan Award for Public Library Administrators Supporting Services to Children....

2008 CALA scholarships available

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2007/december2007/CALA07.htm>]

LIS students can apply for four Chinese American Librarians Association scholarships by March 15. Winners will be announced by May 31 and presented with their awards at the CALA Awards Banquet during ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, June 26–July 2. CALA scholarships are designed to encourage professional and leadership development in Chinese-American librarianship....

Broward branch named Government Building of the Year

Broward County's first green building, the South Regional/BCC

Library in Pembroke Pines, Florida, has been recognized by the Building Owners and Managers Association of Fort Lauderdale and the Palm Beaches as the Government Building of the Year. The branch, which opened February 1, 2007, is the county's first building registered with a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification with the U.S. Green Building Council.
Broward County Library, Dec. 27

Dame Lynne Brindley
[<http://news.scotsman.com/uk/Scientists-artists-and-artistes-head.3626986.jp>]
Lynne Brindley, chief executive of the British Library, has joined Helen Mirren and Judi Dench as a Dame Commander of the British Empire (DBE). The recognition is for services to education in the UK New Year's Honours List. Since her appointment in 2000, Brindley has led a major strategic repositioning and modernization program to ensure that the British Library continues to provide relevant services to users in the 21st century....
The Scotsman, Dec. 29

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

Seen Online

Washington State librarian cuts go too far
[<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-librarians23dec23,1,6494151.story>]
As has happened in other states, cash-strapped schools in Washington are dropping librarians to save money: This year, Federal Way cut 20 librarian positions. Spokane reduced 10 librarians to half-time. Darrington cut two librarians. A school in Marysville eliminated its half-time librarian. But one school's parents are saying: Enough is enough....
Los Angeles Times, Dec. 23

Illinois school librarians won't go quietly
[<http://www.southtownstar.com/news/709427,122307librarians.article>]
As librarians increasingly are swapped for aides or technology instructors, and literature takes a back seat to technology, library professionals are pushing back. They're calling on state education officials to require all Illinois school districts to employ certified information specialists. But local educators are balking at the plan because they say it's too expensive to hire certified librarians and it's hard to find qualified candidates....
Chicago Southtown Star, Dec. 23

LC names Children's Literature Ambassador
[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/01/02/AR2008010202236.html>]
Jon Scieszka, author of The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid

Tales and the Time Warp Trio series, gets the imprimatur of the Library of Congress January 3 as the first National Ambassador for Young People's Literature. The library's Center for the Book has teamed up with the Children's Book Council, a publishing industry trade association, to create the National Ambassador program....
Washington Post, Jan. 3

Boston gov docs to go online
[<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/12/27/business/27online.html>]
A digital library partnership, including two nonprofit organizations and the Boston Public Library, is preparing to begin making digital copies of the library's paper-based government documents collection, which will then be made available on the internet. The project is being undertaken by Public.Resource.Org, [<http://public.resource.org/>] a nonprofit group seeking to open public access to government records, and the Internet Archive, a San Francisco-based digital library....
New York Times, Dec. 27

Pittsburgh votes to replace oldest Carnegie library
[http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/search/s_544787.html]
The Pittsburgh (Pa.) City Council cleared the way December 27 for a new Carnegie Library in the city's north side to replace one damaged by a lightning strike. A new Federal Street library will replace the historic Allegheny Regional Library, which closed in April 2006 after lightning struck the library's clock tower and did \$2 million worth of damage. The library was the first opened by steel magnate Andrew Carnegie in what was then the city of Allegheny in 1890....
Pittsburgh (Pa.) Tribune-Review, Dec. 28

BP donates \$840,000 to Anchorage libraries
[http://dwb.adn.com/news/alaska/ap_alaska/story/9526955p-9437764c.html]
Oil company BP Alaska has donated \$840,000 to the Anchorage Public Library. BP Alaska President Doug Suttles says the funds are targeted to several capital projects to renovate and expand Anchorage library buildings. A majority of the gift will go for a new 10,000 square-foot library and learning center in Mountain View that will open next fall....
Anchorage (Alaska) Daily News, Dec. 18

Web playgrounds for the very young
[<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/12/31/business/31virtual.html>]
Forget Second Life. The real virtual world gold rush centers on the grammar-school set. Trying to duplicate the success of blockbuster websites like Club Penguin and Webkinz, children's entertainment companies are greatly accelerating efforts to build virtual worlds for children. "Get ready for total inundation," said Debra Aho Williamson, an analyst at the research firm eMarketer, who estimates that 20 million children will be members of a virtual world by 2011, up from 8.2 million today....
New York Times, Dec. 31

Overdue books and bad credit
[<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/12/26/nyregion/26debate.html>]
A library fine is not really a debt, attorney Abraham Kleinman argues, and should not be covered by regulations that allow collection agencies

to report bad consumer behavior. "That's his opinion," said Kenes Bowling, a spokesman for Unique. For 15 years, his company has operated a successful "materials collection" business as a debt collector for libraries (one of them is the Queens Library [<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/12/26/nyregion/26library.html>]), and it relies on its ability to threaten scofflaws with negative credit reports....

New York Times, Dec. 26

NYPL's sage of the stacks

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/12/31/arts/31rese.html>]

David Smith, a bookish but boyish 54, is officially a supervising librarian in the Allen Room and the Wertheim Study at the Humanities and Social Sciences Library on Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street. But a business card, printed for him as a 50th birthday gift by the author Christine B. Whelan (whom he helped with her doctoral dissertation for Oxford and who wrote *Why Smart Men Marry Smart Women*), reads "Librarian to the Stars...."

New York Times, Dec. 31

Australia requires national filtering software

[<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2007/12/31/2129471.htm>]

Australian Telecommunications Minister Stephen Conroy says it will be mandatory for all internet service providers to offer to homes and schools ISP filtering software that blocks pornography and inappropriate material. Online civil libertarians have warned the freedom of the internet is at stake, but Conroy says that is nonsense. Meanwhile, British web experts have already defeated [<http://www.news.com.au/story/0,23599,22999659-2,00.html>] the CleanFeed blocking system that Conroy hopes will halt internet porn....

Australian Broadcasting Corporation News, Dec. 31; News Limited, Jan. 3

Scottish authors appalled at English tag

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/scotland/7157708.stm]

Leading Scottish literary figures have criticized a decision by the Library of Congress to reclassify their work as a subsection of English literature. The move means Scottish literature will no longer have its own section in the world's biggest library. A spokesman for the library said it would be reconsidering the controversial decision....

BBC News, Dec. 22

Canadian libraries protest proposed copyright law

[<http://www.canada.com/victoriatimescolonist/news/story.html?id=5faed437-66b4-42c7-95ff-40e30c9eb0d6&k=94123>]

Libraries and their patrons across Canada have added their voices to the growing dispute over proposed copyright legislation that could impose levies on iPods, memory cards, and raise the price of blank CDs and cassette tapes in 2008. The levies, proposed by the Canadian Private Copying Collective, are aimed at preventing users from copying illegally shared files to disc, and increasingly, to mass-storage digital players such as the ubiquitous iPod....

Victoria (B.C.) Times Colonist, Dec. 23

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[<http://www.maintainITproject.org>]

Tech Talk

Hacking Firefox: Instructions and stuff

[<http://librarytechtonics.info/bits/541/hacking-firefox-at-my-library-instructions-stuff/>]

Andrea Mercado tells you how to install basic Firefox plug-ins, install and configure add-ons, hide menus, and lock down the browser on your public machines: “I tried to make the instructions as clear as possible without too much tech speak, and without drowning you in too much minutia, while actually giving you proper instructions.”...

Library Techtonics blog, Dec. 20

10 things that will change your future

[<http://www.smh.com.au/news/technology/ten-things-that-will-change-your-future/2007/12/31/1198949747758.html?page=fullpage>]

Nick Galvin writes: “So Google and Wikipedia took you by surprise? It’s easy to forget that as little as a decade ago all these innovations that are part of daily life had yet to be dreamed of. What follows is a smorgasbord of websites, services, concepts, and gadgets (including the Chumby [<http://www.chumby.com/>]) that at first glance seem to have little to do with each other, but which taken together give a picture of where our brave new networked world may be heading.”...

Sydney (N.S.W.) Morning Herald, Jan. 1

30 technology predictions for 2008

[http://stephenslighthouse.sirsidynix.com/archives/2007/12/30_library_tech.html]

Stephen Abram writes: “I rarely do this formally but I’m in the mood this year! I prefer to work in 3–5 year timeframes. Anyway, here’s a few things, in no particular order, that I think will happen in 2008 that might have an impact on our little library world.” No. 24 is: “eBooks will go mainstream in the business and professional space. Standards issues won’t be solved in 2008 and that’s sad for everyone, including libraries.”...

Stephen’s Lighthouse blog, Dec. 30

Coming soon: A notebook with a terabyte

[http://www.news.com/8301-10784_3-9839079-7.html]

Asus, the Taiwanese computer maker, will come out with a notebook that sports two 500GB hard drives from Hitachi Global Storage Technologies. Combined, this will give a fully configured Asus M70 notebook a terabyte of storage. Put another way, the notebook will be capable of storing 1,000 hours of video, or more than 350 feature length movies, or 250,000 four-minute songs. That will probably tide you over for even the worst airport layovers....

C|Net Tech News blog, Jan. 2

Disable some of Vista’s annoying features

[<http://lifehacker.com/340000/disable-vistas-nagging-aspects-with-vista4exp>]

erts]

Vista4Experts is an appropriately named free application that lets a user turn on and off some of the things that make Windows Vista feel more like a neurotic babysitter than an operating system. If you know you can live without security center pop-ups, the frequent User Account Control question dialogs, Automatic Update notifications, and other features, it's a great all-in-one power user tool....

Lifehacker, Jan. 3

The Google algorithm has changed

[<http://googlesystem.blogspot.com/2008/01/google-artificially-promotes-recent-web.html>]

Google paid a big price when it started to index pages faster and show them in the search results minutes after they're published. Google now artificially inflates the rankings of the recently created pages based on historical data and the few backlinks that are detected. Duncan Riley notes

[<http://www.techcrunch.com/2008/01/01/the-google-algorithm-is-changing/>]

that the search engine now prefers more recent posts, including from Digg, over informative articles related to the search term, such as Wikipedia, which would have normally had the top or near to the top position....

Google Operating System blog, Jan. 1; TechCrunch, Jan. 1

For the travelin' librarian

[<http://www.thinkgeek.com/tshirts/generic/991e/>]

Thanks to the ingenious ThinkGeek robot monkeys, you can display current wi-fi signal strength to yourself and everyone around you with this stylish Wi-Fi Detector Shirt. The glowing bars on the front of the shirt dynamically change as the surrounding wi-fi signal strength fluctuates. Finally you can get the attention you deserve as others bow to you as their reverential wi-fi god, while geeky chicks swoon at your presence....

ThinkGeek

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[mailto:homeworkhappenings@tutor.com]
=====

Actions & Answers

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12 resolutions for the New Year at your library

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/education/empopps/careerleadsb/workingknowledge/workingknowledge0108.htm>]

AL columnist Mary Pergander offers 12 ways you can make a difference this year in your professional life and those of your library colleagues....

"Working Knowledge," American Libraries 39, no. 1/2 (Jan./Feb.): 78

Top school library things to think about in 2008

[<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/blog/1340000334/post/80019408.html>]

Joyce Valenza writes: "I went through my posts since this blog started back in June, and I culled the major themes—those themes with legs, those that excite me with their possibilities, those that keep me up at night.

I present my own highly subjective list of things school librarians and other educators and librarians need to consider deeply in the coming year.”...

NeverEndingSearch blog, Jan. 2

Libraries not losing relevance, survey says

[http://www.pewinternet.org/PPF/r/231/report_display.asp]

Members of Generation Y (ages 18–30) are the leading users of libraries for help in solving problems and in more general patronage, according to a Pew Internet and American Life Project survey, “Information Searches That Solve Problems” (PDF file

[http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/Pew_UI_LibrariesReport.pdf]). The survey results challenge the assumption that libraries are losing relevance in the internet age. Libraries drew visits by more than half of Americans

(53%) in the past year for all kinds of purposes. Gary Price asks

[<http://www.resourceshelf.com/2007/12/31/new-from-pew-internet-information-searches-that-solve-problems/>] some questions that the report does not

address, and ALA President Lorienne Roy comments

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/lrqpew.htm>] on the results....

Pew Internet and American Life Project, Dec. 30; Resource Shelf, Dec. 31

National Film Registry selections for 2007

[<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2007/07-254.html>]

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington on December 27 named 25 motion pictures—classics from every era of American filmmaking—to the National Film Registry of the Library of Congress, including Bullitt, Close Encounters of the Third Kind, Grand Hotel, Oklahoma!, and 12 Angry Men. The selections were made as part of a program aimed at preserving the nation’s movie heritage. This year’s selections bring to 475 the number of motion pictures in the registry....

Library of Congress, Dec. 27

You mean I can’t throw these out?

[<http://acrlblog.org/2007/12/18/you-mean-i-cant-throw-these-out/>]

Marc Meola writes: “James Cortada, a historian of computing who works for IBM, has a nice screed

[<http://www.historians.org/Perspectives/issues/2007/0712/0712vie1.cfm>] at

the American Historical Association that heaps a bit of anger on us

old academic librarians. Fresh from reading Nicholson Baker

and full of Google digitization anxiety, Cortada charges that a new

spectre is haunting libraries: heartless librarians ruthlessly discarding

old PC-DOS manuals. Apparently no one told Cortada that when librarians discard books it’s called deselection.”...

ACRLog, Dec. 18

Thomas Jefferson’s library added to LibraryThing

[<http://www.librarything.com/blog/2008/01/happy-1815-thomas-jefferson-in-done.php>]

Tim Spalding writes: “An unusual member has finished adding his 4,889

books [<http://www.librarything.com/profile/thomasjefferson>] to

LibraryThing—the third president, Thomas Jefferson. He was assisted

by 16 LibraryThing members, who worked from scholarly reconstructions of

Jefferson’s 1815 collection, tracking down records in 34 libraries around

the world. As is well known, Jefferson sold his books to the Library of Congress, replacing the one the British destroyed during the War of 1812.”...

LibraryThing blog, Jan. 1

From virtual reference to participatory librarianship

[<http://www.asis.org/Bulletin/Dec-07/lankes.html>]

R. David Lankes discusses the possibility of moving virtual reference toward participatory librarianship. He suggests that VR can be done by answering questions using pools of expertise provided by different sources. Librarians are one type of source. Users might also be able to see the answers to their questions coming from different sources with different contexts and points of view....

ASIS&T Bulletin 34, no. 2 (Dec./Jan.)

DLF to survey moving-images archives

[<http://www.clir.org/pubs/issues/issues60.html#dlf>]

With support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Digital Library Federation has begun an environmental scan of traditional moving-image archives, major public and university libraries, museums, and other cultural institutions (such as public television broadcasters) with significant film and video collections in the United States. The goal of this project is to summarize which moving-image collections are potentially available for digitization, with an emphasis on open access to increase the volume of online content for teaching and learning....

CLIR Issues 60 (Nov./Dec.)

Do you live in a literate city?

[http://www.ccsu.edu/AMLC07/Overall_Rankings/Top10.htm]

Jack Miller, president of Central Connecticut State University, has once again released his rankings of America’s Most Literate Cities, based on six key indicators of literacy: newspaper circulation, number of bookstores, library resources, periodical publishing resources, educational attainment, and internet resources. The library stats are based on the FY 2005 Public Libraries Survey and Library Statistics Program, released by NCES in 2007....

America’s Most Literate Cities

Sexy librarians will help you upload videos to YouTube

[http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/sexy_librarians_of_the_future.php]

Marshall Kirkpatrick writes: “Imagine a future when you go to the library with a five-minute video you’ve just made about last night’s Presidential debates and that librarian says to you: ‘You should upload it to YouTube and tag it with these four tags—two broad and two more specific to existing communities of interest on YouTube and the topic of your video. Then you should embed that video in a blog post along with some text introducing it and linking to some of your favorite posts by other people who have also written about the debates.’”...

ReadWriteWeb, Dec. 20

Retail and publisher metadata

[<http://kcoyle.blogspot.com/2007/11/titles-in-retail-and-publisher-data.htm>]

Karen Coyle writes: “There’s been talk and action lately around libraries

making use of data provided by publishers or retailers. We need to do some serious studies of bibliographic metadata created outside libraries. For example, libraries use the title on the title page, while others focus on the cover title. Retailers and publishers use the form of the author's name on the book itself and do not concern themselves with unique identification.”...

Coyle's InFormation, Nov. 30

NYPL to get a facade lift

[<http://www.nypl.org/press/2007/FacadeRestor.cfm>]

The New York Public Library is undertaking a three-year restoration of the Fifth Avenue facade of the historic building now formally known as the Humanities and Social Sciences Library. The project will include a complete cleaning of the building's Vermont marble, repair of almost 3,000 cracks, protection and preservation of the many sculptural elements, and repair of the building's roof, stairs, and plazas. The restoration will be completed in time for the building's centennial in 2011....

New York Public Library, Dec. 20

Evolution of the card catalog

[<http://www.libraryhistorybuff.org/cardcatalog-evolution.htm>]

Larry Nix offers a timeline of card catalogs from 1789 to 1925. Did you know that Harvard College Librarian Thaddeus William Harris (right) made the first reference to a card catalog in an American library in 1840? It was called a “slip catalogue” back then, and it was in use at Harvard until 1912....

Library History Buff

What do you know about copyright?

[<http://www.kellistaley.com/2007/12/what-do-you-know-about-copyright-survey.html>]

Brary Web Diva Kelli Staley summarizes the results of her Survey Monkey survey [<http://www.kellistaley.com/copyright-survey/SurveySummary.html>] on copyright and libraries. She asked members of the Rutgers Online MLIS program, Rutgers's LISSA mailing list, PubLib discussion list, the SLA-Illinois mailing list, and readers of her blog to participate. Staley found that nearly 80% thought that in order to get a copyright, the author must publish the work (incorrect)....

Brary Web Diva blog, Dec. 4

Joining the real to the representational at Pullman

[<http://journal.code4lib.org/articles/29>]

Andrew H. Bullen writes: “The Pullman House History Project is a part of the Pullman State Historic Site's virtual museum and website, [<http://www.pullman-museum.org/>] which links together census, city directory, and telephone directory information to describe the people who lived in the town of Pullman, Illinois, between 1881 and 1940. This demographic data is linked through a database/XML record system to online maps and Perl programs that allow the data to be represented in various useful combinations.”...

Code4Lib Journal, no. 1 (Dec. 17)

New collaboration for scholarly publishing

[<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2007/12/28/mellon>]

Five university presses have announced a collaboration that seeks to find a way to reduce costs of scholarly publishing and to allow more books to be released. The collaboration, created with funds from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, will set up a joint operation for copyediting, design, layout, and typesetting for the work in American literatures. The presses will retain complete control over book selection and distribution....

Inside Higher Ed, Dec. 28

Seal with a zeal for murals

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/emillan/2125535707/>]

Collins Memorial Library at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington, was open 24 hours a day during finals week. Because only one staff member was on duty, the students got away with some pranks. But the staff was both amused and bemused when they found this, in the arts section: an illuminated seal, motorized so that the head turned and tail flipped, studying Otto Demus's Romanesque Mural Painting....

Flickr, Dec. 20

Project for Awesome [<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/?p=164>]

Angela Reynolds writes: "On Monday, December 17, Nerdfighters took over YouTube. According to John Green, author of *An Abundance of Katherines* and one half of *Brotherhood 2.0* [<http://www.brotherhood2.com/>], a Nerdfighter is like a regular person, only instead of being made of bones and things, a Nerdfighter is made of awesome. The plan was simple: Nerdfighters would take over YouTube by posting bookish videos and by commenting and rating en masse. For nearly 24 hours, the most discussed and highest rated videos on YouTube all had the same center screen and all promoted a charity." Check out Project for Awesome: Libraries and First Book [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pb35Qkb8weQ>] (4:55) by Liz and Kristina, filmed at the King County (Wash.) Issaquah Library....

ALSC Blog, Dec. 21

[<http://www.j-newvoices.org/>]

=====
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2008/geninfo.htm>]

ALA Midwinter Meeting

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2008/home.htm>] in Philadelphia, January 11–16. The Event Planner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2008/planner.htm>] is up and running. Check out the currently scheduled Special Events.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2008/specialevents.htm>]

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2469]

In Strategic Planning for Results,

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2469] Sandra Nelson, senior editor of the Results Series, focuses

on the essential steps to draft a results-driven, strategic planning process that libraries can complete over the course of four months,

regardless of organizational structure or size. Reflecting on the current planning environment for public libraries, Nelson makes the case for strategic rather than long-term planning and includes a wealth of information about understanding and managing the change process. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue
January/February 2008

From Hoops to Ink: An Interview with Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

Welcome to Philly

Design Thinking

Librarians in the Jury Box

Putting Students First

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=catreqform]

Download

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=catreqform]
the new ALA Graphics catalog, or view it online (PDF file
[http://www.alastore.ala.org/graphics/Holiday07_catalog_online.pdf]).

Career Leads from

[<http://joblist.ala.org/>]

Reference/Subject Librarian.

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=8867>] California State University at Chico seeks a full-time (12 month with 10 month option) tenure track, reference / instruction / subject librarian in sociology, multicultural and gender studies, and health and community services. The position is available August 1....

@ More jobs [<http://joblist.ala.org/>]...

Preparations for the Smithsonian's Jazz Appreciation Month 2008

[http://www.smithsonianjazz.org/jam/jam_start.asp] (April) are underway.

Send in [mailto:jazz@si.edu] your events for posting on the calendar.

Digital Library of the Week

[http://ccdlibraries.claremont.edu/cdm4/item_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/mni&CISOPTR=102&CISOBX=1]

The Claremont Colleges (Calif.) Digital Library

[<http://ccdlibraries.claremont.edu/collections.php>] offers a variety of historical collections, including: voices of the key participants in the American occupation of Japan; Japanese woodblock prints and illustrated books (17th–20th c.); drawings and photographs of Edward Vischer

(1809–1878); and prints by Francisco Goya (1746–1828). The Claremont collection of Murals of Northern Ireland

[<http://ccdlibraries.claremont.edu/col/mni/>] includes images of both Republican and Loyalist street paintings. The murals are vivid records of historical events, political standpoints, community concerns, and ideological statements. Managed by the Claremont Libraries, the CCDL was established in 2004/2005 by the academic deans of the Claremont Colleges upon their approval of recommendations from cross-colleges Task Force.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this AL Direct feature? Tell us about it. [mailto:aldirect@ala.org]

Public Perception

How the World

Sees Us

“After spotting a rare and valuable book in the stacks at the University of Tulsa—it was Mabel Dodge Luhan’s early treatise on southwestern painting, *Taos and Its Artists*—I wondered if I could smuggle it past the low-tech librarian. But my better judgment prevailed, and I left it in place.”

?Steve Martin, *Born Standing Up* (Scribner, 2007), p. 120.

Brenda Bailey-Hainer, executive director of the Bibliographical Center for Research, writes about the merger of the Collaborative Digitization Project with BCR in April 2007 and how the new CDP@BCR

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/ascla/asclapubs/interface/archives/contentlistingby/volume29a/cdpbcr.cfm>] continues the CDP tradition of providing best practices, training, consulting services, grant opportunities, and digital resource access to libraries and other types of cultural heritage institutions in the West. In the Winter 2007 issue

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/ascla/asclapubs/interface/currentedition/currentedi>]

tion.cfm] of ASCLA's Interface.

Ask the ALA Librarian

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/yolaleah/2110998706/>]

Q. Our library needs to get on board with 2.0 technologies. What are some resources for us, and how can we find out what other libraries are doing?

A. Using Web 2.0—including blogs, wikis, podcasts, online videos and video blogs, online photos, social networking websites—to reach out to library patrons is an area of growing interest. In the past year, several new books and numerous articles have been written, including the regular columns in *American Libraries*. Several prolific bloggers cover the topic (and either presently or previously contributed technology columns to *American Libraries*), including Meredith Farkas and *Information Wants to Be Free*, [<http://meredith.wolfwater.com/wordpress>] Michael Stephens and *Tame the Web*, [<http://tametheweb.com>] ALA's own Jenny Levine and *The Shifted Librarian*, [<http://theshiftedlibrarian.com>] Jessamyn West and *librarian.net*, [<http://www.librarian.net>] Karen G. Schneider and the *Free Range Librarian*, [<http://freerangelibrarian.com/>] and Sarah Houghton-Jan and *Librarian In Black*. [<http://librarianinblack.typepad.com>] Farkas also began *Library Success: A Best Practices Wiki*, [<http://www.libsuccess.org>] which provides a pathfinder to some of these issues. As yet, there is no comprehensive directory of library 2.0 activity, though the ALA Library has begun to track this—using social software, of course! See the list of links compiled at the del.icio.us account [<http://del.icio.us/alalibrary>] for the ALA Library under the tag *libsocialsoftware*. [<http://del.icio.us/alalibrary/libsocialsoftware>] See the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Libraries_Using_Web_2.0] for more....

@ The ALA Librarian [<mailto:AskTheLibrarian@ala.org>] welcomes your questions.

Calendar

Apply for:

By Jan. 25:

The National Endowment for the Humanities and ALA's Public Programs Office offer 3,000 *We The People* [<http://publicprograms.ala.org/bookshelf/>] bookshelves on the theme "Created Equal" to public and school libraries.

By Jan. 31:

The Institute of Museum and Library Services seeks nominations for 15 \$10,000 Coming Up Taller [<http://www.cominguptaller.org/>] awards for outstanding after-school, out-of-school, and summer arts and humanities programs for underserved children and youth.

By Feb. 1:

AASL has teamed with a consortium of educational publishers to offer the 2008 Innovative Reading Grant program.

[http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslwards/innovativereadinggrant/2008_aasl_innov_reading_grant.pdf] The purpose of this program is to support the planning and implementation of an innovative program designed to encourage reading, especially among struggling readers. One \$2,500 award is presented to the most outstanding applicant. The innovation of proposed programs should be a natural outgrowth of current reading research, practice, and policy. Applications will be assessed based on a variety of criteria, including the program's ability to measure and demonstrate its impact on student learning as well as its potential for replication.

By Feb. 1:

The Tiger Woods Foundation

[<http://www.tigerwoodsfoundation.org/grants/default.sps?itype=7609>] empowers young people to reach their highest potential by initiating and supporting community-based programs that promote the health, education, and welfare of America's children. The Foundation currently provides grants to nonprofit organizations that focus on underserved youth, ages 5–17, living in urban American cities. Specific areas of interest include programs that enhance the learning process for youth as well as year-round mentoring and tutoring programs. Requests are reviewed quarterly.

By Feb. 5:

The Youth Literacy Grants Program,

[<http://www.dollargeneral.com/community/communityinvestments.aspx?Category=Community&SubCategory=Grant%20Programs#YouthLiteracy>] offered by Dollar General, provides funding to K-12 schools, public libraries, and local nonprofit organizations to help with the implementation or expansion of literacy programs for new readers, below-grade-level readers, and readers with learning disabilities. Instruction must be designed to meet the varying learning preferences and needs of the defined target population. Applying organizations must be located within 20 miles of a Dollar General Store.

By Mar. 31:

General Mills offers grants of up to \$15,000 to 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations and public schools for community improvement projects through the My Hometown Helper [<http://www.myhometownhelper.com>] program. Applications will be accepted beginning February 1.

By Mar. 31:

The John Wiley and Sons For Dummies Library Display Contest [<http://www.dummies.com/WileyCDA/Section/id-292245.html>] offers prizes of For Dummies books, Dummies gift items, and staff pizza parties for outstanding Dummies-branded library displays. Entries will be accepted

beginning January 17.

@ More [<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/calendar/calendar.cfm>]...

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American Libraries Direct

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american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | January 9, 2008

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SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

- ✓ Teacher-selected Content
- ✓ 71 Subjects – Aligned to Curriculum
- ✓ 3 Million High-quality Sites Searchable



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U.S. & World News

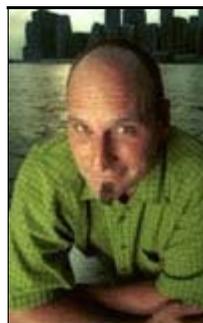
[Indianapolis opening entangled in financial controversy](#)

A splendid new central library opened in downtown Indianapolis December 9, amid ongoing controversy over who is responsible for \$50 million in construction cost overruns and how a frozen operating budget will support a facility that has essentially doubled in size. Indianapolis–Marion County (Ind.) Public Library CEO Laura Bramble told *American Libraries* that IMCPL is “currently in litigation and mediation,” so she was reluctant to go into detail but said, “We’re still hoping it might not have to go to trial.”...



[Scieszka named National Reading Ambassador](#)

Popular children’s author Jon Scieszka was appointed by the Library of Congress January 3 as the first National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature. Scieszka, the writer of *The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs* and the Caldecott Honor-winning *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales*, will use his two-year term to promote reading and to reach out to reluctant readers through the media, personal appearances, and project development....



[Parents and librarians mobilize to save school library programs](#)

Parents and librarians in Washington State are mobilizing to ensure that children learn how to find the information they need in an age of rapidly changing media—and how to use it in productive ways to prepare for the future. In the Spokane (Wash.) School District, where budget cuts reduced 10 school library media specialist positions to part-time, supporters are fighting to save their school libraries and having library services included in the state’s definition of a basic education....

[Truckful of library materials recovered from patron’s home](#)



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[ALA Midwinter Meeting](#)

in Philadelphia, January 11–16. As of January 4, **advance registration** was 7,668 (compared to 7,699 at the same point for the Seattle Midwinter Meeting in 2007).

If you can’t be in Philadelphia in person, make sure you watch the [Youth Media Awards webcast](#), Monday, January 14, beginning at 7:45 a.m. Eastern time,

An Akron woman faces felony charges of theft and receiving stolen property after police hauled more than 1,000 missing books, movies, music, and toys belonging to Akron–Summit County (Ohio) Public Library, some of which had disappeared as early as 2000, from her home in a pickup truck in mid-December....



ALA News

[10K expected at ALA Philadelphia meeting](#)

More than 10,000 librarians, library supporters, publishers, and guests from around the world will converge on the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia, January 11–16, for the ALA Midwinter Meeting. Such issues as user privacy, censorship, new technology, and library funding will be at the forefront of many of the approximately 2,500 scheduled meetings and events. The Midwinter Meeting also will offer more than 800 exhibit booths that will feature the latest and best in services and technology for today's library users....



[Youth Media Awards results available on your cell phone](#)

Unable to attend the 2008 ALA Youth Media Awards or sit in on the live Webcast on January 14? Get award winners sent directly to your cell phone by text message. Text the word "ALA 5" to 32075 in the U.S. and Canada to receive notification of the winners of the Newberry, Caldecott, King, Printz, and Belpré awards, one text message per award. Or text "ALA 13" for all the winners....



[What's happening at Midwinter](#) (PDF file)

Use this 25-page pre-Midwinter Update in conjunction with the Midwinter Preview in the January *American Libraries* (pp. 62–69) to be informed of hot meeting topics, keep track of major Midwinter events, and remind yourself of important phone numbers and upcoming conferences....

[Washington Office events at Midwinter](#)

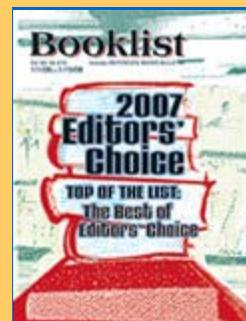
The ALA Washington Office is set to host several events at Midwinter. Highlighting the activities will be an address by FBI Supervisory Special Agent Bassem Youssef, who blew the whistle on discriminatory practices within the Bureau that were undermining the ability of the FBI to legally and effectively combat Middle Eastern terrorism. Youssef will speak at the Washington Office Update Session Saturday morning, which will be followed by three breakout sessions....

District Dispatch, Jan. 4

[ALA welcomes five new Library Champions](#)

The ALA Development Office is pleased to announce five new Library Champion members—BWI/Follett Library Resources, Ex Libris, Greenwood Publishing Group, ReferenceUSA, and Tutor.com—bringing the total to 47 Library Champions, the highest in the history of the

for the Newberry, Caldecott, and other youth awards announcements. Or, get award winners sent directly to your cell phone [by text message](#) for free.



Pick up a copy of the January 1 & 15 issue of *Booklist* containing the full set of [2007 Editors' Choices](#) at Booth 930 at the Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia.



[Request](#) the latest **ALA Graphics catalog** (Spring 2008) or [download](#) it (PDF file). **BRAND NEW!** From ALA Graphics.

In this issue
January/February
2008

program....

Great Stories CLUB program grant



Connect with hard-to-reach, underserved teens by conducting a Great Stories CLUB reading and discussion program, organized by the Public Programs Office in cooperation with YALSA. All libraries located within or working in partnership with facilities serving troubled teens are eligible to apply. Online applications will be accepted through February 15 (extended deadline)....

Be an American librarian in Paris

The International Relations Committee is calling for nominations for ALA representative to the board of trustees of the American Library in Paris. This two-year appointment would begin in June 2008 with the appointee having to cover costs to attend two board meetings a year in Paris. ALA does not provide financial support for the representative. The deadline is February 15....

Freedom to read affordable jewelry

If you plan to attend the Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia, visit Exhibit Booth 252 to check out the designs of Carolyn Forsman—the New York–based jeweler who donates proceeds from her ALA booth to the [Freedom to Read Foundation](#). Carolyn is back for her 25th year and has an intriguing assortment of affordable gifts to make you smile. Are you “quirky,” “dysfunctional,” a “goddess,” or a “rock star”? If so, she has a rubber band bracelet for you....



OIF blog, Jan. 7

AL Focus

Booklist editors read for fun

The 2007 Editors' Choice issue of *Booklist* includes “Reading for Fun,” a roundup of each editor’s favorite personal reading choices of the year. In this video (4:54), seven of the editors get personal about unwieldy titles, Russian poetry, a takeoff on Republican fascism, way-too-heavy hardbacks, and more....



Booklist
ONLINE

Featured review: Adult books
Holm, Bill. *The Windows of Brimnes: An American in Iceland*. December 2007. 256p.



**From Hoops to Ink:
An Interview with
Kareem Abdul-
Jabbar**

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Design Thinking

**Librarians in the
Jury Box**

**Putting Students
First**



**Visit ALA’s five new
Library Champions at
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Meeting in
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Public Library Specialists



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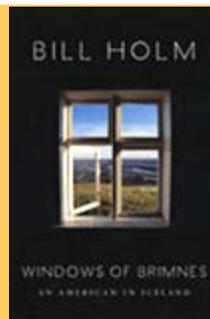


Booth 544



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Milkweed, hardcover (978-1-57131-302-7). Poet-memoirist Holm grew up on the tall-grass prairie, but his heart lies on the edge of the ocean in Iceland. Even as a child, he dreamed of the sea, and so to become a middle-aged Minnesotan and buy property in a place in Iceland called Brimnes—on the shore of a fjord, no less—was “the fulfillment of a lifetime of longing delivered.” The world he sees from the window of the small fisherman’s cottage he inhabits there, mostly in summer but sometimes in winter, he deeply admires. He loves Iceland’s tradition of pacifism; the Icelandic love of nature, poetry, and music; and especially, Icelanders’ unforced sense of community, which they call *sveit*, and which Holm wonders whether Americans may ever fully comprehend....



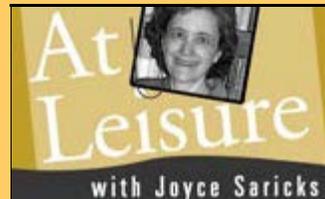
[Booklist editors' top picks for 2007](#)

Every January, *Booklist* publishes [Editors' Choice](#): lists of the best books, databases, video/DVDs, and audiobooks of the past year. From these lists, we further select what we call the Top of the List: the single best title in eight categories—adult fiction, adult nonfiction, youth fiction, youth nonfiction, youth picture book, reference source, video/DVD, and audiobook....



[Reading to learn and learning as we read](#)

Joyce Saricks writes: “A few months ago, I came across a comment that got me thinking: Readers read nonfiction to learn something.



Though seemingly innocuous, the remark, in context, implied that one doesn’t learn from fiction. I confess it got my dander up: Is nonfiction essentially superior because it offers information, the opportunity to learn something? And is it true that we don’t learn from fiction?”...

At Leisure column, Jan. 1

@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....

Philadelphia Update

[Anthony Lewis on the First Amendment](#)

The Freedom to Read Foundation and the National Constitution Center are hosting a talk by two-time Pulitzer Prize winner Anthony Lewis, one of the country’s most esteemed experts on the First Amendment and the author of the classic *Gideon’s Trumpet*, to share his latest work, *Freedom for the Thought That We Hate*, on the importance of freedom

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Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST 

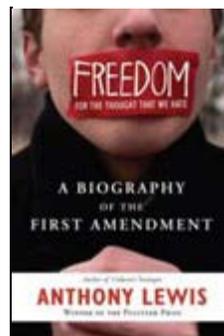
[Continuing Education Librarian](#), Amigos Library Services, Dallas. Assist staff at Amigos member/customer libraries on a variety of services including reference (traditional and virtual), database and internet searching, electronic services, collection management, customer service, and others. An employer representative will be attending the Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia....

@ [More jobs...](#)



If you’ve missed the deadline for advance registration for the [Midwinter Advocacy Institute](#), on-site registration will begin at 8:30 a.m., January 11, in Salon G at the Marriott Philadelphia.

Digital Library of the Week



of expression. The event will take place Monday, January 14, at 6:30 p.m., at the National Constitution Center, Grand Hall Overlook, 525 Arch Street, Independence Mall. Reservations are required; (215) 409-6700....

[OCLC special events](#)

OCLC is hosting a number of breakfasts, sharing sessions, workshops, showcases, and user group meetings January 11–14 at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia. Many sessions are still open. The organization is also hosting a [Blog Salon](#), January 13, 5:30–8 p.m., in Commonwealth Room A1 at the Loews Hotel....

OCLC

[Party like a librarian](#)

The [Desk Set](#) is an informal group of New York City–area librarians, archivists, LIS students, and other individuals who love books. At Midwinter, they are teaming up with Authority Control, a Philadelphia-based librarian group, to present “Dance Dance Library Revolution: Bibliodisothèque Philadelphia,” at the National Mechanics Bar, 22 S. 3rd St., January 12, 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Bring one nonfiction paperback to exchange for one free drink; it will go to an area prison library....

Desk Set



Division News

[Signings, free books at the YALSA booth](#)

YALSA invites Midwinter attendees to stop by YALSA Exhibit Booth 435 for a number of events, including a book signing with Holly Black (right), author of the popular fantasy series *The Spiderwick Chronicles* and the *Modern Faerie Tales*. Black will be signing at the booth from 1 to 2 p.m. on January 12, courtesy of Teen Read Week promotional partner Simon and Schuster....



[YALSA chooses new journal editor](#)

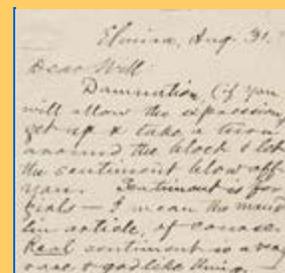
YALSA has named RoseMary Honnold the editor of *Young Adult Library Services*, its quarterly journal. Honnold will begin her editorship in April with the Summer 2008 issue....

[YALSA offers four online courses in February](#)

YALSA will present courses on boys and books, adolescent development and library behavior, power programming for teens, and tech tools for teen leadership. All [online courses](#) will be held February 4–29, except tech tools, which is a six-week course that runs until March 4....

[ACRL Insider blog launches](#)

The new [ACRL Insider](#) blog will keep ACRL members and other interested parties informed on the activities, services, and programs of



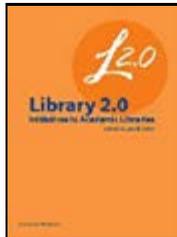
The University of California's [Mark Twain Project Online](#) applies innovative [technology](#) to more than four decades' worth of [archival research](#) by expert editors. Right now it offers access to letters written by Twain between 1853 and 1880, most of them in redlined text and a few in facsimile. Scheduled to go online in 2008 are critically edited texts of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *Roughing It*, and *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*. Its ultimate goal is to produce fully annotated editions of everything Mark Twain wrote. MTPO is [a collaboration](#) between the Mark Twain Papers Project of the Bancroft Library, the California Digital Library, and the University of California Press. As Twain wrote in 1906, “The edition of A.D. 2006 will make a stir when it comes out. I shall be hovering around taking notice, along with other dead pals. You are invited.”

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can

the association. ACRL Insider features information on publications, events, conferences, and eLearning opportunities, along with podcasts and other media....

[Library 2.0 initiatives in academic libraries](#)

ACRL has published *Library 2.0 Initiatives in Academic Libraries*, a hybrid [book](#) and [wiki](#) presenting 12 case studies of significant applications of Library 2.0 in academic libraries. The publication details a wide range of emerging technologies, such as blogs, wikis, podcasts, IM, RSS, XML, web services, mashups, and social computing....

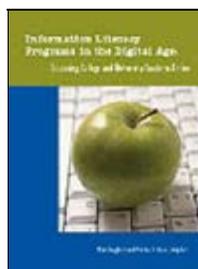


[ACRL explores the future of academic libraries](#)

ACRL's 2007 environmental scan explores the current atmosphere in the world of academic and research libraries, along with trends that will define the future of the profession and the research environment. The report is available online ([PDF file](#)). Share your thoughts on the issues identified in the report during an open discussion at Midwinter, 4–5 p.m., January 13, at Loews Philadelphia, Congress Room C....

[New ACRL book examines information literacy](#)

ACRL has released *Information Literacy Programs in the Digital Age: Educating College and University Students Online*, edited by Alice Daugherty and Michael F. Russo of Louisiana State University. The [volume](#) is a showcase of 24 online information literacy projects from community colleges, research universities, and liberal arts colleges....



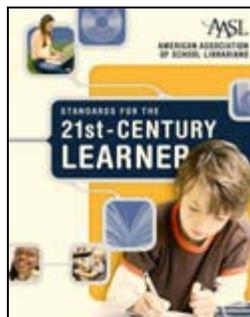
[AASL launches second year of longitudinal study](#)

AASL will launch the second year of its study "School Libraries Count!" on January 11. The study, scheduled to close March 15, will gather basic data about the status of school library media programs across the country, which the division will then use to develop advocacy tools to support school libraries at the local, state, and national levels....

[Some thoughts on the new AASL Standards](#)

Sharon Grimes, supervisor of library information services for the Baltimore County Public Schools, offers her thoughts on AASL's *Standards for the 21st-Century Learner*, unveiled in October: "I was moved to write when I realized the implications not only for teaching, learning, and collaboration, but also for how school libraries and by extension school librarians will be perceived."...

AASL Blog, Jan. 4



[Notable ACRL events of 2007](#)

Melissa Mallon posts the first part of a two-part summary of important events for academic librarians in the past year and writes: "We'd love to hear your thoughts on how these events have (or perhaps have not) influenced your year as an academic librarian."...

ACRLog, Jan. 4

mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#)

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"This is silly,' he said, and did as I asked. People started to cluster around the computer. Toomy sat down next to Jonathan and headed for the keyboard—and Mary Kay took it away from them both. 'This is my pidgin,' she said firmly, and they relinquished it. (Mary Kay is one of the secret masters of the world: a librarian. They control information. Don't ever piss one off.)"

—Spider Robinson, *The Callahan Touch* (Ace Hardcover, 1993).

F
Facilities, (response) Jan 8
"AIAAALA Library Building Awards," Apr 49–53
"April Facilities Call," Dec 22
"Building Libraries Versus Schools," Apr 63
"Equity by Design," Apr 34–48
"The Finest Libraries of Them All," Apr 54–55
"Hijack Entry," Apr 64–66
Interior design, Aug 23–24
"Our Kind of Town," Apr 56–62
Sacramento lawsuit against contractor, Dec 25–26
"Structural Concerns Close Salem Library," Dec 26–27
Fader, Eileen, (photo) Jan 11
FAIR USE Act of 2007, (photo) Jul 25
Fairbanks, Marilyn, Sep 53
Fairbanks Independent School District, Houston, (photo) Aug 70
Faith Center Church Evangelistic Ministries, Aug 24, Nov 15
Falmouth (Mass.) Academy, (photo) Apr 48
Farkas, Meredith, (photo) Jan 4, Aug 21
"Balancing the Online Life," Jan 42–45
"The Evolving Library," (photo) Jul 50

[The American Libraries Annual Index for 2007](#) is now complete and available on the *AL* website as a downloadable PDF.

Round Table News

Ask the ALA

[A visit to Kazan](#) (PDF file)

Jim Niessen, world history librarian at Rutgers University, visited the university library in Kazan, the capital of the Republic of Tatarstan in Russia, in October as part of an exchange between Rutgers and Kazan State University. He reports on his tour of this second-oldest university library in Russia, which has at its core the library of Prince Grigori Potemkin (1739–1791), as well as the National Library of Tatarstan....

International Leads 21, no. 4 (Dec.): 1, 7



Librarian



Q. I read the news report about teens and adults under 30 being the heaviest users of libraries. How can we better serve these "information-savvy" and more technologically forward patrons?

A. Remember that despite the new technology, our primary role has not changed. As ALA President Loriene Roy pointed out in her response: "The study states seven in 10 library visitors received assistance from library staff, and 88% say they found a lot or some of what they were seeking. Library professionals play a critical role in helping find the information library users seek." She also mentioned: "Libraries continue to bring in new technologies to serve their users—including wireless internet access, laptops for in-library use, 24/7 online reference help, e-books, blogs, and MP3s." Begin on your own or collaborate with nearby libraries, possibly with the nearby high school and college libraries, in [Using Current Technologies](#) to

Awards

[Norma Blake: LJ's Librarian of the Year](#)

John N. Berry writes: "You hear it from the beaches and pine forests in the southern end of the state to the Delaware Water Gap in the northwest corner. Librarians and officials in education and government all recount the leadership and creativity brought to library service in New Jersey by State Librarian Norma Blake. She has sparked proactive, collaborative initiatives that have taken libraries of all types 'out of their comfort zone,' as she puts it, and into working partnerships and relationships with educational and corporate institutions as well as the state's economic development and commercial players, from small businesses to the huge biotech industry."...

Library Journal, Jan. 7



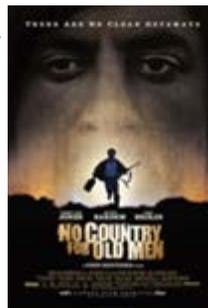
[Smart Investing grants awarded](#)

The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) Investor Education Foundation and ALA have awarded 13 grants, totaling more than \$853,000, to public libraries and library networks, giving millions of library patrons and their families greater access to unbiased investing information and resources. The grants are awarded as part of a new program, Smart Investing @ your library, administered jointly by RUSA and FINRA....

[No Country for Old Men takes the Scriptor](#)

Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Cormac McCarthy and Oscar-winning screenwriters Ethan and Joel Coen have won the 20th annual University of Southern California Libraries Scriptor Award for *No Country for Old Men*. Scriptor recognizes the writers' contribution as the year's greatest achievement in cinematic adaptation. The University of Southern California Libraries announced the winners January 9 on behalf of the selection committee and the Friends of the USC Libraries, who sponsor the award....

University of Southern California Libraries, Jan. 9



[Carol Tenopir wins LACASIS Award](#)

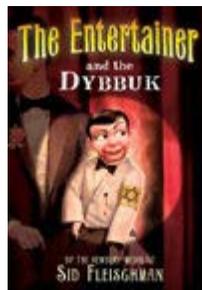
Carol Tenopir, professor at the School of Information Sciences at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, has been selected as the 2007 recipient of the Contribution to Information Science & Technology Award. CISTA is an annual award given by the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Society of Information Science and Technology (LACASIS) to honor an individual who has made



significant contributions to the field of information science....
LACASIS, Jan. 3

[2008 Sydney Taylor Book Awards](#) (PDF file)

Sarah Gershman and Kristina Swarner, author and illustrator of *The Bedtime Sh'ma: A Good Night Book*; Sid Fleischman, author of *The Entertainer and the Dybbuk*; and Sonia Levitin, author of *Strange Relations*, are the 2008 winners of the Sydney Taylor Book Awards. The awards, administered by the Association of Jewish Libraries, honor new books for children and teens that exemplify the highest literary standards while authentically portraying the Jewish experience....



Association of Jewish Libraries, Jan. 7



Seen Online

[The Misinformation Superhighway](#)

Forbes Director of Knowledge Management Anne Mintz, editor of *Web of Deception: Misinformation on the Internet* (2002), was interviewed on the PBS newsmagazine *NOW* the first week of January. She offers some tips on assessing the accuracy of information on the Web and tracing the origins of online rumors....



NOW, Jan. 4

[Panel urges less government secrecy](#)

In a report released January 9, a joint presidential-congressional advisory group urged greater openness, a sore subject for a White House roundly criticized for secrecy. The Public Interest Declassification Board said President Bush can take immediate steps to address the issue. The board's report says Bush could immediately create a national declassification program under the Archivist of the United States to increase efficiency. Under the program, all government agencies would report declassification decisions on a single computerized system....

Associated Press, Jan. 9

[Librarian wins ESPN couch potato contest](#)

A Manhattan librarian emerged as a champion couch potato after three rivals gave in to sleep deprivation or nature's call. Stan Friedman, senior librarian at Condé Nast Publications, won the ESPN Zone Ultimate Couch Potato Competition, which began the morning of January 1 at the ESPN Zone restaurant in Times Square. The event ended the next afternoon after more than 29 grueling hours of continuous sports viewing—mainly college football bowl games and endless highlights loops....



Associated Press, Jan. 4

[I. M. Layte does the right thing](#)

When the book arrived at the Bedford (Mass.) Public Library in a

promote the collection and services of all of your libraries, both individually and as a whole. Continue to support or establish teen and young adult programming, including [Videogames](#) activities, and also keep building your collection of materials of interest to teens and young adults, including [Graphic novels](#). See the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#) for more....

@ The [ALA Librarian](#) welcomes your questions.

Calendar

Jan. 23–24: [Canadian Association of Special Libraries and Information Services](#), Ottawa Seminar, Ottawa, Ontario.

Jan. 25: [Southern California Instruction Librarians](#), Works 2008, Claremont Colleges. "Putting Theory into Practice: The 'Why' Behind Instructional Strategies." Register by January 15.

Jan. 31–Feb. 1: [Connecting to Collections: The National Tour](#), High Museum of Art, Atlanta. "Preserving America's Diverse Heritage." The meeting is part of a tour of four meetings in 2008–2009 to raise awareness of the

battered cardboard box last November, the return name and address gave a few of the library staff a chuckle. "I. M. Layte" was the delinquent patron's name. The address was just as humorous: "45 Rueful Way" in Los Angeles. But the mystery of the hardcover book, *Du Barry*, about the last of French monarch Louis XV's mistresses, would deepen when Director Richard Callaghan realized the book was 48 years overdue....

Lowell (Mass.) Sun, Jan. 9

[U.K. launches National Year of Reading](#)

Ed Balls, the U.K. Secretary of State for Children, Schools, and Families, joined Prime Minister Gordon Brown at 10 Downing Street January 8 to launch 2008 as the National Year of Reading. He called for every British school, library, and college to [sign up](#) for activities and encourage new opportunities for reading....

eGov Monitor, Jan. 8



[Closing public libraries is a tragedy](#)

Roy Hattersley writes: "Forty public libraries in the U.K. closed in 2007, the victims of local government cutbacks. But the importance of public libraries—even in this new sophisticated age—has not changed. They still provide essential information, informal education, and, most important of all, hours of pure pleasure."...

Daily Mail (U.K.), Jan. 7

[British Library opposed call to return Lindisfarne Gospels](#)

British Library chiefs labeled a bid to return the Lindisfarne Gospels to their home in northeast England as "regionalism gone mad." The release of a series of internal [emails](#) has highlighted London-based [opposition](#) to the campaign to move the manuscripts, which are the oldest surviving translation of Bible chapters into English. Their creation on Holy Island, Northumberland, in the early 8th century was inspired by monks at Monkwearmouth and Jarrow. They were taken from Durham Cathedral in 1537 during Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries....

Sunderland (U.K.) Echo, Jan. 7; *Newcastle (U.K.) Journal*, Jan. 7-8



HOW DO YOU MAINTAIN PUBLIC COMPUTERS? Tell US MaintainIT

Librarians want to know. www.maintainITproject.org

Tech Talk

[Blogging platforms for school librarians](#)

Michelle Boule writes: "Recently I was introduced to two blogging platforms built specifically for use in the classroom that are rarely, if ever, blocked by overzealous IT departments and administrations: [Class Blogmeister](#) and [Edublogs](#). Each platform has the same goal, but has accomplished it in very different ways. I know there are other platforms available to teachers, but these are the two that came up in conversation the most often."...



importance of collections care among small and mid-sized museums and libraries. The other meetings are: June 24-25, Denver, on collaboration in the digital age; January 2009, San Diego, on care of living collections, and June 2009, Buffalo, New York, on training in collections care.

Mar. 10-14: [Service Quality Evaluation Academy](#), New Orleans. Sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries. Open by application, due January 15.

Mar. 13-15: [Thinking Ahead Symposium 2008](#), Salt Lake City Public Library. "Where Paths Meet: Connecting Libraries and Communities."

May 17-20: [The Acquisitions Institute](#), Timberline Lodge, Mount Hood, Oregon.

May 30-June 1: [Canadian Association for Conservation of Cultural Property/Canadian Conservation Institute Workshop](#), McCord Museum, Montreal. "New Methods of Cleaning Painted and Decorative Surfaces, Including the Modular Cleaning Program: A Systemic Approach to Cleaning Artworks."

ALA TechSource blog, Dec. 31

[OLPC America to launch this year](#)

The [One Laptop Per Child](#) (OLPC) project plans to launch OLPC America in 2008 to distribute the low-cost laptop computers originally aimed at developing nations to needy students in the United States. The group, which was organized by teachers from MIT, came under criticism because its original mission did not include the U.S. Originally, the goal of OLPC was to develop a \$100 laptop for kids in poor nations to ensure they don't miss out on the benefits of computing....

Computerworld, Jan. 9

[Comcast's Fancast: For the media obsessed](#)



Comcast's new [Fancast](#) features full episodes of TV shows, TV listings, and news on TV, movies, and celebrities. Fancast may look like the latest entrant into the web video scene, but the truth is that it packs a much bigger punch. Much of the content for full episodes on Fancast is provided by [Hulu](#), with additional content from CBS, MTV, and BET thrown in for good measure. Fancast allows for a good deal of personal customization and discovery and that is their killer feature....

Webware blog, Jan. 8

Learn what other **librarians** are doing to serve **teens!**
Sign up for our **Free** newsletter...

Homework Happenings!



Actions & Answers

[The complete Jane Austen on PBS](#)

On January 13, Masterpiece Theatre will broadcast all six Jane Austen novels, including four new adaptations and a biopic. Gillian Anderson will host the series. The show offers a Jane Austen teachers's guide and a Masterpiece Book and Film Club. From now until February 29, ALA members can receive 15% off any item in WGBH-TV's Jane Austen category (enter the code JAALA at checkout)....

WGBH-TV



[10 common objections to social media adoption](#)

Marshall Kirkpatrick writes: "I decided to make a list of the Top 10 Objections to New Online Tools and What You Can Say in Response. I surveyed my nearly 1,300 friends on Twitter and got all kinds of thoughtful replies. But ultimately, I'm not yet convinced myself that persuading anyone is the way to go. If you can make time on the side to use new tools and you can perform—perhaps the benefits can best speak for themselves."...

ReadWriteWeb blog, Jan. 7

[Annotated list of things not to forget \(in the 2.0 craze\)](#)

Rory Litwin writes: "These days, when reading the library literature or a conference program it's hard to find much that is not about the Library 2.0 idea. It seems to me that many librarians have forgotten that there is something worthwhile in what we do already, and that Library 2.0 is

June 9–11:

[Current Issues: Books in Spanish for Young Readers](#), Baharona Center for the Study of Books in Spanish for Children and Adolescents, California State University San Marcos.

June 16–20:

[Primarily Teaching: Original Documents and Classroom Strategies](#), Gerald Ford Library, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

June 17–19:

[Bank Street College of Education Infancy Institute](#), New York City.

June 23–25:

[Books and Reading Strategies for English-language Learners in Grades K-8](#), Baharona Center for the Study of Books in Spanish for Children and Adolescents, California State University San Marcos.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries
Direct



AL Direct is a free electronic newsletter emailed every Wednesday to personal members of the [American Library Association](#).

George M. Eberhart,
Editor:
geberhart@ala.org

Daniel Kraus,
Associate Editor:

an update rather than something completely new. So here is my annotated list of things not to forget."...

Library Juice, Jan. 6

[The power of word-of-mouth marketing](#)

Two regional Illinois library systems, the DuPage Library System and the North Suburban Library System, received a 2007 LSTA grant to help libraries harness what is recognized as the most effective form of promotion: word-of-mouth-marketing, also commonly referred to as "buzz marketing." The grant provided training, project planning support, and informational resources. One result was this website, which offers a buzz marketing tip sheet ([PDF file](#)) and links to other resources....

North Suburban Library System, Jan. 3



[Creating aging-friendly communities: An online conference](#)

Creating Aging-Friendly Communities is a unique online conference focusing on proven strategies for helping communities respond effectively to the aging of their populations. The conference will take place over three weeks. It will have previously recorded presentations, which can be viewed at any time during the conference or up to 60 days afterwards. There will also be live presentations and live panel discussions on February 13, 27, and March 5. Hosted by UC Berkeley and cosponsored by ALA....

Creating Aging-Friendly Communities

[10 obscure Google search tricks](#)

Gina Trapani writes: "When it comes to the Google search box, you already know the tricks: finding exact phrases using quotes like 'so say we all' or searching a single site using site:ala.org. But there are many more oblique, clever, and lesser-known search recipes and operators that work from that unassuming little input box. Dozens of Google search guides detail the tips you already know, but today we're skipping the obvious and highlighting our favorite obscure Google web search tricks." Don't forget to look at the comments for more tips....

Lifehacker, Jan. 2

[ProQuest to offer Hispanic Newsstand](#)

ProQuest will soon launch the largest digital collection of U.S. Hispanic newspapers available on a single interface. ProQuest U.S. Hispanic Newsstand currently contains coverage from more than 30 titles representing both major cities with large Hispanic populations, as well as cities with growing Hispanic populations. The database will be fully searchable via the ProQuest platform....

ProQuest, Jan. 9



[The new academic library](#)

Mark Bauerlein writes: "Part of the success of libraries is due to their new identity as information center, not book repository. Next time you enter the college library, count how many kids are at a screen, then count how many are browsing the stacks. If the ratio is less than 10 to 1, your library is an anomaly. And as for the 'reading' and 'writing' they're doing at the console, let's not probe too closely or look over their shoulders, or we'll get really depressed."...

Chronicle of Higher Education, Jan. 5

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[Play the Bookchase game](#)

Bookchase is a new (late 2007) British board game about books. It comes with your own bookshelf, library card, bookshop, and your own set of tiny books to collect. The first player to collect six books and head home wins. You can get your books in many ways—by answering questions, or visiting the Bookchase shop or Library. Be careful though, you might drop your book in the bath and be forced to leave it on Treasure Island to dry out....



Bookchase

['Twas the Day before Christmas](#)

Brian Mayer, technology specialist with the School Library System of Genesee Valley BOCES, penned this poem in response to the heart-warming tale of Wendy Stephany, a Bergen, New York, middle school librarian who found a good way to get students into the library on the day before break. It starts:

"'Twas the day before break and all through the school
Not a DVD player available, but I was no fool.
I had an idea, a fine one you'll see
I'll invite all the classes to my library."...

Infomancy blog, Jan. 7

[Europa Polyglotta, or pass the dictionary](#)

The Strange Maps blogger writes: "This delicious ethnolinguistic map is the *Europa Polyglotta*, published in 1730 by Gottfried Hensel (or *Henselius*, after the contemporary fashion of latinizing surnames). I've managed to piece together only very little information on its origin and background because I found it on a Ukrainian website. The map attempts to show the concordances and differences between all the languages spoken in Europe by spelling out the beginning of the Lord's Prayer in each of them."...



Strange Maps blog, Jan. 7

[To read or not to read](#)

In YALSA podcast #32, Linda W. Braun facilitates a roundtable discussion that focuses on the recent National Endowment for the Arts report, [To Read or Not to Read](#), published in November 2007. Along with discussion of the report findings, roundtable panelists Michael Cart, Francisca Goldsmith, Sunil Iyengar, and Teri Lesesne consider audiobooks, graphic novels and comics, reading for pleasure, multiple literacies, and the impact of technology on reading habits and behaviors....

YALSA Blog, Jan. 8

[Just read it!](#)

Syed Karim, research assistant at the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library and Information Science, joined forces with some friends and put together this video (4:41) advocating literacy and based on Michael Jackson's "Beat It!" video. Karim plays three roles: himself, a white thug, and a black thug. No one is admitting to being the vocalist, but the lyrics were written by Karim, Keith Buzzard, and Shannon Green....



SearchKindly, Jan. 7

[World of Infocraft](#)

Lissa Staley, adult services librarian at Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library, created this parody (1:23) of the William Shatner World of Warcraft [commercial](#) (0:33) to help promote the library's services. Using her avatar of Lysistrata, Blood Elf Hunter, Staley explains that you can "find the facts and fiction you desire" at the library....

YouTube, Dec. 9



AL Direct, January 9, 2008

Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail? Click here [[util.viewHtmlLink %>\].](#)]

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | January 9, 2008

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[<http://www.schoolrooms.net>]

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Indianapolis opening entangled in financial controversy

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/january2008/entangled.cfm>]

A splendid new central library opened in downtown Indianapolis December 9, amid ongoing controversy over who is responsible for \$50 million in construction cost overruns and how a frozen operating budget will support a facility that has essentially doubled in size.

Indianapolis—Marion County (Ind.) Public Library CEO Laura Bramble told American Libraries that IMCPL is “currently in litigation and mediation,” so she was reluctant to go into detail but said, “We’re still hoping it might not have to go to trial.”

Scieszka named National Reading Ambassador

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/january2008/scieszka.cfm>]

Popular children's author Jon Scieszka was appointed by the Library of Congress January 3 as the first National Ambassador for Young People's Literature. Scieszka, the writer of *The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs* and the Caldecott Honor-winning *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales*, will use his two-year term to promote reading and to reach out to reluctant readers through the media, personal appearances, and project development....

Parents and librarians mobilize to save school library programs
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/ssl08.htm>]
Parents and librarians in Washington State are mobilizing to ensure that children learn how to find the information they need in an age of rapidly changing media—and how to use it in productive ways to prepare for the future. In the Spokane (Wash.) School District, where budget cuts reduced 10 school library media specialist positions to part-time, supporters are fighting to save their school libraries and having library services included in the state's definition of a basic education....

Truckful of library materials recovered from patron's home
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/january2008/akron.cfm>]
An Akron woman faces felony charges of theft and receiving stolen property after police hauled more than 1,000 missing books, movies, music, and toys belonging to Akron–Summit County (Ohio) Public Library, some of which had disappeared as early as 2000, from her home in a pickup truck in mid-December....

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[<http://www.tech-logic.com/>]
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ALA News

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10K expected at ALA Philadelphia meeting
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/mw08web.htm>]
More than 10,000 librarians, library supporters, publishers, and guests from around the world will converge on the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia, January 11–16, for the ALA Midwinter Meeting. Such issues as user privacy, censorship, new technology, and library funding will be at the forefront of many of the approximately 2,500 scheduled meetings and events. The Midwinter Meeting also will offer more than 800 exhibit booths that will feature the latest and best in services and technology for today's library users....

Youth Media Awards results available on your cell phone
[http://wikis.ala.org/midwinter2008/index.php/When_and_Where]
Unable to attend the 2008 ALA Youth Media Awards or sit in on the live Webcast on January 14? Get award winners sent directly to your cell phone by text message. Text the word "ALA 5" to 32075 in the U.S. and Canada to receive notification of the winners of the Newberry, Caldecott, King, Printz, and Belpré awards, one text message per award. Or text "ALA 13" for all the winners....

What's happening at Midwinter

[http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/membership/memberstories/Midwinter_2008_Whats_Happening-Final.pdf] (PDF file)

Use this 25-page pre-Midwinter Update in conjunction with the Midwinter Preview in the January American Libraries (pp. 62–69) to be informed of hot meeting topics, keep track of major Midwinter events, and remind yourself of important phone numbers and upcoming conferences....

Washington Office events at Midwinter

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=329>]

The ALA Washington Office is set to host several events at Midwinter. Highlighting the activities will be an address by FBI Supervisory Special Agent Bassem Youssef, who blew the whistle on discriminatory practices within the Bureau that were undermining the ability of the FBI to legally and effectively combat Middle Eastern terrorism. Youssef will speak at the Washington Office Update Session Saturday morning, which will be followed by three breakout sessions....

District Dispatch, Jan. 4

ALA welcomes five new Library Champions

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/champ08.htm>]

The ALA Development Office is pleased to announce five new Library Champion members—BWI/Follett Library Resources, Ex Libris, Greenwood Publishing Group, ReferenceUSA, and Tutor.com—bringing the total to 47 Library Champions, the highest in the history of the program....

Great Stories CLUB program grant

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/ppo/programs/currentprograms/greatstories/club.cfm>]

Connect with hard-to-reach, underserved teens by conducting a Great Stories CLUB reading and discussion program, organized by the Public Programs Office in cooperation with YALSA. All libraries located within or working in partnership with facilities serving troubled teens are eligible to apply. Online applications will be accepted through February 15 (extended deadline)....

Be an American librarian in Paris

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/iro/nomamericanlibraryparis.cfm>]

The International Relations Committee is calling for nominations for ALA representative to the board of trustees of the American Library in Paris. This two-year appointment would begin in June 2008 with the appointee having to cover costs to attend two board meetings a year in Paris. ALA does not provide financial support for the representative. The deadline is February 15....

Freedom to read affordable jewelry

[http://blogs.ala.org/oif.php?title=freedom_to_read_foundation_benefactor_fo&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1]

If you plan to attend the Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia, visit Exhibit Booth 252 to check out the designs of Carolyn Forsman—the New York-based jeweler who donates proceeds from her ALA booth to the Freedom to Read Foundation [<http://www.ftrf.org>]. Carolyn is back for her 25th year and has an intriguing assortment of affordable gifts to make you smile. Are you “quirky,” “dysfunctional,” a

“goddess,” or a “rock star”? If so, she has a rubber band bracelet for you....

OIF blog, Jan. 7

AL Focus

editors read for fun

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/booklist-editors-read-fun-2007>]

The 2007 Editors' Choice issue of Booklist includes "Reading for Fun," a roundup of each editor's favorite personal reading choices of the year.

In this video (4:54), seven of the editors get personal about unwieldy titles, Russian poetry, a takeoff on Republican fascism, way-too-heavy hardbacks, and more....

Featured review: Adult books

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2328574]

Holm, Bill. *The Windows of Brimnes: An American in Iceland*. December 2007. 256p. Milkweed, hardcover (978-1-57131-302-7).

Poet-memoirist Holm grew up on the tall-grass prairie, but his heart lies on the edge of the ocean in Iceland. Even as a child, he dreamed of the sea, and so to become a middle-aged Minnesotan and buy property in a place in Iceland called Brimnes—on the shore of a fjord, no less—was “the fulfillment of a lifetime of longing delivered.” The world he sees from the window of the small fisherman’s cottage he inhabits there, mostly in summer but sometimes in winter, he deeply admires. He loves Iceland’s tradition of pacifism; the Icelandic love of nature, poetry, and music; and especially, Icelanders’ unforced sense of community, which they call sveit, and which Holm wonders whether Americans may ever fully comprehend....

editors’ top picks for 2007

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2526428]

Every January, Booklist publishes Editors’ Choice

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2524833]:

lists of the best books, databases, video/DVDs, and audiobooks of the past year. From these lists, we further select what we call the Top of the List: the single best title in eight categories—adult fiction, adult nonfiction, youth fiction, youth nonfiction, youth picture book, reference source, video/DVD, and audiobook....

Reading to learn and learning as we read

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2456754]

Joyce Saricks writes: "A few months ago, I came across a comment that got me thinking: Readers read nonfiction to learn something. Though seemingly innocuous, the remark, in context, implied that one doesn’t learn from fiction. I confess it got my dander up: Is nonfiction essentially superior because it offers information, the opportunity to learn something? And is it true that we don’t learn from fiction?"...

At Leisure column, Jan. 1

@ Visit Booklist Online [<http://www.booklistonline.com>] for other reviews and much more....

Philadelphia Update

Anthony Lewis on the First Amendment

[http://www.constitutioncenter.org/visiting/CalendarofEvents/Events/2008_01_14_18310.shtml]

The Freedom to Read Foundation and the National Constitution Center are hosting a talk by two-time Pulitzer Prize winner Anthony Lewis, one of the country's most esteemed experts on the First Amendment and the author of the classic *Gideon's Trumpet*, to share his latest work, *Freedom for the Thought That We Hate*, on the importance of freedom of expression. The event will take place Monday, January 14, at 6:30 p.m., at the National Constitution Center, Grand Hall Overlook, 525 Arch Street, Independence Mall. Reservations are required; (215) 409-6700....

OCLC special events [https://www3.oclc.org/app/ala_registration/]

OCLC is hosting a number of breakfasts, sharing sessions, workshops, showcases, and user group meetings January 11–14 at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia. Many sessions are still open. The organization is also hosting a Blog Salon,

[<http://scanblog.blogspot.com/2008/01/blog-salon-reminder.html>] January 13, 5:30–8 p.m., in Commonwealth Room A1 at the Loews Hotel....

OCLC

Party like a librarian [<http://www.thedeskset.org/>]

The Desk Set [<http://www.myspace.com/thedeskset>] is an informal group of New York City–area librarians, archivists, LIS students, and other individuals who love books. At Midwinter, they are teaming up with Authority Control, a Philadelphia-based librarian group, to present “Dance Dance Library Revolution: Bibliodiscothèque Philadelphia,” at the National Mechanics Bar, 22 S. 3rd St., January 12, 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Bring one nonfiction paperback to exchange for one free drink; it will go to an area prison library....

Desk Set

Division News

Signings, free books at the YALSA booth

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/ymid08.htm>]

YALSA invites Midwinter attendees to stop by YALSA Exhibit Booth 435 for a number of events, including a book signing with Holly Black (right), author of the popular fantasy series *The Spiderwick Chronicles* and the *Modern Faerie Tales*. Black will be signing at the booth from 1 to 2 p.m.

on January 12, courtesy of Teen Read Week promotional partner Simon and Schuster....

YALSA chooses new journal editor

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/newedit08.htm>]

YALSA has named RoseMary Honnold the editor of Young Adult Library Services, its quarterly journal. Honnold will begin her editorship in April with the Summer 2008 issue....

YALSA offers four online courses in February

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/4on.htm>]

YALSA will present courses on boys and books, adolescent development and library behavior, power programming for teens, and tech tools for teen leadership. All online courses

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/onlinecourses/info.cfm>] will be held

February 4–29, except tech tools, which is a six-week course that runs until March 4....

ACRL Insider blog launches

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/ACRLinside08.htm>]

The new ACRL Insider [<http://www.acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider/>] blog will keep ACRL members and other interested parties informed on the activities, services, and programs of the association. ACRL Insider features information on publications, events, conferences, and eLearning opportunities, along with podcasts and other media....

Library 2.0 initiatives in academic libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/ACRLtitle08.htm>]

ACRL has published Library 2.0 Initiatives in Academic Libraries, a hybrid book

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2497] and wiki

[http://acrl.ala.org/L2Initiatives/index.php?title=Main_Page] presenting 12 case studies of significant applications of Library 2.0 in academic libraries. The publication details a wide range of emerging technologies, such as blogs, wikis, podcasts, IM, RSS, XML, web services, mashups, and social computing....

ACRL explores the future of academic libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/future08.htm>]

ACRL's 2007 environmental scan explores the current atmosphere in the world of academic and research libraries, along with trends that will define the future of the profession and the research environment. The report is available online (PDF file

[http://www.acrl.org/ala/acrl/acrlpubs/whitepapers/Environmental_Scan_2.pdf]). Share your thoughts on the issues identified in the report during an

open discussion at Midwinter, 4–5 p.m., January 13, at Loews Philadelphia, Congress Room C....

New ACRL book examines information literacy

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/ACRLdigit08.htm>]

ACRL has released Information Literacy Programs in the Digital Age: Educating College and University Students Online, edited by Alice Daugherty and Michael F. Russo of Louisiana State University. The volume

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2498] is a showcase of 24 online information literacy projects from community colleges, research universities, and liberal arts colleges....

AASL launches second year of longitudinal study

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/long08.htm>]

AASL will launch the second year of its study "School Libraries Count!" on January 11. The study, scheduled to close March 15, will gather basic data about the status of school library media programs across the country, which the division will then use to develop advocacy tools to support school libraries at the local, state, and national levels....

Some thoughts on the new AASL Standards

[http://blogs.ala.org/aasl.php?title=reflections_on_aasl_s_standards_for_the_e_&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1]

Sharon Grimes, supervisor of library information services for the Baltimore County Public Schools, offers her thoughts on AASL's Standards for the 21st-Century Learner, unveiled in October: "I was moved to write when I realized the implications not only for teaching, learning, and collaboration, but also for how school libraries and by extension school librarians will be perceived."...

AASL Blog, Jan. 4

Notable ACRL events of 2007

[<http://acrlblog.org/2008/01/04/notable-events-of-2007/>]

Melissa Mallon posts the first part of a two-part summary of important events for academic librarians in the past year and writes: "We'd love to hear your thoughts on how these events have (or perhaps have not) influenced your year as an academic librarian."...

ACRLog, Jan. 4

Round Table News

A visit to Kazan

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/irrt/intlleads/leadsarchive/200712.pdf>] (PDF file)

Jim Niessen, world history librarian at Rutgers University, visited the university library in Kazan, the capital of the Republic of Tatarstan in Russia, in October as part of an exchange between Rutgers and Kazan State University. He reports on his tour of this second-oldest university library in Russia, which has at its core the library of Prince Grigori Potemkin (1739–1791), as well as the National Library of Tatarstan....

International Leads 21, no. 4 (Dec.): 1, 7

Awards

Librarian of the Year

[<http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6515854.html>]

John N. Berry writes: "You hear it from the beaches and pine forests in the southern end of the state to the Delaware Water Gap in the northwest

corner. Librarians and officials in education and government all recount the leadership and creativity brought to library service in New Jersey by State Librarian Norma Blake. She has sparked proactive, collaborative initiatives that have taken libraries of all types 'out of their comfort zone,' as she puts it, and into working partnerships and relationships with educational and corporate institutions as well as the state's economic development and commercial players, from small businesses to the huge biotech industry."...

Library Journal, Jan. 7

Smart Investing grants awarded

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/finra08.htm>]
The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) Investor Education Foundation and ALA have awarded 13 grants, totaling more than \$853,000, to public libraries and library networks, giving millions of library patrons and their families greater access to unbiased investing information and resources. The grants are awarded as part of a new program, Smart Investing @ your library, administered jointly by RUSA and FINRA....

takes the Scriptor

[<http://www.pr-inside.com/no-country-for-old-men-writers-r378607.htm>]
Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Cormac McCarthy and Oscar-winning screenwriters Ethan and Joel Coen have won the 20th annual University of Southern California Libraries Scriptor Award for No Country for Old Men. Scriptor recognizes the writers' contribution as the year's greatest achievement in cinematic adaptation. The University of Southern California Libraries announced the winners January 9 on behalf of the selection committee and the Friends of the USC Libraries, who sponsor the award....

University of Southern California Libraries, Jan. 9

Carol Tenopir wins LACASIS Award

[http://www.lacasis.org/announce/cista_07_winner.htm]
Carol Tenopir, professor at the School of Information Sciences at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, has been selected as the 2007 recipient of the Contribution to Information Science & Technology Award. CISTA is an annual award given by the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Society of Information Science and Technology (LACASIS) to honor an individual who has made significant contributions to the field of information science....

LACASIS, Jan. 3

2008 Sydney Taylor Book Awards

[<http://www.jewishlibraries.org/ajlweb/awards/stba/STBAAwardList2008.pdf>]
(PDF file)
Sarah Gershman and Kristina Swarner, author and illustrator of The Bedtime Sh'ma: A Good Night Book; Sid Fleischman, author of The Entertainer and the Dybbuk; and Sonia Levitin, author of Strange Relations, are the 2008 winners of the Sydney Taylor Book Awards. The awards, administered by the Association of Jewish Libraries, honor new books for children and teens that exemplify the highest literary standards while authentically portraying the Jewish experience....

Association of Jewish Libraries, Jan. 7

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]
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Seen Online

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The Misinformation Superhighway

[<http://www.pbs.org/now/shows/401/internet-politics.html>]

Forbes Director of Knowledge Management Anne Mintz, editor of Web of Deception: Misinformation on the Internet (2002), was interviewed on the PBS newsmagazine NOW the first week of January. She offers some tips on assessing the accuracy of information on the Web and tracing the origins of online rumors....

NOW, Jan. 4

Panel urges less government secrecy

[<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5jIP3gtmskE1LD-C36YndjYQKyLywD8U2H1A00>]

In a report released January 9, a joint presidential-congressional advisory group urged greater openness, a sore subject for a White House roundly criticized for secrecy. The Public Interest Declassification Board said President Bush can take immediate steps to address the issue. The board's report says Bush could immediately create a national declassification program under the Archivist of the United States to increase efficiency. Under the program, all government agencies would report declassification decisions on a single computerized system....

Associated Press, Jan. 9

Librarian wins ESPN couch potato contest

[http://www.boston.com/news/odd/articles/2008/01/04/nyc_couch_potato_contest_lasts_29_hours/]

A Manhattan librarian emerged as a champion couch potato after three rivals gave in to sleep deprivation or nature's call. Stan Friedman, senior librarian at Condé Nast Publications, won the ESPN Zone Ultimate Couch Potato Competition, which began the morning of January 1 at the ESPN Zone restaurant in Times Square. The event ended the next afternoon after more than 29 grueling hours of continuous sports viewing—mainly college football bowl games and endless highlights loops....

Associated Press, Jan. 4

I. M. Layte does the right thing [http://www.lowellsun.com//ci_7922017]

When the book arrived at the Bedford (Mass.) Public Library in a battered cardboard box last November, the return name and address gave a few of the library staff a chuckle. "I. M. Layte" was the delinquent patron's name. The address was just as humorous: "45 Rueful Way" in Los Angeles. But the mystery of the hardcover book, Du Barry, about the last of French monarch Louis XV's mistresses, would deepen when Director Richard Callaghan realized the book was 48 years overdue....

Lowell (Mass.) Sun, Jan. 9

U.K. launches National Year of Reading

[<http://www.egovmonitor.com/node/16589>]

Ed Balls, the U.K. Secretary of State for Children, Schools, and Families, joined Prime Minister Gordon Brown at 10 Downing Street January 8 to launch 2008 as the National Year of Reading. He called for every British school, library, and college to sign up [<http://www.yearofreading.org.uk>] for activities and encourage new opportunities for reading....
eGov Monitor, Jan. 8

Closing public libraries is a tragedy [http://www.dailymail.co.uk/pages/live/articles/news/news.html?in_article_id=506667&in_page_id=1770]
Roy Hattersley writes: “Forty public libraries in the U.K. closed in 2007, the victims of local government cutbacks. But the importance of public libraries—even in this new sophisticated age—has not changed. They still provide essential information, informal education, and, most important of all, hours of pure pleasure.”...
Daily Mail (U.K.), Jan. 7

British Library opposed call to return Lindisfarne Gospels [<http://www.sunderlandecho.com/news/Library-opposed-call-to-return.3645521.jp>]
British Library chiefs labeled a bid to return the Lindisfarne Gospels to their home in northeast England as “regionalism gone mad.” The release of a series of internal emails [<http://www.journallive.co.uk/north-east-news/lindisfarne-gospels>] has highlighted London-based opposition [<http://www.journallive.co.uk/north-east-news/todays-news/2008/01/08/spurious-arguments-used-to-keep-gospels-in-london-61634-20323514/>] to the campaign to move the manuscripts, which are the oldest surviving translation of Bible chapters into English. Their creation on Holy Island, Northumberland, in the early 8th century was inspired by monks at Monkwearmouth and Jarrow. They were taken from Durham Cathedral in 1537 during Henry VIII’s dissolution of the monasteries....
Sunderland (U.K.) Echo, Jan. 7; Newcastle (U.K.) Journal, Jan. 7–8

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[<http://www.maintainITproject.org>]
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Tech Talk

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Blogging platforms for school librarians [<http://www.techsource.ala.org/blog/2007/12/blogging-platforms-for-teachers-and-school-librarians.html>]
Michelle Boule writes: “Recently I was introduced to two blogging platforms built specifically for use in the classroom that are rarely, if ever, blocked by overzealous IT departments and administrations: Class Blogmeister [<http://classblogmeister.com/index.php>] and Edublogs [<http://edublogs.org/>]. Each platform has the same goal, but has accomplished it in very different ways. I know there are other platforms available to teachers, but these are the two that came up in conversation the most often.”...

OLPC America to launch this year

[<http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9056398>]

The One Laptop Per Child [<http://laptop.org/en/vision/index.shtml>] (OLPC) project plans to launch OLPC America in 2008 to distribute the low-cost laptop computers originally aimed at developing nations to needy students in the United States. The group, which was organized by teachers from MIT, came under criticism because its original mission did not include the U.S. Originally, the goal of OLPC was to develop a \$100 laptop for kids in poor nations to ensure they don't miss out on the benefits of computing....

Computerworld, Jan. 9

Comcast's Fancast: For the media obsessed

[http://www.webware.com/8301-1_109-9846386-2.html]

Comcast's new Fancast [<http://fancast.com>] features full episodes of TV shows, TV listings, and news on TV, movies, and celebrities. Fancast may look like the latest entrant into the web video scene, but the truth is that it packs a much bigger punch. Much of the content for full episodes on Fancast is provided by Hulu [<http://hulu.com>], with additional content from CBS, MTV, and BET thrown in for good measure. Fancast allows for a good deal of personal customization and discovery and that is their killer feature....

Webware blog, Jan. 8

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[mailto:homeworkhappenings@tutor.com]
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Actions & Answers

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The complete Jane Austen on PBS

[<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/masterpiece/austen/index.html>]

On January 13, Masterpiece Theatre will broadcast all six Jane Austen novels, including four new adaptations and a biopic. Gillian Anderson will host the series. The show offers a Jane Austen teachers's guide and a Masterpiece Book and Film Club. From now until February 29, ALA members can receive 15% off any item in WGBH-TV's Jane Austen category (enter the code JAALA at checkout)....

WGBH-TV

10 common objections to social media adoption

[http://www.readriteweb.com/archives/ten_common_objections_to_social.php]

Marshall Kirkpatrick writes: "I decided to make a list of the Top 10 Objections to New Online Tools and What You Can Say in Response. I surveyed my nearly 1,300 friends on Twitter and got all kinds of thoughtful replies. But ultimately, I'm not yet convinced myself that persuading anyone is the way to go. If you can make time on the side to use new tools and you can perform—perhaps the benefits can best speak for themselves."...

ReadWriteWeb blog, Jan. 7

Annotated list of things not to forget (in the 2.0 craze)

[<http://libraryjuicepress.com/blog/?p=353>]

Rory Litwin writes: “These days, when reading the library literature or a conference program it’s hard to find much that is not about the Library 2.0 idea. It seems to me that many librarians have forgotten that there is something worthwhile in what we do already, and that Library 2.0 is an update rather than something completely new. So here is my annotated list of things not to forget.”...

Library Juice, Jan. 6

The power of word-of-mouth marketing

[<http://www.nsls.info/resources/marketing/buzzmarketing/>]

Two regional Illinois library systems, the DuPage Library System and the North Suburban Library System, received a 2007 LSTA grant to help libraries harness what is recognized as the most effective form of promotion: word-of-mouth-marketing, also commonly referred to as “buzz marketing.” The grant provided training, project planning support, and informational resources. One result was this website, which offers a buzz marketing tip sheet (PDF file [<http://www.nsls.info/resources/marketing/buzzmarketing/Word-of-MouthMarketingTips.pdf>]) and links to other resources....

North Suburban Library System, Jan. 3

Creating aging-friendly communities: An online conference

[<http://www.icohere.com/agingfriendly/index.htm>]

Creating Aging-Friendly Communities is a unique online conference focusing on proven strategies for helping communities respond effectively to the aging of their populations. The conference will take place over three weeks. It will have previously recorded presentations, which can be viewed at any time during the conference or up to 60 days afterwards. There will also be live presentations and live panel discussions on February 13, 27, and March 5. Hosted by UC Berkeley and cosponsored by ALA....

Creating Aging-Friendly Communities

10 obscure Google search tricks

[<http://lifehacker.com/339474/top-10-obscure-google-search-tricks>]

Gina Trapani writes: “When it comes to the Google search box, you already know the tricks: finding exact phrases using quotes like ‘so say we all’ or searching a single site using site:ala.org. But there are many more oblique, clever, and lesser-known search recipes and operators that work from that unassuming little input box. Dozens of Google search guides detail the tips you already know, but today we’re skipping the obvious and highlighting our favorite obscure Google web search tricks.” Don’t forget to look at the comments for more tips....

Lifehacker, Jan. 2

ProQuest to offer Hispanic Newsstand

[<http://www.proquest.com/pressroom/pressrelease/08/20080109a.shtml>]

ProQuest will soon launch the largest digital collection of U.S. Hispanic newspapers available on a single interface. ProQuest U.S. Hispanic Newsstand currently contains coverage from more than 30 titles

representing both major cities with large Hispanic populations, as well as cities with growing Hispanic populations. The database will be fully searchable via the ProQuest platform....

ProQuest, Jan. 9

The new academic library

[<http://chronicle.com/review/brainstorm/bauerlein/the-new-library>]

Mark Bauerlein writes: "Part of the success of libraries is due to their new identity as information center, not book repository. Next time you enter the college library, count how many kids are at a screen, then count how many are browsing the stacks. If the ratio is less than 10 to 1, your library is an anomaly. And as for the 'reading' and 'writing' they're doing at the console, let's not probe too closely or look over their shoulders, or we'll get really depressed."...

Chronicle of Higher Education, Jan. 5

Play the Bookchase game [<http://www.bookchase.info/>]

Bookchase is a new (late 2007) British board game about books. It comes with your own bookshelf, library card, bookshop, and your own set of tiny books to collect. The first player to collect six books and head home wins. You can get your books in many ways—by answering questions, or visiting the Bookchase shop or Library. Be careful though, you might drop your book in the bath and be forced to leave it on Treasure Island to dry out....

Bookchase

’Twas the Day before Christmas

[<http://schoolof.info/infomancy/?p=463>]

Brian Mayer, technology specialist with the School Library System of Genesee Valley BOCES, penned this poem in response to the heart-warming tale of Wendy Stephany, a Bergen, New York, middle school librarian who found a good way to get students into the library on the day before break. It starts:

"'Twas the day before break and all through the school
Not a DVD player available, but I was no fool.
I had an idea, a fine one you'll see
'I'll invite all the classes to my library.'..."

Infomancy blog, Jan. 7

Europa Polyglotta, or pass the dictionary

[<http://strangemaps.wordpress.com/2008/01/07/231-praise-the-lord-and-pass-the-dictionary/>]

The Strange Maps blogger writes: "This delicious ethnolinguistic map is the Europa Polyglotta, published in 1730 by Gottfried Hensel (or Henselius, after the contemporary fashion of latinizing surnames). I've managed to piece together only very little information on its origin and background because I found it on a Ukrainian website. The map attempts to show the concordances and differences between all the languages spoken in Europe by spelling out the beginning of the Lord's Prayer in each of them."...

Strange Maps blog, Jan. 7

To read or not to read

[http://blogs.ala.org/yalsa.php?title=yalsa_podcast_32_to_read_or_not_to_re

ad&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1]

In YALSA podcast #32, Linda W. Braun facilitates a roundtable discussion that focuses on the recent National Endowment for the Arts report, To Read or Not to Read [<http://www.nea.gov/news/news07/TRNR.html>], published in November 2007. Along with discussion of the report findings, roundtable panelists Michael Cart, Francisca Goldsmith, Sunil Iyengar, and Teri Lesesne consider audiobooks, graphic novels and comics, reading for pleasure, multiple literacies, and the impact of technology on reading habits and behaviors....

YALSA Blog, Jan. 8

Just read it! [http://www.searchkindly.org/blog/2008-01-07_Read_It.php]

Syed Karim, research assistant at the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library and Information Science, joined forces with some friends and put together this video (4:41) advocating literacy and based on Michael Jackson's "Beat It!" video. Karim plays three roles: himself, a white thug, and a black thug. No one is admitting to being the vocalist, but the lyrics were written by Karim, Keith Buzzard, and Shannon Green....

SearchKindly, Jan. 7

World of Infocraft [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qBtGnaMp4u4>]

Lissa Staley, adult services librarian at Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library, created this parody (1:23) of the William Shatner World of Warcraft commercial [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ykb2A4FtyHQ>] (0:33) to help promote the library's services. Using her avatar of Lysistrata, Blood Elf Hunter, Staley explains that you can "find the facts and fiction you desire" at the library....

YouTube, Dec. 9

[<http://www.j-newvoices.org/>]

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2008/geninfo.htm>]

ALA Midwinter Meeting

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2008/home.htm>] in Philadelphia, January 11–16. As of January 4, advance registration was 7,668 (compared to 7,699 at the same point for the Seattle Midwinter Meeting in 2007).

If you can't be in Philadelphia in person, make sure you watch the Youth Media Awards [<http://www.unikron.com/clients/ala-webcast-2008>] webcast, [<http://www.unikron.com/clients/ala-webcast-2008>] Monday, January 14, beginning at 7:45 a.m. Eastern time, for the Newberry, Caldecott, and other youth awards announcements. Or, get award winners sent directly to your cell phone by text message [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/ymatext08.htm>] for free.

[<http://www.booklistonline.com/>]

Pick up a copy of the January 1 & 15 issue of Booklist containing the full set of 2007 Editors' Choices [<http://www.booklistonline.com/>] at Booth 930 at the Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia.

Request

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=catreqform] the latest ALA Graphics catalog (Spring 2008) or download [http://www.alastore.ala.org/graphics/Spring08_catalog_web.pdf] it (PDF file). BRAND NEW! From ALA Graphics.

In this issue
January/February 2008

From Hoops to Ink: An Interview with Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

Welcome to Philly

Design Thinking

Librarians in the Jury Box

Putting Students First

Visit ALA's five new Library Champions

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/supportforala/librarychampions/librarychampions.htm>] at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/supportforala/librarychampions/currentchampions/BWIFollett.htm>]
Booths 346 and 355

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/supportforala/librarychampions/currentchampions/greenwood.htm>]
Booth 1342

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/supportforala/librarychampions/currentchampions/ExLibris.htm>]
Booth 544

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/supportforala/librarychampions/currentchampions/ReferenceUSA.htm>]
Booth 437

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/supportforala/librarychampions/currentchampions/tut>

orcom.htm]
Booth 1253

Career Leads from
[<http://joblist.ala.org/>]

Continuing Education Librarian,
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=9080>] Amigos Library Services, Dallas. Assist staff at Amigos member/customer libraries on a variety of services including reference (traditional and virtual), database and internet searching, electronic services, collection management, customer service, and others. An employer representative will be attending the Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia....

@ More jobs [<http://joblist.ala.org/>]...

If you've missed the deadline for advance registration for the Midwinter Advocacy Institute,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/onsite08.htm>]
on-site registration will begin at 8:30 a.m., January 11, in Salon G at the Marriott Philadelphia.

Digital Library of the Week

[<http://www.marktwainproject.org/xtf/view?docId=letters/UCCL01360.xml;style=letter;doc.view=facsimile>]

The University of California's Mark Twain Project Online
[<http://www.marktwainproject.org/>] applies innovative technology
[http://www.marktwainproject.org/about_technicalsummary.shtml] to more than four decades' worth of archival research
[http://www.marktwainproject.org/about_projecthistory.shtml] by expert editors. Right now it offers access to letters written by Twain between 1853 and 1880, most of them in redlined text and a few in facsimile. Scheduled to go online in 2008 are critically edited texts of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *Roughing It*, and *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*. Its ultimate goal is to produce fully annotated editions of everything Mark Twain wrote. MTPO is a collaboration
[http://www.marktwainproject.org/about_makingMTPO.shtml] between the Mark Twain Papers Project of the Bancroft Library, the California Digital Library, and the University of California Press. As Twain wrote in 1906, "The edition of A.D. 2006 will make a stir when it comes out. I shall be hovering around taking notice, along with other dead pals. You are invited."”

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this AL Direct feature? Tell us about it. [mailto:aldirect@ala.org]

Public Perception
How the World
Sees Us

“‘This is silly,’ he said, and did as I asked. People started to cluster around the computer. Toomy sat down next to Jonathan and headed for the keyboard—and Mary Kay took it away from them both. ‘This is my pidgin,’ she said firmly, and they relinquished it. (Mary Kay is one of the secret masters of the world: a librarian. They control information. Don’t ever piss one off.)”

?Spider Robinson, *The Callahan Touch* (Ace Hardcover, 1993).

The American Libraries Annual Index for 2007
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/annualindexes/index2007.pdf>] is now complete and available on the AL website as a downloadable PDF.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. I read the news report about teens and adults under 30 being the heaviest users of libraries. How can we better serve these "information-savvy" and more technologically forward patrons?

A. Remember that despite the new technology, our primary role has not changed. As ALA President Lorlene Roy pointed out in her response: “The study states seven in 10 library visitors received assistance from library staff, and 88% say they found a lot or some of what they were seeking. Library professionals play a critical role in helping find the information library users seek.” She also mentioned: “Libraries continue to bring in new technologies to serve their users—including wireless internet access, laptops for in-library use, 24/7 online reference help, e-books, blogs, and MP3s.” Begin on your own or collaborate with nearby libraries, possibly with the nearby high school and college libraries, in *Using Current Technologies* [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Using_Current_Technologies] to promote the collection and services of all of your libraries, both

individually and as a whole. Continue to support or establish teen and young adult programming, including Videogames [<http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Videogames>] activities, and also keep building your collection of materials of interest to teens and young adults, including Graphic novels. [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Graphic_novels] See the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Teens_and_Young_Adults_in_the_Library] for more....

@ The ALA Librarian [<mailto:AskTheLibrarian@ala.org>] welcomes your questions.

Calendar

Jan. 23–24:

Canadian Association of Special Libraries and Information Services, [<http://www.caslisottawa.on.ca/2008seminar/index.html>] Ottawa Seminar, Ottawa, Ontario.

Jan. 25:

Southern California Instruction Librarians, [<http://clics.ucsd.edu/scil/scilworks/index.html>] Works 2008, Claremont Colleges. “Putting Theory into Practice: The ‘Why’ Behind Instructional Strategies.” Register by January 15.

Jan. 31–

Feb. 1:

Connecting to Collections: The National Tour [<http://www.ims.gov/collections/tour/>], High Museum of Art, Atlanta. “Preserving America’s Diverse Heritage.” The meeting is part of a tour of four meetings in 2008–2009 to raise awareness of the importance of collections care among small and mid-sized museums and libraries. The other meetings are: June 24–25, Denver, on collaboration in the digital age; January 2009, San Diego, on care of living collections, and June 2009, Buffalo, New York, on training in collections care.

Mar. 10–14:

Service Quality Evaluation Academy [<http://www.arl.org/stats/statsevents/sqacademy/index.shtml>], New Orleans. Sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries. Open by application, due January 15.

Mar. 13–15:

Thinking Ahead Symposium 2008 [<http://www.thinkinglibraries.org>], Salt Lake City Public Library. “Where Paths Meet: Connecting Libraries and Communities.”

May 17–20:

The Acquisitions Institute [<http://libweb.uoregon.edu/ec/aitl/>],

Timberline Lodge, Mount Hood, Oregon.

May 30–

June 1:

Canadian Association for Conservation of Cultural Property/ Canadian Conservation Institute Workshop
[<http://www.cac-accr.ca/english/e-CAC-conference.asp>], McCord Museum, Montreal. “New Methods of Cleaning Painted and Decorative Surfaces, Including the Modular Cleaning Program: A Systemic Approach to Cleaning Artworks.”

June 9–11:

Current Issues: Books in Spanish for Young Readers
[<http://www.csusm.edu/csb>], Baharona Center for the Study of Books in Spanish for Children and Adolescents, California State University San Marcos.

June 16–20:

Primarily Teaching: Original Documents and Classroom Strategies
[<http://www.archives.gov/education/primarily-teaching/>], Gerald Ford Library, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

June 17–19:

Bank Street College of Education Infancy Institute
[<http://www.bankstreet.edu/infancyinstitute>], New York City.

June 23–25:

Books and Reading Strategies for English-language Learners in Grades K-8
[<http://www.csusm.edu/csb>], Baharona Center for the Study of Books in Spanish for Children and Adolescents, California State University San Marcos.

@ More [<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/calendar/calendar.cfm>]...

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AL Direct is a free electronic newsletter emailed every Wednesday to personal members of the American Library Association [<http://www.ala.org>].

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/aldirecta/aldirect.cfm>]

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american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | January 16, 2008

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- [Actions & Answers](#)
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SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

- ✓ Teacher-selected Content
- ✓ 71 Subjects – Aligned to Curriculum
- ✓ 3 Million High-quality Sites Searchable



american libraries BUYERS GUIDE

U.S. & World News

[FBI whistleblower answers questions in Philadelphia](#)

Despite a warning from his superiors, FBI Special Agent Bassem Youssef appeared at a January 12 session of the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia with his attorney and answered questions from the audience. Although in October the FBI had approved his request to give a speech on the Bureau's counterterrorism program, Youssef received an [email](#) January 3 that said his talk could threaten the fight against terrorism and required clearance, a process that could take weeks. The message was accompanied by a 12-page document, explicitly marked as confidential, that contained directives on Bureau secrecy....



[Minneapolis merges with Hennepin](#)

Nearly a year after their boards initially approved the merger, Minneapolis Public Library joined the Hennepin County Library January 2. The merger combines Minnesota's two largest public library systems into a 41-branch operation with more than 5 million items and 1,600 computers. It is believed to be the largest public library consolidation in North America since the 1997 amalgamation of five suburban systems into Toronto Public Library....




2008 Request for Proposals

Will fund the start-up of 10 community news ventures in 2008. Each may receive up to \$17,000 in grants. Apply at: www.j-newvoices.org

Due: Feb. 20, 2008

Administered by J-Lab with funding from John S. and James L. Knight Foundation



ALA News

[ALA Midwinter Meeting draws 13,601 to Philadelphia](#)

Sports legend Kareem Abdul-Jabbar delivered a heartfelt address at the ALA Midwinter Meeting, January 11–16, in Philadelphia. Speakers and discussion forums added variety to the



[Midwinter 2008 flickr photos](#)



Association's annual business gathering, attended this year by 13,601 librarians and library supporters. Some 500 technology vendors and publishers filled the exhibition hall in the Pennsylvania Convention Center, enabling attendees to examine firsthand a wide variety of information-industry products....

[President's Program keynoted by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar](#)

Frederick J. Augustyn Jr. writes: "NBA all-time leading scorer Dr. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar was the keynote speaker for Lorie Roy's President's Program January 13. Roy introduced him as someone who brings 'his convictions to education, history, and yes, to basketball.' 'I am not standing here as a basketball player but as an author, a historian, and a book lover, all because of a library and librarians like you,' he began," crediting New York Public Library's Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture as his inspiration....

ALA Cognotes, Monday, p. 3



[Jazz violinist inspires at Arthur Curley Lecture](#)

Erica Patillo writes: "Regina Carter, renowned jazz violinist and 2006 recipient of the MacArthur Fellowship, rocked the house January 12 at the Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture. Carter mixed it up with positive pithy stories about her musical experiences, interspersed with toe-tapping bebop, smelly funk, lush impressionism, and hip-grinding blues."...

ALA Cognotes, Sunday, p. 15



[ALA Council II](#)

Michael Golrick writes: "Tuesday mornings in the Convention Center are always sad. We arrive to find that all the registration booths are coming down. Signs are gone, exhibits closed, ALA Store gone. I always find it somewhat depressing. We heard more on the graduated dues. Some people just don't get that we have 'semi-graduated' dues already."...

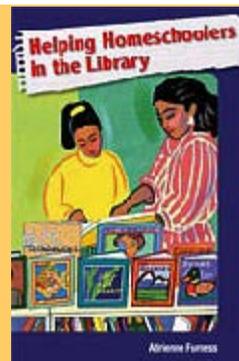
PLA Blog, Jan. 15

[New ALA website design viewable online](#)

You are invited to review the proposed new graphic design for the ALA website, another in a series of usability activities involving ALA members in the site redesign process. First, you'll step through 10 web pages that show and describe the proposed new graphic design for the ALA site. Each of these pages presents a type of page in the design. When you have reached the 10th page in the sequence, you will find a link to the survey, which will ask for your opinions of the proposed new design....



[Present a poster session in Anaheim](#)



This practical guidebook by Adrienne Furness seeks to bridge the gap between librarians and homeschoolers in these two ways: Who are homeschoolers and how can I help them practically? [Helping Homeschoolers in the Library](#) offers a comprehensive discussion of resources to serve the diverse homeschooling population. **NEW!** From ALA Editions.

In this issue

January/February
2008



**From Hoops to Ink:
An Interview with
Kareem Abdul-
Jabbar**

Welcome to Philly

Design Thinking

**Librarians in the
Jury Box**

Poster sessions will be held at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, June 28–30. [Proposals](#) are due by January 31. Presenters can describe an innovative library program, analyze a practical problem-solving effort, or report on research....

[AL architectural showcase](#)

Every year, *American Libraries'* April issue features articles and photographs spotlighting new, expanded, and renovated library buildings. A showcase of exteriors and interiors of all kinds, this special issue features some of the best in library designs, as well as accounts of successfully completed restorations. The editors invite librarians, architects, and interior designers to share their treasures with *AL's* readers. The deadline for submissions ([PDF file](#)) is February 1....



[COSWL pushes for salaries in job ads](#)

About half a dozen members of the Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship gathered January 15 to discuss gender equity and other issues, including pay. They want ALA to allow job advertisements in *American Libraries* magazine and other publications only if the postings include minimum and maximum pay offered. But many employers, particularly academic institutions, refuse to include this information in their job postings....

Chronicle of Higher Education, Jan. 15

AL Focus

[Russell and Brooks at Midwinter Authors Forum](#)

Best-selling historical novelists Mary Doria Russell (*Dreamers of the Day*) and Geraldine Brooks (*People of the Book*) talk about "book pusher" librarians, book lust, and where they stand on e-book readers like the new Amazon Kindle in this video (6:00) recorded at the January 11 Exhibits Round Table Author Forum at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia....



Putting Students First

Career Leads from JobLIST

[Political Papers Archivist](#)

New Mexico State University Library, Las Cruces. Arranges, describes, and makes physically and electronically accessible the political and congressional papers of the department; provides reference and outreach services to patrons and researchers; supervises staff; and provides training on aspects of the use of the political and congressional collections....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



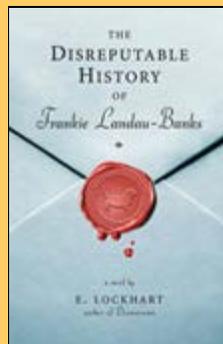
The Northwestern University Transportation Library's [Menu Collection](#) currently includes more than 400 menus from 54 national and international airline carriers, cruise ships, and railroad companies, with coverage from 1929 to the present. U.S. airlines

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Books for youth](#)

Lockhart, E. *The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks*. March 2008. 352p. Hyperion, hardcover (978-0-7868-3818-9). Grades 7–12.

In the summer between her freshman and sophomore years, Frankie Landau-Banks transforms from "a scrawny, awkward child" with frizzy hair to a curvy beauty, "all while sitting quietly in a suburban hammock, reading the short stories of Dorothy Parker and drinking



lemonade." On her return to Alabaster Prep, her elite boarding school, she attracts the attention of gorgeous Matthew, who draws her into his circle of popular seniors. Then Frankie learns that Matthew is a member of the Loyal Order of the Basset Hounds, an all-male Alabaster secret society to which Frankie's dad had once belonged. Excluded from belonging to or even discussing the Bassets, Frankie engineers her own guerrilla membership by assuming a false online identity....

@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....

Philadelphia Update

[Reflections on Midwinter from a conference newbie](#)

Sarah Ludwig writes: "So, I've never been to an ALA conference before. The only conference I've attended previously was the Massachusetts School Library Association conference in Sturbridge, where I felt pretty out of place because I always went by myself and never really knew anybody. I was afraid that since Midwinter is all about Association meetings, I wouldn't have much to do . . . but I was wrong. It turned out to be a very productive weekend."...

YALSA Blog, Jan. 14

[What's playing at the library?](#)

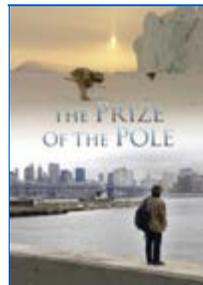
ALA President Lorie Roy and Free Library of Philadelphia Interim President Joseph McPeak discuss the relevance of gaming in libraries: "According to a recent study by Scott Nicholson, director of Syracuse University's Library Game Lab, gaming programs at libraries address a multitude of goals. Some use games to teach and reinforce information literacy, others to provide entertainment; still others expand the library's role as a community hub."...

Philadelphia Inquirer, Jan. 11

Round Table News

[2008 Notable Videos for Adults](#)

The Video Round Table Notable Videos Committee has compiled its 2008 list of Notable Videos for Adults, a list of 15 outstanding programs released on video within the past two years and suitable for all libraries serving adults. Its purpose is to call attention to recent video releases that make a significant contribution to the world of video recordings. The selections were made during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia....



Awards

predominate, but European, Asian, African, Australasian, and South American companies are also represented, with particular strength from the 1960s to the late 1980s. The collection began as a gift from Northwestern alumnus George M. Foster who donated his extensive menu collection to the Transportation Library in 1997, where it has since been expanded from other sources. Digitization of the menus was performed according to Northwestern University Library's established standards for digital imaging: 600 dpi uncompressed TIFF 24-bit color for archival masters and JPEG2000 for delivery.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#)

Public Perception How the World Sees Us

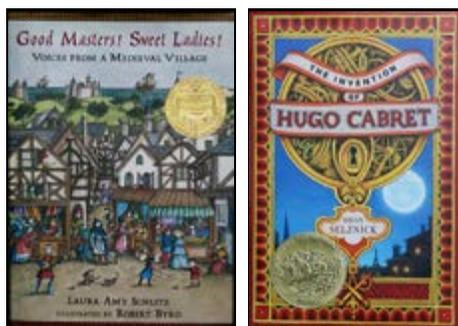
"Everything that's happened to me since 1956 is all your fault—I hope you're proud of yourselves."

—Author Mary Doria Russell (*The Sparrow*), telling the audience at the Midwinter Meeting that librarians were responsible for her intense reading habits and ultimately her career as an author, Jan. 11.



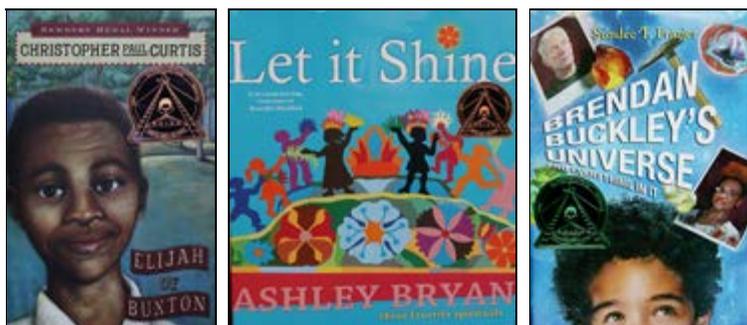
Youth Media award winners

The writer whose 21 monologues bring to life the world of 13th-century England and the illustrator of a 500-page picture book that pays homage to the flickering images of silent films were named respective winners of the ALA Newbery and Caldecott medals honoring children's literature. The announcement, which took place January 14 at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia, was [webcast](#) for the first time for those who could not attend....



Newbery and Caldecott winners

Laura Amy Schlitz, librarian at the Park School in Baltimore and author of *Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village*, and Brian Selznick, illustrator of *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*, are the 2008 winners of the John Newbery and Randolph Caldecott Medals. Considered the "Academy Awards" of children's book publishing, the Newbery and Caldecott medals honor outstanding writing and illustration of works published in the United States during the previous year....



Curtis, Bryan win Coretta Scott King Awards

Christopher Paul Curtis, author of *Elijah of Buxton*, and Ashley Bryan, illustrator of *Let it Shine*, are the winners of the 2008 Coretta Scott King Awards honoring African-American authors and illustrators of



In [Changing the Way We Work](#), the latest issue of *Library Technology Reports* (now eight issues per year), Michelle Boule reports on technology-enhanced work from several library or library-related projects, including the open-source, software-based integrated library system known as PINES, conducted by the Georgia Public Library Service; and LibraryFind, a federated-search tool built by Oregon State University Libraries.

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. One of the seniors at my high school wants to do his final research paper on the history of the library card. Where do we start?

A. Definitely check your interlibrary loan region, particularly any

outstanding books for children and young adults. Sundee T. Frazier, author of *Brendan Buckley's Universe and Everything in It*, is the Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent Author Award winner....

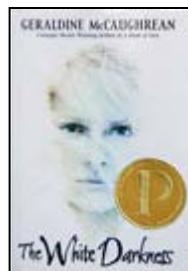
[Mo Willems wins Geisel Award](#)

Author and illustrator Mo Willems is the 2008 winner of the Theodor Seuss Geisel Award for the book *There Is a Bird on Your Head!* In this humorous account of Elephant Gerald and Piggie's ongoing friendship, Gerald learns that there is something worse than having a bird on your head—having two birds on your head! Trying to help her friend, the always-playful Piggie ends up with a problem of her own....



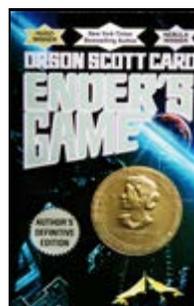
[Geraldine McCaughrean wins Printz Award](#)

The White Darkness, by Geraldine McCaughrean, published by HarperTempest, an imprint of HarperCollins, has won the 2008 Michael L. Printz Award. This contemporary YA novel is about 14-year-old Symone's exciting vacation to Antarctica, which turns into a desperate struggle for survival when her uncle's obsessive quest leads them across the frozen wilderness into danger....



[Orson Scott Card honored with Edwards Award](#)

Orson Scott Card is the recipient of the 2008 Margaret A. Edwards Award honoring his outstanding lifetime contribution to writing for teens for his novels *Ender's Game* and *Ender's Shadow*. An accomplished storyteller, Card weaves the everyday experiences of adolescence into broader narratives, addressing universal questions about humanity and society....



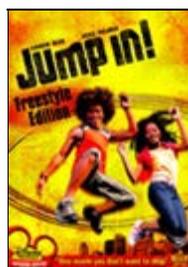
[Batchelder Award honors VIZ Media](#)

VIZ Media is the winner of the 2008 Mildred L. Batchelder Award for the most outstanding children's book originally published in a foreign language and subsequently translated into English for publication in the United States. Originally published in Japanese in 2003 as *Bureibu Sutori*, *Brave Story* was written by Miyuki Miyabe and translated by Alexander O. Smith....



[Carnegie Medal goes to Jump In!](#)

Producer Kevin Lafferty, along with executive producer John Davis and coproducers Amy Palmer Robertson and Danielle Sterling, are the 2008 recipients of the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Children's Video for the production of *Jump In!: Freestyle Edition*. The video, originally aired on the Disney Channel, is a Disney DVD and features Corbin Bleu of *High School Musical* fame....



[Sís wins Sibert Medal](#)

Peter Sís, author and illustrator of *The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain*, was named the winner of the 2008 Robert F. Sibert Medal for the most distinguished informational book for children published in 2007. In his deeply felt memoir set in mid-20th-century Prague, Sís contrasts the constrictive walls of the communist state

nearby college libraries, for the 1955 ALA publication, [Charging Systems](#), by Helen Thornton Geer, which explains John Cotton Dana's role in creating the model for modern library circulation in about 1900, along with the machine based on that model that was introduced by the Gaylord Brothers in 1932. An overview of the history of library cards as well as insight into some of the more frequently asked questions about them appears at [Circulation](#). Also see [Library Cards for Children](#). From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#)....

@ The [ALA Librarian](#) welcomes your questions.

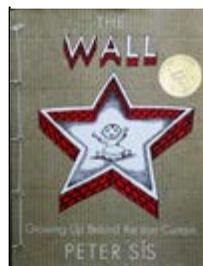
Calendar

Jan. 25:
[Bibliographical Society of America](#), Annual Meeting, Hemmerdinger Hall, New York University.

**Jan. 30–
Feb. 2:**
[Ontario Library Association](#), Super Conference, Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

Feb. 14:
["Science Sleuthing: How to Use Detectives and Mysteries to Lure Kids to Libraries and Spur Interest in Science,"](#) one-hour web seminar at 11 a.m. Eastern time, led by

with his personal quest for artistic freedom....



[2008 Alex Awards](#)

YALSA has selected 10 adult books that will appeal to teen readers to receive the 2008 Alex Awards. The awards, sponsored by the Margaret Alexander Edwards Trust, were announced January 14 at the Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia, and will appear with full annotations in the March 1 issue of *Booklist* and on Booklist Online....

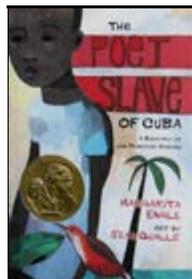
[First Odyssey Award goes to Jazz](#)

Live Oak Media, producer of the audiobook *Jazz*, has won the first-ever Odyssey Award for Excellence in Audiobook Production. *Jazz* takes the readalong to new heights as James "D-Train" Williams and Vaneese Thomas perform the work of Walter Dean Myers. Original music accompanies each poem's performance, resulting in a rhythmic representation of mood and tone. Separate tracks for the selections and lively inclusion of a glossary and timeline create a dynamic audiobook; part poetry, part nonfiction, and wholly authentic....



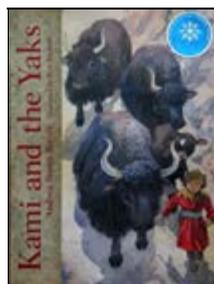
[Morales, Engle win Pura Belpré Awards](#)

Yuyi Morales, illustrator of *Los Gatos Black on Halloween*, and Margarita Engle, author of *The Poet Slave of Cuba: A Biography of Juan Francisco Manzano*, are the 2008 winners of the Pura Belpré Illustrator Award and Author Award respectively, honoring Latino authors and illustrators whose work best portrays, affirms, and celebrates the Latino cultural experience in children's books....



[Schneider Family Book Award winners](#)

Winners of the Schneider Family Book Award, which honors an author or illustrator for the artistic expression of the disability experience for child and adolescent audiences, were announced at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia. *Kami and the Yaks* by Andrea Stenn Stryer is the winner in the young children's category; *Reaching for Sun* by Tracie Vaughn Zimmer is the winner in the middle-school category; and *Hurt Go Happy* by Ginny Rorby is the winner in the teen category....



[Walter Dean Myers to deliver 2009 Arbuthnot Lecture](#)

Walter Dean Myers, widely acclaimed author of picture books, novels, poetry, and nonfiction for children and young adults, will deliver the 2009 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture. Each year, an individual of distinction in the field of children's literature is chosen to write and deliver a lecture that will make a significant contribution to the world of children's literature. The award is administered by



Elizabeth Rusch, sponsored by [Raab Associates](#).

Feb. 17–24: [Music Library Association](#), Annual Meeting, Newport, Rhode Island.

Feb. 24–26: [National Federation of Advanced Information Services](#), Annual Conference, Park Hyatt Philadelphia.

Mar. 6–7: [WebWise Conference on Libraries and Museums in the Digital World](#), Miami Beach Convention Center.

Mar. 12–16: [Visual Resources Association](#), Annual Conference, Westin San Diego at Emerald Plaza.

Mar. 16–18: [Association of Information and Dissemination Centers](#), Spring Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada.

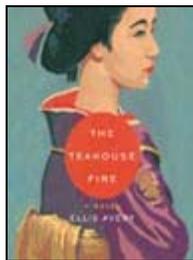
Mar. 25-28: [Catholic Library Association](#), Annual Convention, Indianapolis.

Apr. 10–14: [American Society for Information Science and Technology](#), Information Architecture Summit, Miami. "Experiencing Information."

ALSC....

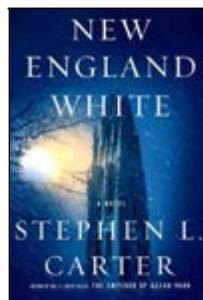
[Avery, Doty win Stonewall Book awards](#)

ALA's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table has announced the winners of the 2008 Stonewall Book Awards. Ellis Avery, author of *The Teahouse Fire* (Penguin Group) is the winner of the Barbara Gittings Book Award in Literature, and Mark Doty, author of *Dog Years: A Memoir* (HarperCollins) is the winner of the Israel Fishman Book Award for Nonfiction....



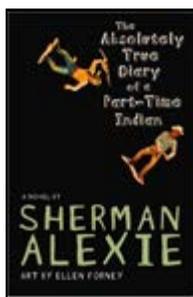
[The 2008 BCALA Literary Awards](#)

The Black Caucus of the American Library Association announced the winners of the BCALA Literary Awards January 14 during the ALA Midwinter Meeting. The awards recognize excellence in adult fiction and nonfiction by African-American authors published in 2007, including the work of a first novelist and a citation for Outstanding Contribution to Publishing. The winner in the fiction category is *New England White* by Stephen L. Carter (Knopf)....



[American Indian Youth Literature Award winners](#)

The American Indian Library Association announced the recipients of the 2008 American Indian Youth Literature Awards at the ALA Midwinter Meeting January 14. *Crossing Bok Chitto* by Tim Tingle is the winner in the picture-book category; *Counting Coup* by Joseph Medicine Crow is the winner in the middle-school category; and *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie is the winner in the young adult category....



[Laura Bush receives and presents National Medals](#)

Institute of Museum and Library Services Director Anne-Imelda Radice bestowed on First Lady Laura Bush the first National Medal for Museum and Library Service at the White House January 14. Mrs. Bush deserves the newly minted medal for her tireless championing of the nation's museums and libraries, Radice said at a [ceremony](#) celebrating the 10 library and museum winners of the National Medals. The library winners were the [Newberry Library](#), Chicago (above); Georgetown County (S.C.) Library; the Kim Yerton branch of the Humboldt County Library in Hoopa, California; Memphis (Tenn.) Public Library and Information Center; and Ocean County (N.J.) Library....



Institute of Museum and Library Services, Business Wire, Newberry Library, Jan. 14

[ALSC Distinguished Service Award](#)

ALSC has selected Henrietta Smith as the winner of its 2008 Distinguished Service Award. Smith is professor emerita from the University of South Florida and is a nationally recognized expert in the field of multicultural children's literature....

ALSC Blog, Jan. 14



[Call for Library Interior Design Awards](#)

LAMA and the International Interior Design Association are accepting

Apr. 30–

May 3:

[American Society of Indexers](#), Annual Meeting, Warwick Hotel, Denver.

May 1–5:

[Art Libraries Society of North America](#), Annual Conference, Denver.

May 4–8:

[International Reading Association](#), Annual Convention, Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta.

May 6–9:

[Substance Abuse Librarians and Information Specialists](#), Annual Conference, Seattle.

May 13–16:

[Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives](#), Annual Conference, University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

May 16–21:

[Medical Library Association](#), Annual Meeting, Chicago.

May 21–24:

[Canadian Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Vancouver, British Columbia.

May 29–

June 1:

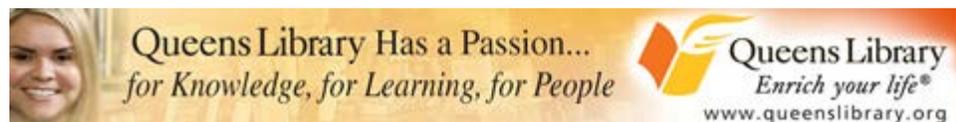
[BookExpo America](#), Los Angeles Convention Center.

June 4-6:

[Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries](#), Annual Meeting, Grand Rapids,

entries for the 2008 Library Interior Design Awards. The competition honors excellence in library interior design and recognizes outstanding aesthetics, design creativity, function, and client-objective satisfaction. The project must be submitted ([PDF file](#)) by a licensed design professional; the deadline is March 31....

Contract magazine, Jan. 15



Seen Online

[Dallas Morning News looks at porn in the library](#)

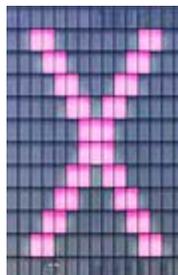
At the Dallas central library, the practice of patrons viewing explicit internet material is commonplace, according to a *Dallas Morning News* analysis of web pages accessed on J. Erik Jonsson Central Library public computers and stored on the city's computer server. During a 45-minute period on December 19, for example, central library computer users accessed more than 5,200 web pages containing identifiably pornographic material. Top city officials said they'll immediately review the matter....

Dallas Morning News, Jan. 15

[French National Library's erotic exhibition](#)

The lighting is bordello red, but the librarians insist that their X-rated exhibition is serious. "Hell at the Library, Eros in Secret," which opened at the Bibliothèque Nationale de France in December, offers a peek at its secret archive of erotic art, putting on display more than 350 sexually explicit literary works, manuscripts, engravings, lithographs, photographs, film clips, even calling cards and cardboard pop-ups....

New York Times, Jan. 16



[MySpace to take new anti-predator steps](#)

MySpace, the country's largest social-networking website, has agreed with attorneys general of 49 states to take new steps to protect children from sexual predators on its site. It also agreed to lead a nationwide effort to develop technology to verify the ages and identities of internet users, officials announced January 14....

New York Times, Jan. 15

[Detroit libraries balance patrons and homeless persons](#)

The battle between book-using patrons and the homeless heats up during the winter months as libraries across Metro Detroit offer free warm havens with bathrooms, internet access, and reading material. Libraries have always been tolerant of all users, but a variety of measures—from metal detectors to more stringent security guards to case-by-case personal hygiene policies—are being put in place to keep traditional patrons and the homeless happy. Christina Nilsen offers [another perspective](#)....

Detroit News, Jan. 14; Impagination blog, Jan. 12

[Vermont libraries: State is overdue](#)

For the second year in a row, Vermont librarians will lobby lawmakers

Michigan.

June 5-8:

[North American Serials Interest Group](#)

Annual Conference, Tapatio Cliffs Resort, Phoenix, Arizona.

June 9-12:

[Association of Christian Librarians](#)

Annual Conference, Eastern Nazarene College, Quincy, Massachusetts.

June 10-12:

[Northeast Document Conservation Center](#)

"Digital Directions: Fundamentals of Creating and Managing Digital Collections (The New School for Scanning)," Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront, Jacksonville, Florida. Contact: [Julie Martin Carlson](#).

June 15-18:

[Special Libraries Association](#)

Annual Conference, Seattle.

June 22-25:

[Association of Jewish Libraries](#)

Annual Convention, Marriott Cleveland East.

June 25-28:

[American Theological Library Association](#)

Annual Conference, St. Paul University, Ottawa, Ontario.

June 26-

July 2:

[American Library Association](#)

Annual Conference, Anaheim, California.

July 12-15:

[American Association](#)

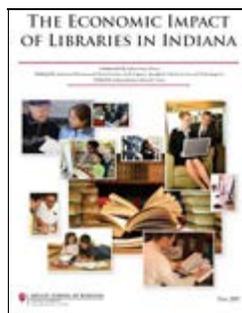
for a \$1.6-million slice of the general budget to help fund the 180 public libraries across the state. Librarians and their supporters plan to rally at the Statehouse in Montpelier January 18 to build support for their effort, which would pay for 10% of library budgets next year. Vermont is one of a handful of states that does not directly give libraries state funds....

Barre-Montpelier (Vt.) Times Argus, Jan. 12

[A library's economic value](#)

An Indiana University [report](#) has confirmed the economic value of the state's public libraries: a total market value of goods and services estimated at \$629.9 million and a return of \$2.38 on each dollar of investment. The November report, by the Indiana Business Research Center at IU's Kelley School of Business, concludes that public libraries are a good value, serving as "an important channel for literacy, education, and information."...

Fort Wayne (Ind.) Journal Gazette, Jan. 8



[Beauvoir curator finds 100-year-old artifact on eBay](#)

A century-old flag immortalized in a 1905 postcard is back home at Beauvoir, the Biloxi museum estate of Jefferson Davis that once served as an early 20th-century old soldiers home. The postcard shows two veterans displaying a Confederate First National Flag in front of Beauvoir. The image proved that the flag (purchased on eBay) was made for the soldiers home, possibly by the Mississippi United Daughters of the Confederacy in 1903. What makes this story poignant, besides the return of missing history, is that Beauvoir lost at least 40% of its artifacts to Hurricane Katrina, including two flags....

Biloxi (Miss.) Sun Herald, Jan. 11



[The truth about library/IT mergers](#) (subscription required)

Andrea L. Foster writes: "Adrift. Dysfunctional. Desperately needing a change. The adjectives sound like descriptions of a bad relationship, but about three years ago Xavier University, in Cincinnati, applied them to two of its departments. Both Xavier's library and its information-technology unit were in terrible shape. Xavier had hired four chief information officers in five years, its technology was obsolete, its library and IT staffs didn't talk to each other, and students had to jump through hoops to do online research."...

Chronicle of Higher Education, Jan. 18

[Why J. K. Rowling should lose her lawsuit](#)

Tim Wu writes: "Once it dawned on media companies that fan sites are the kind of marketing that they usually pay hard cash for, they generally left the fans alone. But things turned sour in the fall, when the Harry Potter Lexicon [website](#) announced plans to publish a book version of its fan-written guide to the Potter world. Author J. K. Rowling and publisher Warner Brothers have sued the Lexicon for copyright infringement, exposing the big unanswered question: Are fan guides actually illegal?"...

Slate, Jan. 10



[Four Windsor libraries face closure](#)

The CEO of the Windsor (Ont.) Public Library said January 11 that four

[of Law Libraries.](#)

Annual Meeting,
Portland, Oregon.

July 20-22:

[Church and Synagogue Library Association.](#) National Conference, Greenville, South Carolina.

@ [More...](#)

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branches would have to close, Sunday hours slashed at the others, and 14 staff members laid off if the library is to meet city council-ordered expenditure cuts of \$800,000 (\$784,900 U.S.) per year. Brian Bell wouldn't specify which of the system's 10 branches are being considered for closure, pending a meeting of a newly constituted library board February 13....

Windsor (Ont.) Star, Jan. 12

[Foundation offers Anchorage libraries millions](#)

The Rasmuson Foundation is giving \$4.4 million to the Anchorage, Alaska, library system, including \$1 million to help build a new branch in Eagle River and almost \$2.5 million to help pay for a new roof and other renovations at the main Loussac Library. The donation—one of the largest ever given by the Rasmuson Foundation—is part of a \$20-million initiative to pump life into the library system, which is growing for the first time since budget cuts gutted branch libraries in 1988....

Anchorage (Alaska) Daily News, Jan. 15

[Stolen maps return to Boston](#)

More than 30 rare maps stolen from the Boston Public Library by a Martha's Vineyard map dealer were returned to the library in 2007, library president Bernard Margolis said, part of the conclusion of an international scandal that rocked the staid world of map collecting. Not all has been resolved, however. More than 30 other missing maps, losses that have not been linked to confessed map thief E. Forbes Smiley III, have yet to be recovered....

Boston Globe, Jan. 2

[Mona Lisa's identity confirmed in German library](#)

The enigmatic smiling woman painted by Leonardo da Vinci in the 16th century has for long been known simply as the "Mona Lisa." Now a manuscript hidden away in a German library may have unlocked the key to her real name. Heidelberg University library confirmed on January 11 a German radio report that its researchers had discovered the true identity of the model in the famous portrait. She was indeed Lisa Gherardini, the wife of a wealthy Florentine merchant, Francesco del Giocondo....

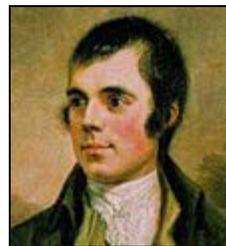
Der Spiegel, Jan. 15



[Burns was a Scot after all, LC admits](#)

The literary world was hailing a remarkable coup January 11 after the Library of Congress agreed to reverse a decision to classify all Scottish writers under the general heading of English. In an email sent to the National Library of Scotland and the British Library, LC announced: "After reviewing thoughtful comments received from several correspondents, the Library of Congress will be reinstating headings for Scottish literature, Scottish poetry, and similar headings."...

The Times (U.K.), Jan. 12



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ext. 4216

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Tech Talk

[Top Tech Trends discussed](#)

Lauren Pressley went to the LITA Top Technology Trends Committee meeting at Midwinter where members offered suggestions on what the major tech news will be this year. She summarizes the discussion points: "Solid state hard drives and durable, sealed keyboards; security and reliability concerns with online services; aesthetics in hardware and buildings; cloud computing and green computing." [Eric Lease Morgan](#), [Karen Schneider](#), and [Sarah Houghton-Jan](#) also chimed in....

Lauren's Library Blog, Jan. 13, LITA Blog, Jan. 7; Free Range Librarian, Jan. 9; LibrarianInBlack, Jan. 11

[How to become a YouTube star](#)

Eric Griffith writes: "What kind of equipment should you use to film with and edit your footage? Where do you upload the completed work? How do you compress it so it plays back smoothly and clearly? How do you get the masses to watch it? We didn't know either. So we asked the pros making near-TV-quality video blogs and online programs getting hundreds of thousands of plays."...

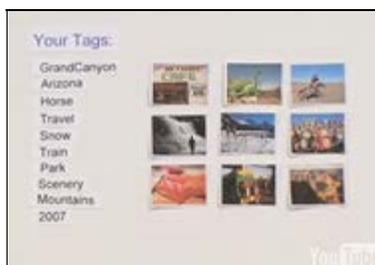
PC Magazine, Jan. 1



[Online photo sharing in plain English](#)

Lee LeFever of Common Craft has created a short video (2:50) that demonstrates the usefulness of saving and sharing your digital photos online: "Thankfully, online photo sharing services make it easy to back up your photos and share them with the world. If you want to encourage your friends or family to start sharing photos online, point them here."...

Common Craft, Jan. 9



[Wikia's new social search engine](#)

Woody Evans writes: "[Wikia](#), the for-profit cousin of the Wikimedia Foundation, launched the alpha release of its new search engine, [Search Wikia](#), January 7. Search Wikia is branded as a social search engine, significantly different from the big names in search, such as Google and Ask.com. Wikia is hoping that the open and participatory model will make Search Wikia the place to go for search results of higher quality."...

NewsBreaks, Jan. 14



[Seven browser-testing services](#)

Mike Gunderloy writes: "Whether it's designing web applications, buffing up other people's style sheets, or simply building web pages, many of us are actively engaged in contributing to the world-wide sprawl. But it can be tough to build pages that work for all viewers. Sooner or later, you'll need to deal with the issue of different browsers showing your lovely pages in different ways."...

Web Worker Daily, Jan. 7



[Toshiba cuts HD DVD player prices](#)

Toshiba may have taken a huge hit recently,



but the HD DVD supporter is striking back. Barely a week after Warner Brothers [announced](#) it would no longer put out movies on the HD DVD format, of which Toshiba is a primary supporter, the company announced it is lowering the prices on all three models of next-generation DVD players. The entry-level model, the HD-A3, now goes for \$150, the HD-A30 for \$200, and the HD-A35 for \$300. That's about \$150 to \$200 worth of discounts on all models....

C|Net News Blog, Jan. 14



Actions & Answers

[Final report of the LC Working Group](#) (PDF file)

The Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control has issued its final report. Among its recommendations:

"Position our technology for the future by recognizing that the World Wide Web is both our technology platform and the appropriate platform for the delivery of our standards. Recognize that people are not the only users of the data we produce in the name of bibliographic control, but so too are machine applications that interact with those data in a variety of ways."...

Library of Congress, Jan. 9

[My OpenCongress network](#)

Donny Shaw writes: "As Congress returns to start a new session, OpenCongress

announces a major update that will put all the bills and votes at your fingertips. It's never been easier to track what's happening with your government. Now you can build a personal profile on OpenCongress of the bills and people you're tracking, network with other users, comment and vote on bills, and much more. To get started, create your own [My OpenCongress](#) profile. It's free and only takes a minute."...

OpenCongress, Jan. 14

[EPA move to modernize libraries spurs concern](#)

In response to a congressional mandate that the Environmental Protection Agency restore its closed libraries, the agency said it will proceed with modernizing its library network, leading some people to believe the EPA will not resume physical library operations. Molly O'Neill, assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Environmental Information, issued a statement January 14 that said, "EPA continues to modernize its library network to enhance access to information for EPA employees and the public."...

Government Executive, Jan. 15



[15 publishing trends to watch](#)

Mike Shatzkin writes: "Some of the changes I envision do call for fundamental changes in how the business operates. Consumer media in the 20th century tended to be horizontal and format-specific. The *New York Times* and Random House define 'horizontal': They publish across all interests and markets. The internet will drive 21st-century publishing enterprises to be more like what professional publishing has always

been: highly vertical and format-agnostic.”...

Publishers Weekly, Jan. 7

[San Francisco Public Library opens remodeled first floor](#)

The extensive renovation of the Main's first floor has been completed and was officially unveiled at a January 16 celebration. The first floor renovation project resulted in an additional 6,000 square feet of publicly accessible space—an area that was previously used for staff functions. It has also tripled the amount of browseable shelf space that formerly housed the fiction collection....

San Francisco Public Library, Jan. 16



[UW to conduct study on computers in libraries](#)

The University of Washington Information School, working with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Urban Institute, will conduct a national study on the social, economic, personal, and professional value of free access to computers at public libraries. The project will be carried out with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Jan. 11

[LC to partner with Microsoft to enhance visitor experience](#)

The Library of Congress and Microsoft have signed a cooperative agreement that will change the way library visitors experience history. The joint technology initiative will electronically deliver LC's immense collection of historical artifacts to patrons visiting its Thomas Jefferson Building in Washington, D.C., and will allow immersive interactive experiences that will bring the institution's vast historical collections and exhibits to life—onsite and online—through the upcoming myloc.gov website....

Library of Congress, Jan. 10

[SLA announces green initiative](#)

The Special Libraries Association will begin efforts to become an environmentally sensitive organization at the membership, board, volunteer leadership, and staff level. SLA Headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia, has already begun implementing green practices in its day-to-day operations, such as eliminating unnecessary printing of documents and replacing disposable cups and utensils with flatware and ceramic coffee mugs and dinnerware. Additionally SLA has committed to purchasing carbon credits to offset all staff travel for events throughout the year....

Special Libraries Association, Jan. 11



[Wondertooneel der Nature](#)

The collection obsession of Early Modern Europe that saw people stocking cabinets of curiosities (*wunderkammer* or *rariteitenkabinet*) with obscure and exotic trinkets and specimens from the worlds of *artificialia* and *naturalia*, emerged in Holland under a local profile of influences. Unlike most of their European counterparts, the Dutch Republic lacked both a royal court or any sizeable aristocracy, so collecting was a hobby cultivated by regular citizens....

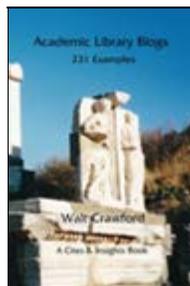
BibliOdyssey, Jan. 15



[Academic library blogs](#)

Walt Crawford has written a book on academic library blogs to accompany his recent opus on public library blogs. He writes: "The two books make a great combination, offering an extensive look at library blogging that should be useful to any library considering blogs for the first time or wishing to fine-tune or expand current offerings."...

Walt at Random blog, Jan. 15



[IMLS launches LSTA study](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has launched a study of the economic, social, educational, and cultural value of its largest grant program, Library Grants to States, in order to better understand the impact and direction of this federally funded program. In December, IMLS selected Himmel and Wilson, a library consulting firm, to conduct a trends analysis of the Library Grants to States program from 2002 to 2006....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Jan. 10

[PALINET launches Leadership Network](#)

(PDF file)

PALINET has launched the [PALINET Leadership Network](#), a wiki designed to help current and future library leaders communicate, coordinate, find resources, and share information. Features include articles and forums on cutting-edge library topics including funding, marketing, technology, and services....

PALINET, Jan. 14



[USC Shoah Foundation Institute offers new resources](#)

The University of Southern California's Shoah Foundation Institute has launched a newly designed [website](#) that contains free and unique online resources for teachers and librarians, including video and lesson suggestions. [Segments for the Classroom](#) is a set of seven clip reels (six in English and one in Spanish), each of which includes testimony from one or more Holocaust survivors, that educators can download and incorporate into their own classroom lessons....

USC Shoah Foundation Institute



[The world of bookmarks](#)

Mirage Bookmarks in Riehen, Switzerland, maintains a website that offers a [history](#) of bookmarks, an online bookmark [exhibition](#), bookmark [links](#), and [quotes](#) about bookmarks. Did you know that an illuminated 13th-century manuscript, *Historia Scholastica*, written by Petrus Comestor and owned by the British Library, bears an interesting and rare bookmark? One vellum page of the manuscript is cut on its edge vertically to form a long tab which is tucked through a slit on the higher part of the edge, forming a practical bookmark....

Mirage Bookmarks



[AACR2: The Movie trailer](#)

Two savvy catalogers with varying bibliophilosophies (Lucas Maxwell as Jim Stacks, and Jason Woloski as Mark

Wreckards) join up to save the world from the shelf-shuffling Dr. Latefees (David Ross) in this zany video (2:35). A Larry Rakow production (featuring Dalhousie University grads), complete with exclusive clips and outtakes....

AACR2: The Movie



AL Direct, January 16, 2008

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | January 16, 2008

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[<http://www.schoolrooms.net>]

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

FBI whistleblower answers questions in Philadelphia

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/january2008/bassemyoussef.cfm>]

Despite a warning from his superiors, FBI Special Agent Bassem Youssef appeared at a January 12 session of the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia with his attorney and answered questions from the audience. Although in October the FBI had approved his request to give a speech on the Bureau's counterterrorism program, Youssef received an email [<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/january2008/midwintertalk.cfm>] January 3 that said his talk could threaten the fight against terrorism and required clearance, a process that could take weeks. The message was accompanied by a 12-page document, explicitly marked as confidential, that contained directives on Bureau secrecy....

Minneapolis merges with Hennepin

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/january2008/hennepin.cfm>]

Nearly a year after their boards initially approved the merger, Minneapolis Public Library joined the Hennepin County Library January 2. The merger combines Minnesota's two largest public library systems into a 41-branch operation with more than 5 million items and 1,600 computers. It is believed to be the largest public library consolidation in North America since the 1997 amalgamation of five suburban systems into Toronto Public Library....

[<http://www.tech-logic.com/>]

ALA News

ALA Midwinter Meeting draws 13,601 to Philadelphia

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/january2008/midwinter08wrapup.cfm>]

Sports legend Kareem Abdul-Jabbar delivered a heartfelt address at the ALA Midwinter Meeting, January 11–16, in Philadelphia. Speakers and discussion forums added variety to the Association's annual business gathering, attended this year by 13,601 librarians and library supporters. Some 500 technology vendors and publishers filled the exhibition hall in the Pennsylvania Convention Center, enabling attendees to examine firsthand a wide variety of information-industry products....

President's Program keynoted by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2008/cognotes.htm>]

Frederick J. Augustyn Jr. writes: "NBA all-time leading scorer Dr. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar was the keynote speaker for Lorlene Roy's President's Program January 13. Roy introduced him as someone who brings 'his convictions to education, history, and yes, to basketball.' 'I am not standing here as a basketball player but as an author, a historian, and a book lover, all because of a library and librarians like you,' he began," crediting New York Public Library's Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture as his inspiration....

ALA Cognotes, Monday, p. 3

Jazz violinist inspires at Arthur Curley Lecture

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2008/cognotes.htm>]

Ericka Patillo writes: "Regina Carter, renowned jazz violinist and 2006 recipient of the MacArthur Fellowship, rocked the house January 12 at the Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture. Carter mixed it up with positive pithy stories about her musical experiences, interspersed with toe-tapping bebop, smelly funk, lush impressionism, and hip-grinding blues."...

ALA Cognotes, Sunday, p. 15

ALA Council II [<http://plablog.org/2008/01/ala-council-ii.html>]

Michael Golrick writes: "Tuesday mornings in the Convention Center are always sad. We arrive to find that all the registration booths are coming down. Signs are gone, exhibits closed, ALA Store gone. I always find it somewhat depressing. We heard more on the graduated dues. Some people just don't get that we have 'semi-graduated' dues already."...

PLA Blog, Jan. 15

New ALA website design viewable online [<http://alamockups.luminanze.com/>]
You are invited to review the proposed new graphic design for the ALA website, another in a series of usability activities involving ALA members in the site redesign process. First, you'll step through 10 web pages that show and describe the proposed new graphic design for the ALA site. Each of these pages presents a type of page in the design. When you have reached the 10th page in the sequence, you will find a link to the survey, which will ask for your opinions of the proposed new design....

Present a poster session in Anaheim [<http://www.lib.jmu.edu/org/ala/>]
Poster sessions will be held at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, June 28–30. Proposals [<http://www.lib.jmu.edu/org/ala/howto.aspx>] are due by January 31. Presenters can describe an innovative library program, analyze a practical problem-solving effort, or report on research....

architectural showcase
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/submittinal/facilitiesfeature.cfm>]
Every year, American Libraries's April issue features articles and photographs spotlighting new, expanded, and renovated library buildings. A showcase of exteriors and interiors of all kinds, this special issue features some of the best in library designs, as well as accounts of successfully completed restorations. The editors invite librarians, architects, and interior designers to share their treasures with AL's readers. The deadline for submissions (PDF file [<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/submittinal/2008submissionform.pdf>]) is February 1....

COSWL pushes for salaries in job ads
[<http://chronicle.com/wiredcampus/article/2666/librarians-push-for-pay-data-in-job-postings>]
About half a dozen members of the Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship gathered January 15 to discuss gender equity and other issues, including pay. They want ALA to allow job advertisements in American Libraries magazine and other publications only if the postings include minimum and maximum pay offered. But many employers, particularly academic institutions, refuse to include this information in their job postings....
Chronicle of Higher Education, Jan. 15

AL Focus

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Russell and Brooks at Midwinter Authors Forum
[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/best-selling-author-forum>]
Best-selling historical novelists Mary Doria Russell (Dreamers of the Day) and Geraldine Brooks (People of the Book) talk about “book pusher” librarians, book lust, and where they stand on e-book readers like the new Amazon Kindle in this video (6:00) recorded at the January 11 Exhibits Round Table Author Forum at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia....

Featured review: Books for youth

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2360143]

Lockhart, E. *The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks*. March 2008. 352p. Hyperion, hardcover (978-0-7868-3818-9). Grades 7–12.

In the summer between her freshman and sophomore years, Frankie Landau-Banks transforms from “a scrawny, awkward child” with frizzy hair to a curvy beauty, “all while sitting quietly in a suburban hammock, reading the short stories of Dorothy Parker and drinking lemonade.” On her return to Alabaster Prep, her elite boarding school, she attracts the attention of gorgeous Matthew, who draws her into his circle of popular seniors. Then Frankie learns that Matthew is a member of the Loyal Order of the Basset Hounds, an all-male Alabaster secret society to which Frankie’s dad had once belonged. Excluded from belonging to or even discussing the Bassets, Frankie engineers her own guerrilla membership by assuming a false online identity....

@ Visit Booklist Online [<http://www.booklistonline.com>] for other reviews and much more....

Philadelphia Update

Reflections on Midwinter from a conference newbie

[http://blogs.ala.org/yalsa.php?title=title_52&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1]

Sarah Ludwig writes: “So, I’ve never been to an ALA conference before. The only conference I’ve attended previously was the Massachusetts School Library Association conference in Sturbridge, where I felt pretty out of place because I always went by myself and never really knew anybody. I was afraid that since Midwinter is all about Association meetings, I wouldn’t have much to do . . . but I was wrong. It turned out to be a very productive weekend.”...

YALSA Blog, Jan. 14

What’s playing at the library?

[<http://www.philly.com/philly/opinion/13701202.html>]

ALA President Loriene Roy and Free Library of Philadelphia Interim President Joseph McPeak discuss the relevance of gaming in libraries: “According to a recent study by Scott Nicholson, director of Syracuse University’s Library Game Lab, gaming programs at libraries address a multitude of goals. Some use games to teach and reinforce information literacy, others to provide entertainment; still others expand the library’s role as a community hub.”...

Philadelphia Inquirer, Jan. 11

Round Table News

[<http://www.frif.com/new2007/pole.html>] 2008 Notable Videos for Adults
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/va08.htm>]
The Video Round Table Notable Videos Committee has compiled its 2008 list of Notable Videos for Adults, a list of 15 outstanding programs released on video within the past two years and suitable for all libraries serving adults. Its purpose is to call attention to recent video releases that make a significant contribution to the world of video recordings. The selections were made during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia....

Awards

Youth Media award winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/january2008/youthmediaawards08.cfm>]

The writer whose 21 monologues bring to life the world of 13th-century England and the illustrator of a 500-page picture book that pays homage to the flickering images of silent films were named respective winners of the ALA Newbery and Caldecott medals honoring children's literature. The announcement, which took place January 14 at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia, was webcast

[<http://ala.unikron.com/2008/msh.htm>] for the first time for those who could not attend....

Newbery and Caldecott winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/newbery08.htm>]

Laura Amy Schlitz, librarian at the Park School in Baltimore and author of *Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village*, and Brian Selznick, illustrator of *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*, are the 2008 winners of the John Newbery and Randolph Caldecott Medals. Considered the "Academy Awards" of children's book publishing, the Newbery and Caldecott medals honor outstanding writing and illustration of works published in the United States during the previous year....

Curtis, Bryan win Coretta Scott King Awards

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/king08.htm>]

Christopher Paul Curtis, author of *Elijah of Buxton*, and Ashley Bryan, illustrator of *Let it Shine*, are the winners of the 2008 Coretta Scott King Awards honoring African-American authors and illustrators of outstanding books for children and young adults. Sundee T. Frazier, author of *Brendan Buckley's Universe and Everything in It*, is the Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent Author Award winner....

Mo Willems wins Geisel Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/geisel08.htm>]

Author and illustrator Mo Willems is the 2008 winner of the Theodor Seuss Geisel Award for the book *There Is a Bird on Your Head!* In this humorous account of Elephant Gerald and Piggie's ongoing friendship, Gerald learns that there is something worse than having a bird on your head—having two birds on your head! Trying to help her friend, the always-playful Piggie ends up with a problem of her own....

Geraldine McCaughrean wins Printz Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/printz08.htm>]

The White Darkness, by Geraldine McCaughrean, published by HarperTempest, an imprint of HarperCollins, has won the 2008 Michael L. Printz Award. This contemporary YA novel is about 14-year-old Symone's exciting vacation to Antarctica, which turns into a desperate struggle for survival when her uncle's obsessive quest leads them across the frozen wilderness into danger....

Orson Scott Card honored with Edwards Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/edwards08.htm>]

Orson Scott Card is the recipient of the 2008 Margaret A. Edwards Award honoring his outstanding lifetime contribution to writing for teens for his novels *Ender's Game* and *Ender's Shadow*. An accomplished storyteller, Card weaves the everyday experiences of adolescence into broader narratives, addressing universal questions about humanity and society....

Batchelder Award honors VIZ Media

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/batchelder08.htm>]

VIZ Media is the winner of the 2008 Mildred L. Batchelder Award for the most outstanding children's book originally published in a foreign language and subsequently translated into English for publication in the United States. Originally published in Japanese in 2003 as *Bureibu Sutori*, *Brave Story* was written by Miyuki Miyabe and translated by Alexander O. Smith....

Jump In!

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/carnegie08.htm>]

Producer Kevin Lafferty, along with executive producer John Davis and coproducers Amy Palmer Robertson and Danielle Sterling, are the 2008 recipients of the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Children's Video for the production of *Jump In!: Freestyle Edition*. The video, originally aired on the Disney Channel, is a Disney DVD and features Corbin Bleu of *High School Musical* fame....

S´s wins Sibert Medal

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/sibert08.htm>]

Peter Sís, author and illustrator of *The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain*, was named the winner of the 2008 Robert F. Sibert Medal for the most distinguished informational book for children published in 2007. In his deeply felt memoir set in mid-20th-century Prague, Sís contrasts the constrictive walls of the communist state with his personal quest for artistic freedom....

2008 Alex Awards

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/alex08.htm>]

YALSA has selected 10 adult books that will appeal to teen readers to

receive the 2008 Alex Awards. The awards, sponsored by the Margaret Alexander Edwards Trust, were announced January 14 at the Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia, and will appear with full annotations in the March 1 issue of Booklist and on Booklist Online....

Jazz [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/odyssey08.htm>]
Live Oak Media, producer of the audiobook Jazz, has won the first-ever Odyssey Award for Excellence in Audiobook Production. Jazz takes the readalong to new heights as James “D-Train” Williams and Vaneese Thomas perform the work of Walter Dean Myers. Original music accompanies each poem's performance, resulting in a rhythmic representation of mood and tone. Separate tracks for the selections and lively inclusion of a glossary and timeline create a dynamic audiobook; part poetry, part nonfiction, and wholly authentic....

Morales, Engle win Pura Belpré Awards
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/belpre08.htm>]
Yuyi Morales, illustrator of Los Gatos Black on Halloween, and Margarita Engle, author of The Poet Slave of Cuba: A Biography of Juan Francisco Manzano, are the 2008 winners of the Pura Belpré Illustrator Award and Author Award respectively, honoring Latino authors and illustrators whose work best portrays, affirms, and celebrates the Latino cultural experience in children's books....

Schneider Family Book Award winners
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/Schneider08.htm>]
Winners of the Schneider Family Book Award, which honors an author or illustrator for the artistic expression of the disability experience for child and adolescent audiences, were announced at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia. Kami and the Yaks by Andrea Stenn Stryer is the winner in the young children’s category; Reaching for Sun by Tracie Vaughn Zimmer is the winner in the middle-school category; and Hurt Go Happy by Ginny Rorby is the winner in the teen category....

Walter Dean Myers to deliver 2009 Arbuthnot Lecture
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/arbuthnot08.htm>]
Walter Dean Myers, widely acclaimed author of picture books, novels, poetry, and nonfiction for children and young adults, will deliver the 2009 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture. Each year, an individual of distinction in the field of children’s literature is chosen to write and deliver a lecture that will make a significant contribution to the world of children’s literature. The award is administered by ALSC....

Avery, Doty win Stonewall Book awards
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/stonewall08.htm>]
ALA’s Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table has announced the winners of the 2008 Stonewall Book Awards. Ellis Avery, author of The Teahouse Fire (Penguin Group) is the winner of the Barbara Gittings Book Award in Literature, and Mark Doty, author of Dog Years: A Memoir (HarperCollins) is the winner of the Israel Fishman Book Award for Nonfiction....

The 2008 BCALA Literary Awards

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/bcala08.htm>]
The Black Caucus of the American Library Association announced the winners of the BCALA Literary Awards January 14 during the ALA Midwinter Meeting. The awards recognize excellence in adult fiction and nonfiction by African-American authors published in 2007, including the work of a first novelist and a citation for Outstanding Contribution to Publishing. The winner in the fiction category is *New England White* by Stephen L. Carter (Knopf)....

American Indian Youth Literature Award winners
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/AILACA08.htm>]
The American Indian Library Association announced the recipients of the 2008 American Indian Youth Literature Awards at the ALA Midwinter Meeting January 14. *Crossing Bok Chitto* by Tim Tingle is the winner in the picture-book category; *Counting Coup* by Joseph Medicine Crow is the winner in the middle-school category; and *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie is the winner in the young adult category....

Laura Bush receives and presents National Medals
[<http://www.imls.gov/news/2008/011408.shtm>]
Institute of Museum and Library Services Director Anne-Imelda Radice bestowed on First Lady Laura Bush the first National Medal for Museum and Library Service at the White House January 14. Mrs. Bush deserves the newly minted medal for her tireless championing of the nation's museums and libraries, Radice said at a ceremony
[http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/index.jsp?ndmViewId=news_vie&newsId=20080114006095&newsLang=en] celebrating the 10 library and museum winners of the National Medals. The library winners were the Newberry Library, [<http://www.newberry.org/media/medalawarded.html>] Chicago (above); Georgetown County (S.C.) Library; the Kim Yerton branch of the Humboldt County Library in Hoopa, California; Memphis (Tenn.) Public Library and Information Center; and Ocean County (N.J.) Library....
Institute of Museum and Library Services, Business Wire, Newberry Library, Jan. 14

ALSC Distinguished Service Award [<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/?p=195>]
ALSC has selected Henrietta Smith as the winner of its 2008 Distinguished Service Award. Smith is professor emerita from the University of South Florida and is a nationally recognized expert in the field of multicultural children's literature....
ALSC Blog, Jan. 14

Call for Library Interior Design Awards
[http://www.contractmagazine.com/contract/industry_briefs/article_display.jsp?vnu_content_id=1003696491&imw=Y]
LAMA and the International Interior Design Association are accepting entries for the 2008 Library Interior Design Awards. The competition honors excellence in library interior design and recognizes outstanding aesthetics, design creativity, function, and client-objective satisfaction. The project must be submitted (PDF file [<http://www.contractmagazine.com/contract/images/pdf/2008IIDALibrary.pdf>]) by a licensed design professional; the deadline is March 31....
Contract magazine, Jan. 15

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[<http://www.queenslibrary.org/jobs>]
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Seen Online

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Dallas Morning News

[http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/localnews/stories/DN-libraryporn_15met.ART.State.Edition2.378295d.html] looks at porn in the library

[http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/localnews/stories/DN-libraryporn_15met.ART.State.Edition2.378295d.html]

At the Dallas central library, the practice of patrons viewing explicit internet material is commonplace, according to a Dallas Morning News analysis of web pages accessed on J. Erik Jonsson Central Library public computers and stored on the city's computer server. During a 45-minute period on December 19, for example, central library computer users accessed more than 5,200 web pages containing identifiably pornographic material. Top city officials said they'll immediately review the matter....

Dallas Morning News, Jan. 15

French National Library's erotic exhibition

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/16/arts/design/16eros.html>]

The lighting is bordello red, but the librarians insist that their X-rated exhibition is serious. "Hell at the Library, Eros in Secret," which opened at the Bibliothèque Nationale de France in December, offers a peek at its secret archive of erotic art, putting on display more than 350 sexually explicit literary works, manuscripts, engravings, lithographs, photographs, film clips, even calling cards and cardboard pop-ups....

New York Times, Jan. 16

MySpace to take new anti-predator steps

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/15/us/15myspace.html>]

MySpace, the country's largest social-networking website, has agreed with attorneys general of 49 states to take new steps to protect children from sexual predators on its site. It also agreed to lead a nationwide effort to develop technology to verify the ages and identities of internet users, officials announced January 14....

New York Times, Jan. 15

Detroit libraries balance patrons and homeless persons

[<http://www.detnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080114/METRO01/80114037/1410/METRO01>]

The battle between book-using patrons and the homeless heats up during the winter months as libraries across Metro Detroit offer free warm havens with bathrooms, internet access, and reading material. Libraries have always been tolerant of all users, but a variety of measures—from metal detectors to more stringent security guards to case-by-case personal hygiene policies—are being put in place to keep traditional

patrons and the homeless happy. Christina Nilsen offers another perspective

[<http://impagination.wordpress.com/2008/01/12/are-public-libraries-criminalizing-poor-people/>]...

Detroit News, Jan. 14; Impagination blog, Jan. 12

Vermont libraries: State is overdue

[<http://www.timesargus.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080112/NEWS01/801120357>]

For the second year in a row, Vermont librarians will lobby lawmakers for a \$1.6-million slice of the general budget to help fund the 180 public libraries across the state. Librarians and their supporters plan to rally at the Statehouse in Montpelier January 18 to build support for their effort, which would pay for 10% of library budgets next year. Vermont is one of a handful of states that does not directly give libraries state funds....

Barre-Montpelier (Vt.) Times Argus, Jan. 12

A library's economic value

[<http://www.journalgazette.net/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080108/EDIT07/801080312>]

An Indiana University report

[<http://www.stats.indiana.edu/topic/libraries.asp>] has confirmed the economic value of the state's public libraries: a total market value of goods and services estimated at \$629.9 million and a return of \$2.38 on each dollar of investment. The November report, by the Indiana Business Research Center at IU's Kelley School of Business, concludes that public libraries are a good value, serving as "an important channel for literacy, education, and information...."

Fort Wayne (Ind.) Journal Gazette, Jan. 8

Beauvoir curator finds 100-year-old artifact on eBay

[<http://www.sunherald.com/278/story/293377.html>]

A century-old flag immortalized in a 1905 postcard is back home at Beauvoir, the Biloxi museum estate of Jefferson Davis that once served as an early 20th-century old soldiers home. The postcard shows two veterans displaying a Confederate First National Flag in front of Beauvoir. The image proved that the flag (purchased on eBay) was made for the soldiers home, possibly by the Mississippi United Daughters of the Confederacy in 1903. What makes this story poignant, besides the return of missing history, is that Beauvoir lost at least 40% of its artifacts to Hurricane Katrina, including two flags....

Biloxi (Miss.) Sun Herald, Jan. 11

The truth about library/IT mergers

[<http://chronicle.com/weekly/v54/i19/19a00103.htm>] (subscription required)

Andrea L. Foster writes: "Adrift. Dysfunctional. Desperately needing a change. The adjectives sound like descriptions of a bad relationship, but about three years ago Xavier University, in Cincinnati, applied them to two of its departments. Both Xavier's library and its information-technology unit were in terrible shape. Xavier had hired four chief information officers in five years, its technology was obsolete, its library and IT staffs didn't talk to each other, and students had to jump through hoops to do online research."...

Chronicle of Higher Education, Jan. 18

Why J. K. Rowling should lose her lawsuit

[<http://www.slate.com/id/2181776/nav/tap3/>]

Tim Wu writes: “Once it dawned on media companies that fan sites are the kind of marketing that they usually pay hard cash for, they generally left the fans alone. But things turned sour in the fall, when the Harry Potter Lexicon website [<http://www.hp-lexicon.org/>] announced plans to publish a book version of its fan-written guide to the Potter world.

Author J. K. Rowling and publisher Warner Brothers have sued the Lexicon for copyright infringement, exposing the big unanswered question: Are fan guides actually illegal?”...

Slate, Jan. 10

Four Windsor libraries face closure

[<http://www.canada.com/windsorstar/news/story.html?id=bf30ce0f-ef34-4557-8a00-3241fad39d96&k=38429>]

The CEO of the Windsor (Ont.) Public Library said January 11 that four branches would have to close, Sunday hours slashed at the others, and 14 staff members laid off if the library is to meet city council-ordered expenditure cuts of \$800,000 (\$784,900 U.S.) per year. Brian Bell wouldn't specify which of the system's 10 branches are being considered for closure, pending a meeting of a newly constituted library board February 13....

Windsor (Ont.) Star, Jan. 12

Foundation offers Anchorage libraries millions

[<http://www.adn.com/news/alaska/story/265200.html>]

The Rasmuson Foundation is giving \$4.4 million to the Anchorage, Alaska, library system, including \$1 million to help build a new branch in Eagle River and almost \$2.5 million to help pay for a new roof and other renovations at the main Loussac Library. The donation—one of the largest ever given by the Rasmuson Foundation—is part of a \$20-million initiative to pump life into the library system, which is growing for the first time since budget cuts gutted branch libraries in 1988....

Anchorage (Alaska) Daily News, Jan. 15

Stolen maps return to Boston

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/01/02/stolen_rare_maps_find_their_way_back_to_librarys_collection/]

More than 30 rare maps stolen from the Boston Public Library by a Martha's Vineyard map dealer were returned to the library in 2007, library president Bernard Margolis said, part of the conclusion of an international scandal that rocked the staid world of map collecting. Not all has been resolved, however. More than 30 other missing maps, losses that have not been linked to confessed map thief E. Forbes Smiley III, have yet to be recovered....

Boston Globe, Jan. 2

Mona Lisa's identity confirmed in German library

[<http://www.spiegel.de/international/europe/0,1518,528664,00.html>]

The enigmatic smiling woman painted by Leonardo da Vinci in the 16th century has for long been known simply as the “Mona Lisa.” Now a manuscript hidden away in a German library may have unlocked the key to

her real name. Heidelberg University library confirmed on January 11 a German radio report that its researchers had discovered the true identity of the model in the famous portrait. She was indeed Lisa Gherardini, the wife of a wealthy Florentine merchant, Francesco del Giocondo....
Der Spiegel, Jan. 15

Burns was a Scot after all, LC admits
[http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/us_and_americas/article3174884.ece]

The literary world was hailing a remarkable coup January 11 after the Library of Congress agreed to reverse a decision to classify all Scottish writers under the general heading of English. In an email sent to the National Library of Scotland and the British Library, LC announced: "After reviewing thoughtful comments received from several correspondents, the Library of Congress will be reinstating headings for Scottish literature, Scottish poetry, and similar headings."...
The Times (U.K.), Jan. 12

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[<http://www.maintainITproject.org>]
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Tech Talk

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Top Tech Trends discussed [<http://laurenpressley.com/library/?p=462>]
Lauren Pressley went to the LITA Top Technology Trends Committee meeting at Midwinter where members offered suggestions on what the major tech news will be this year. She summarizes the discussion points: "Solid state hard drives and durable, sealed keyboards; security and reliability concerns with online services; aesthetics in hardware and buildings; cloud computing and green computing." Eric Lease Morgan, [<http://litablog.org/2008/01/07/top-technology-trends-ala-mid-winter-2008/>]
Karen Schneider, [<http://freerangelibrarian.com/2008/01/09/top-technology-trends-ala-midwinter-2008/>] and Sarah Houghton-Jan [<http://librarianinblack.typepad.com/librarianinblack/2008/01/sarah-houghton.html>] also chimed in....
Lauren's Library Blog, Jan. 13, LITA Blog, Jan. 7; Free Range Librarian, Jan. 9; LibrarianInBlack, Jan. 11

How to become a YouTube star
[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,1759,2247673,00.asp>]
Eric Griffith writes: "What kind of equipment should you use to film with and edit your footage? Where do you upload the completed work? How do you compress it so it plays back smoothly and clearly? How do you get the masses to watch it? We didn't know either. So we asked the pros making near-TV-quality video blogs and online programs getting hundreds of thousands of plays."...
PC Magazine, Jan. 1

Online photo sharing in plain English
[<http://www.commoncraft.com/photosharing>]

Lee LeFever of Common Craft has created a short video (2:50) that demonstrates the usefulness of saving and sharing your digital photos online: “Thankfully, online photo sharing services make it easy to back up your photos and share them with the world. If you want to encourage your friends or family to start sharing photos online, point them here.”...

Common Craft, Jan. 9

Wikia’s new social search engine

[<http://newsbreaks.infotoday.com/nbReader.asp?ArticleId=40606>]

Woody Evans writes: “Wikia, [<http://www.wikia.com>] the for-profit cousin of the Wikimedia Foundation, launched the alpha release of its new search engine, Search Wikia, [<http://alpha.search.wikia.com/>] January 7. Search Wikia is branded as a social search engine, significantly different from the big names in search, such as Google and Ask.com. Wikia is hoping that the open and participatory model will make Search Wikia the place to go for search results of higher quality.”...

NewsBreaks, Jan. 14

Seven browser-testing services

[<http://webworkerdaily.com/2008/01/07/is-your-html-good-enough-7-browser-testing-services/>]

Mike Gunderloy writes: “Whether it’s designing web applications, buffing up other people’s style sheets, or simply building web pages, many of us are actively engaged in contributing to the world-wide sprawl. But it can be tough to build pages that work for all viewers. Sooner or later, you’ll need to deal with the issue of different browsers showing your lovely pages in different ways.”...

Web Worker Daily, Jan. 7

Toshiba cuts HD DVD player prices

[http://www.news.com/8301-10784_3-9849870-7.html]

Toshiba may have taken a huge hit recently, but the HD DVD supporter is striking back. Barely a week after Warner Brothers announced [http://crave.cnet.com/8301-1_105-9840585-1.html] it would no longer put out movies on the HD DVD format, of which Toshiba is a primary supporter, the company announced it is lowering the prices on all three models of next-generation DVD players. The entry-level model, the HD-A3, now goes for \$150, the HD-A30 for \$200, and the HD-A35 for \$300. That’s about \$150 to \$200 worth of discounts on all models....

C|Net News Blog, Jan. 14

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[mailto:homeworkhappenings@tutor.com]
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Actions & Answers

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Final report of the LC Working Group

[<http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/news/lcwg-ontherecord-jan08-final.pdf>] (PDF file)

The Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic

Control has issued its final report. Among its recommendations: “Position our technology for the future by recognizing that the World Wide Web is both our technology platform and the appropriate platform for the delivery of our standards. Recognize that people are not the only users of the data we produce in the name of bibliographic control, but so too are machine applications that interact with those data in a variety of ways.”...

Library of Congress, Jan. 9

My OpenCongress network

[<http://www.opencongress.org/articles/view/386-Announcing-My-OpenCongress-Network-Comment-and-Vote-on-Congress>]

Donny Shaw writes: “As Congress returns to start a new session, OpenCongress announces a major update that will put all the bills and votes at your fingertips. It’s never been easier to track what’s happening with your government. Now you can build a personal profile on OpenCongress of the bills and people you’re tracking, network with other users, comment and vote on bills, and much more. To get started, create your own My OpenCongress

[<http://www.opencongress.org/register>] profile. It’s free and only takes a minute.”...

OpenCongress, Jan. 14

EPA move to modernize libraries spurs concern

[<http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0108/011508tdpm1.htm>]

In response to a congressional mandate that the Environmental Protection Agency restore its closed libraries, the agency said it will proceed with modernizing its library network, leading some people to believe the EPA will not resume physical library operations. Molly O’Neill, assistant administrator for EPA’s Office of Environmental Information, issued a statement January 14 that said, “EPA continues to modernize its library network to enhance access to information for EPA employees and the public.”...

Government Executive, Jan. 15

15 publishing trends to watch

[<http://www.publishersweekly.com/article/CA6516743.html>]

Mike Shatzkin writes: “Some of the changes I envision do call for fundamental changes in how the business operates. Consumer media in the 20th century tended to be horizontal and format-specific. The New York Times and Random House define ‘horizontal’; They publish across all interests and markets. The internet will drive 21st-century publishing enterprises to be more like what professional publishing has always been: highly vertical and format-agnostic.”...

Publishers Weekly, Jan. 7

San Francisco Public Library opens remodeled first floor

[http://sfpl.lib.ca.us/news/firstfloor_reopens.htm]

The extensive renovation of the Main’s first floor has been completed and was officially unveiled at a January 16 celebration. The first floor renovation project resulted in an additional 6,000 square feet of publicly accessible space—an area that was previously used for staff functions. It has also tripled the amount of browseable shelf space that formerly housed the fiction collection....

San Francisco Public Library, Jan. 16

UW to conduct study on computers in libraries

[<http://www.ims.gov/news/2008/011108.shtm>]

The University of Washington Information School, working with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Urban Institute, will conduct a national study on the social, economic, personal, and professional value of free access to computers at public libraries. The project will be carried out with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Jan. 11

LC to partner with Microsoft to enhance visitor experience

[<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2008/08-009.html>]

The Library of Congress and Microsoft have signed a cooperative agreement that will change the way library visitors experience history. The joint technology initiative will electronically deliver LC's immense collection of historical artifacts to patrons visiting its Thomas Jefferson Building in Washington, D.C., and will allow immersive interactive experiences that will bring the institution's vast historical collections and exhibits to life—onsite and online—through the upcoming myloc.gov website....

Library of Congress, Jan. 10

SLA announces green initiative

[<http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/pressroom/pressrelease/08pr/pr2801.cfm>]

The Special Libraries Association will begin efforts to become an environmentally sensitive organization at the membership, board, volunteer leadership, and staff level. SLA Headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia, has already begun implementing green practices in its day-to-day operations, such as eliminating unnecessary printing of documents and replacing disposable cups and utensils with flatware and ceramic coffee mugs and dinnerware. Additionally SLA has committed to purchasing carbon credits to offset all staff travel for events throughout the year....

Special Libraries Association, Jan. 11

Wondertooneel der Nature

[<http://bibliodyyssey.blogspot.com/2008/01/wondertooneel-der-nature.html>]

The collection obsession of Early Modern Europe that saw people stocking cabinets of curiosities (wunderkammer or rariteitenkabinet) with obscure and exotic trinkets and specimens from the worlds of artificialia and naturalia, emerged in Holland under a local profile of influences. Unlike most of their European counterparts, the Dutch Republic lacked both a royal court or any sizeable aristocracy, so collecting was a hobby cultivated by regular citizens....

BibliOdyssey, Jan. 15

Academic library blogs [<http://walt.lishost.org/?p=685>]

Walt Crawford has written a book on academic library blogs to accompany his recent opus on public library blogs. He writes: "The two books make a great combination, offering an extensive look at library blogging that should be useful to any library considering blogs for the first time or wishing to fine-tune or expand current offerings."...

Walt at Random blog, Jan. 15

IMLS launches LSTA study [<http://www.imls.gov/news/2008/011008.shtm>]
The Institute of Museum and Library Services has launched a study of the economic, social, educational, and cultural value of its largest grant program, Library Grants to States, in order to better understand the impact and direction of this federally funded program. In December, IMLS selected Himmel and Wilson, a library consulting firm, to conduct a trends analysis of the Library Grants to States program from 2002 to 2006....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Jan. 10

PALINET launches Leadership Network

[<http://www.palinet.org/documents/press/PressReleasePLN2008.pdf>]
(PDF file)

PALINET has launched the PALINET Leadership Network, [http://pln.palinet.org/wiki/index.php/PLN_Home] a wiki designed to help current and future library leaders communicate, coordinate, find resources, and share information. Features include articles and forums on cutting-edge library topics including funding, marketing, technology, and services....

PALINET, Jan. 14

USC Shoah Foundation Institute offers new resources

[<http://app.e2ma.net/app/view:CampaignPublic/id:2297.809924051/rid:f5d509248488500ced96a7767b38c2db>]

The University of Southern California's Shoah Foundation Institute has launched a newly designed website [<http://college.usc.edu/vhi/>] that contains free and unique online resources for teachers and librarians, including video and lesson suggestions. Segments for the Classroom [<http://e2ma.net/go/809924051/701952/25016231/goto:http://www.college.usc.edu/vhi/segmentsfortheclassroom>] is a set of seven clip reels (six in English and one in Spanish), each of which includes testimony from one or more Holocaust survivors, that educators can download and incorporate into their own classroom lessons....

USC Shoah Foundation Institute

The world of bookmarks [<http://www.miragebookmark.ch/>]

Mirage Bookmarks in Riehen, Switzerland, maintains a website that offers a history [http://www.miragebookmark.ch/wb_history.htm] of bookmarks, an online bookmark exhibition,

[http://www.miragebookmark.ch/be_0_exhibition.htm] bookmark links, [http://www.miragebookmark.ch/wb_0_directory.htm] and quotes [http://www.miragebookmark.ch/wb_bookmark_quotes.htm] about bookmarks.

Did you know that an illuminated 13th-century manuscript, *Historia Scholastica*, written by Petrus Comestor and owned by the British Library, bears an interesting and rare bookmark? One vellum page of the manuscript is cut on its edge vertically to form a long tab which is tucked through a slit on the higher part of the edge, forming a practical bookmark....

Mirage Bookmarks

AACR2: The Movie trailer [<http://aacr2movie.wordpress.com/>]

Two savvy catalogers with varying bibliophilosophies (Lucas Maxwell as Jim Stacks, and Jason Woloski as Mark Wreckards) join up to save the

world from the shelf-shuffling Dr. Latefees (David Ross) in this zany video (2:35). A Larry Rakow production (featuring Dalhousie University grads), complete with exclusive clips and outtakes....

AACR2: The Movie

[<http://www.j-newvoices.org/>]

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/darienlibrary/2189662798/in/pool-midwinter08/>

]

Midwinter 2008 flickr photos

[<http://www.flickr.com/groups/midwinter08/pool/>]

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2487]

This practical guidebook by Adrienne Furness seeks to bridge the gap between librarians and homeschoolers in these two ways: Who are homeschoolers and how can I help them practically? *Helping Homeschoolers in the Library*

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2487] offers a comprehensive discussion of resources to serve the diverse homeschooling population. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue

January/February 2008

From Hoops to Ink: An Interview with Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

Welcome to Philly

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Librarians in the Jury Box

Putting Students First

Career Leads from

[<http://joblist.ala.org/>]

Political Papers Archivist,

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=9206>] New Mexico State University Library, Las Cruces. Arranges, describes, and makes physically and electronically accessible the political and congressional papers of the department; provides reference and outreach services to patrons and researchers; supervises staff; and

provides training on aspects of the use of the political and congressional collections....

@ More jobs [<http://joblist.ala.org/>]...

Digital Library of the Week

[<http://digital.library.northwestern.edu/inu-tmenu/tmenu-PAWA036.html>]

The Northwestern University Transportation Library's Menu Collection [<http://www.library.northwestern.edu/transportation/digital-collections/menus/about.html>] currently includes more than 400 menus from 54 national and international airline carriers, cruise ships, and railroad companies, with coverage from 1929 to the present. U.S. airlines predominate, but European, Asian, African, Australasian, and South American companies are also represented, with particular strength from the 1960s to the late 1980s. The collection began as a gift from Northwestern alumnus George M. Foster who donated his extensive menu collection to the Transportation Library in 1997, where it has since been expanded from other sources. Digitization of the menus was performed according to Northwestern University Library's established standards for digital imaging: 600 dpi uncompressed TIFF 24-bit color for archival masters and JPEG2000 for delivery.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this AL Direct feature? Tell us about it. [<mailto:aldirect@ala.org>]

Public Perception How the World Sees Us

"Everything that's happened to me since 1956 is all your fault—I hope you're proud of yourselves."

?Author Mary Doria Russell (The Sparrow), telling the audience at the Midwinter Meeting that librarians were responsible for her intense reading habits and ultimately her career as an author, Jan. 11.

[<http://www.techsource.ala.org/ltr/changing-the-way-we-work.html>]

In Changing the Way We Work, [<http://www.techsource.ala.org/ltr/changing-the-way-we-work.html>] the latest issue of Library Technology Reports (now eight issues per year), Michelle Boule reports on technology-enhanced work from several library or library-related projects, including the open-source, software-based

integrated library system known as PINES, conducted by the Georgia Public Library Service; and LibraryFind, a federated-search tool built by Oregon State University Libraries.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. One of the seniors at my high school wants to do his final research paper on the history of the library card. Where do we start?

A. Definitely check your interlibrary loan region, particularly any nearby college libraries, for the 1955 ALA publication, *Charging Systems*, [<http://worldcat.org/oclc/710649>] by Helen Thornton Geer, which explains John Cotton Dana's role in creating the model for modern library circulation in about 1900, along with the machine based on that model that was introduced by the Gaylord Brothers in 1932. An overview of the history of library cards as well as insight into some of the more frequently asked questions about them appears at *Circulation* [<http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Circulation>]. Also see *Library Cards for Children* [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Library_Cards_for_Children]. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Library_Card_History]....

@ The ALA Librarian [<mailto:AskTheLibrarian@ala.org>] welcomes your questions.

Calendar

Jan. 25:
Bibliographical Society of America, [<http://www.bibsocamer.org/>] Annual Meeting, Hemmerdinger Hall, New York University.

Jan. 30–
Feb. 2:
Ontario Library Association,
[http://www.accessola.com/ola/bins/content_page.asp?cid=5] Super Conference, Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

Feb. 14:
“Science Sleuthing: How to Use Detectives and Mysteries to Lure Kids to Libraries and Spur Interest in Science,”
[<http://www.raabassociates.com/webinars.htm>] one-hour web seminar at 11 a.m. Eastern time, led by Elizabeth Rusch, sponsored by Raab Associates. [<mailto:info@raabassociates.com>]

Feb. 17–24:

Music Library Association, [<http://www.trincoll.edu/mla2008/>] Annual Meeting, Newport, Rhode Island.

Feb. 24–26:

National Federation of Advanced Information Services, [http://www.nfais.org/events/event_details.cfm?id=44] Annual Conference, Park Hyatt Philadelphia.

Mar. 6–7:

WebWise Conference on Libraries and Museums in the Digital World, [<http://webwise2008.fcla.edu/>] Miami Beach Convention Center.

Mar. 12–16:

Visual Resources Association, [<http://www.vraweb.org/conferences/sandiego2008/index.html>] Annual Conference, Westin San Diego at Emerald Plaza.

Mar. 16–18:

Association of Information and Dissemination Centers, [<http://www.asidic.org/meetings/spring08.htm>] Spring Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Mar. 25–28:

Catholic Library Association, [<http://www.cathla.org/events.php>] Annual Convention, Indianapolis.

Apr. 10–14:

American Society for Information Science and Technology, [<http://www.iasummit.org/2008/>] Information Architecture Summit, Miami. “Experiencing Information.”

Apr. 30–

May 3:

American Society of Indexers, [<http://www.asindexing.org/site/conferences/conf2008/index.shtml>] Annual Meeting, Warwick Hotel, Denver.

May 1–5:

Art Libraries Society of North America, [<http://arlisna-mw.lib.byu.edu/denver2008/>] Annual Conference, Denver.

May 4–8:

International Reading Association, [<http://www.reading.org/association/meetings/annual.html>] Annual Convention, Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta.

May 6–9:

Substance Abuse Librarians and Information Specialists, [<http://salis.org/conference/conference.html>] Annual Conference, Seattle.

May 13–16:

Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives, [<http://www.ssc.uwo.ca/assoc/acml/acmla.html>] Annual Conference,

University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

May 16–21:

Medical Library Association, [<http://www.mlanet.org/am/am2008/>] Annual Meeting, Chicago.

May 21–24:

Canadian Library Association,
[<http://www.cla.ca/conference/2008/index.htm>] Annual Conference,
Vancouver, British Columbia.

May 29–

June 1:

BookExpo America, [<http://www.bookweb.org/events/bea>] Los Angeles Convention Center.

June 4-6:

Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries,
[<http://www.cbhl.net/meetings/meetings.htm>] Annual Meeting, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

June 5-8:

North American Serials Interest Group,
[<http://nasig.org/conference/2008/>] Annual Conference, Tapatio Cliffs Resort, Phoenix, Arizona.

June 9–12:

Association of Christian Librarians, [<http://www.acl.org/conference.cfm>]
Annual Conference, Eastern Nazarene College, Quincy, Massachusetts.

June 10–12:

Northeast Document Conservation Center,
[<http://www.nedcc.org/about/news.ddfl.php>] “Digital Directions:
Fundamentals of Creating and Managing Digital Collections (The New School
for Scanning),” Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront, Jacksonville,
Florida. Contact: Julie Martin Carlson. [<mailto:jcarlson@nedcc.org>]

June 15–18:

Special Libraries Association,
[<http://www.sla.org/content/Events/conference/ac2008/index.cfm>] Annual
Conference, Seattle.

June 22–25:

Association of Jewish Libraries,
[<http://www.jewishlibraries.org/ajlweb/conventions/convention2008.htm>]
Annual Convention, Marriott Cleveland East.

June 25–28:

American Theological Library Association,
[http://www.atla.com/member/conference/conf_2008/conference_home.html]
Annual Conference, St. Paul University, Ottawa, Ontario.

June 26–

July 2:

American Library Association,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/home.htm>]
Annual Conference, Anaheim, California.

July 12–15:
American Association of Law Libraries, [<http://www.aallnet.org/events/>]
Annual Meeting, Portland, Oregon.

July 20–22:
Church and Synagogue Library Association,
[<http://cslainfo.org/conference.html>] National Conference, Greenville,
South Carolina.

@ More [<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/calendar/calendar.cfm>]...

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American Libraries Direct

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american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | January 23, 2008

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SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

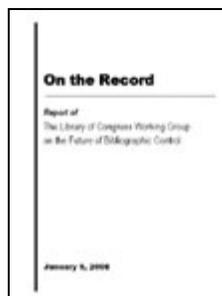
- ✓ Teacher-selected Content
- ✓ 71 Subjects – Aligned to Curriculum
- ✓ 3 Million High-quality Sites Searchable



U.S. & World News

[LC Working Group issues final report on bibliographic futures](#)

A Library of Congress task force has completed its mission to look at the future of cataloging and other forms of bibliographic control and recommend steps on how the library community can continue to provide effective access in a changing technological world. The LC Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control released *On the Record* ([PDF file](#)), its 44-page final report, January 9 after responding to suggestions from a wide range of organizations and individuals who read a draft version issued November 30....



[Library of Congress places 3,000 photos on Flickr](#)

The Library of Congress announced January 16 that it has teamed with the photo-sharing website Flickr to broaden public access to the 14 million photographs and other visual items in LC's collections. The pilot project is beginning with 3,000 photos from two of the library's most popular collections—the George Grantham Bain Collection, featuring the photographic files of one of America's earliest news picture agencies, and Farm Security Administration/Office of War Information photos of rural and farm life and World War II mobilization taken between 1939 and 1944—that have been placed in an area of Flickr designated as [The Commons](#)....



[West Virginia funding flap flops back to court](#)

The boards of the Kanawha County (W.Va.) Schools and the Kanawha County Library were back before the state Supreme Court in early January to revisit a critical funding issue believed to have been resolved last spring: Should boards of education in the state's nine largest counties be required to share a percentage of their state aid with county libraries?...

[Protesting library workers shut down Victoria PL for three days](#)

Members of the Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 410 did not report to work for three days, effectively closing the nine branches of



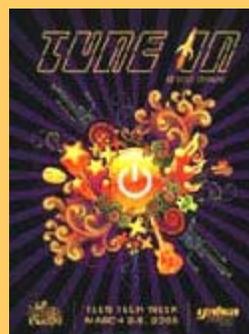
2008 Request for Proposals
NEW VOICES

Will fund the start-up of 10 community news ventures in 2008. Each may receive up to \$17,000 in grants. Apply at: www.j-newvoices.org
Due: Feb. 20, 2008

Administered by J-Lab with funding from John S. and James L. Knight Foundation



[ALA Annual Conference](#) is in Anaheim, California, June 26–July 2. [Registration](#) and [housing](#) are now open.



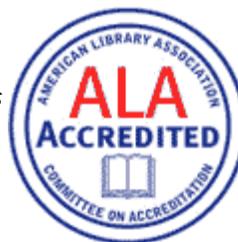
Greater Victoria (B.C.) Public Library January 16, 18, and 21, in the latest skirmish in a labor dispute over pay equity. The dispute stems from a contract clause saying that library positions should be compared with equivalent city positions. The union argues that the comparison should refer to jobs with similar education and training requirements, while management says that it applies to strictly equivalent positions, such as a librarian in the city archives....



ALA News

[Council adopts revised accreditation standards](#)

ALA Council adopted a revision of the 1992 *Standards for Accreditation of Master's Programs in Library and Information Studies* on January 15 at the Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia. The revision places stronger emphasis on systematic planning, student learning outcomes, assessment, and diversity, tying the standards directly to ALA policies on diversity....



[The American Dream Starts @ your library grants](#)

ALA is requesting proposals for a new grant titled "The American Dream Starts @ your library." The grant, funded by the Dollar General Foundation, seeks to help public libraries increase their literacy services to adult English-language learners. The grant will give 15 libraries a one-time award of \$5,000 each. The deadline for submitting an [online application](#) is January 31....

[Post-conference info from Midwinter 2008](#)

ALA has started a wiki page for [Handouts, Podcasts, and other Post-Midwinter Information](#) where you can post handouts, presentations, notes, minutes, and whatever else your committee or unit distributed during your meetings. Registered users can upload a 2MB or less file to the wiki and then link to it from that page. Alternatively, If you already have files posted elsewhere, please link to them from the wiki....

ALA Marginalia, Jan. 16

AL Focus

[FBI whistleblower answers questions at Midwinter](#)

Despite a warning from his superiors, FBI Special Agent Bassem Youssef answered questions at a January 12 session of the ALA Midwinter Meeting. In 2002, Youssef blew the whistle to Congress and the director of the FBI that discriminatory practices within the Bureau were undermining the effectiveness of America's counterterrorism efforts. In this video (7:41), Youssef and his attorney Stephen M. Kohn discuss the case, talk about the abuse of National Security Letters following the



[Teen Tech Week](#) will take place March 2-8. Help get ready with this [Tune In @ your library poster](#) that lets the teens in your community know that your space is the place to go for such resources as DVDs, databases, audiobooks, and electronic games. **NEW!** From ALA Graphics.

In this issue

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To vote in the ALA spring elections, you must [renew](#)

passage of the Patriot Act, and speak of Abu Ghraib prison as an example of the U.S. failure to understand Middle Eastern culture. The ALA Washington Office has uploaded the [complete session](#)...

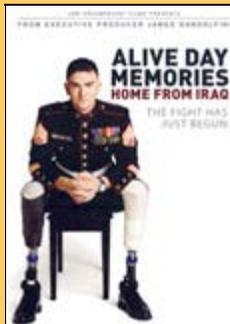
Booklist

ONLINE

Featured review: Media

Alive Day Memories: Home from Iraq. Oct. 2007. 56 min. HBO, DVD (978-0-7831-5708-5).

According to this powerful documentary, 90% of those wounded in the war in Iraq survive their injuries, with nearly 50% of the wounded sustaining such life-altering traumas as lost limbs, severe head injuries, blindness, and post-traumatic stress disorder. The injured vets clearly remember their "Alive Day," the day of their injury and subsequent survival. Sitting on a stark stage, 10 veterans (all are in their 20s except for one) are interviewed individually by actor James Gandolfini (*The Sopranos*), who sits with his back to the camera. He probes the men and women about their reasons for enlisting, the circumstances surrounding their wounds, challenges they face, and plans for the future....



Book Group Buzz

Addressing the growing interest expressed by librarians, book group participants, publishers, authors, and general readers in what's going on in (and around) book groups for adults and youth, Booklist Online has launched a one-stop resource, [Book Group Buzz](#). This blog is the newest online gathering place for anyone involved with, or interested in, book groups. "We were looking for a group of bloggers who could address book group needs from a variety of perspectives and experience," said Booklist Online Managing Editor Mary Ellen Quinn....



@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....

Awards

Best books for young adults

YALSA has announced its 2008 list of Best Books for Young Adults. The [85 books](#), drawn from 216 official nominations, are recommended for those ages 12–18 and meet the criteria of both quality literature and appealing reading for teens....

Popular paperbacks for young adults

YALSA's Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults Committee has announced its 2008 selections. This year, the committee produced [four lists](#) of selected titles in the following topics: Sex Is...; What Makes a Family?;

your ALA membership
by January 31.

Career Leads from JobLIST

Director, Morris (Minn.) Public Library. The successful candidate will engage in planning and budgeting, provide 21st-century vision and leadership, set goals, and oversee and develop traditional library services. The director must be able to balance existing library services and resources with emerging technologies, while meeting the needs of this community. Salary: \$50,000–\$79,999....

@ [More jobs...](#)



Literature for All of Us is a professional literacy organization that brings the rewards of reading and writing through book group discussions to young people in underserved neighborhoods in the Chicago metropolitan area. This winter, as a reader in the Literature for All of Us **"Reach for the Stars! Read-A-Thon"** from February 1 through March 31, you can support the group's efforts by asking your family members and

Magic in the Real World; and Anyone Can Play....

[Quick Picks for reluctant young adult readers](#)

YALSA has announced its 2008 Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers selection list. The [list](#) recommends books that teens, ages 12–18, will pick up on their own and read for pleasure; it is geared to the teenager who, for whatever reason, does not like to read. "Goths, gangs, rappers, and vamps reigned supreme on this year's list," said H. Jack Martin, committee chair....

[Great graphic novels for teens](#)

YALSA has announced its 2008 Great Graphic Novels for Teens list. The books, recommended for those ages 12–18, meet the criteria of both quality literature and appealing reading for teens. The [list](#) of 43 titles is drawn from 138 official nominations....

[Audiobooks for young adults](#)

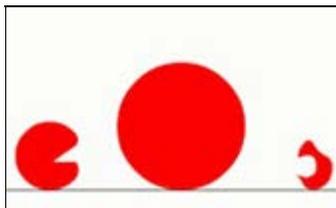
YALSA has announced its 2008 Selected Audiobook list for ages 12–18. This year's [list](#) features a wide range of recordings, with 21 fiction titles and one nonfiction title representing diverse genres and styles, including fantasy, historical fiction, and adventure....

[Selected DVDs and videos for young adults](#)

YALSA has announced its 2008 Selected DVDs and Videos for Young Adults list. The [list](#) recognizes productions for technical merit, content, and interest to young adults ages 12–18. Eight films were chosen, among them *The Grace Lee Project*, *Juvies*, and *The Guarantee*....

[First annual Sparky Awards](#)

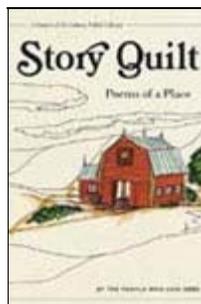
The Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC) announced the winners of the first Sparky Awards January 22. The contest called on entrants to imaginatively illustrate in a short video the value of sharing ideas and information of all kinds. In first place was [Share](#) (0:53), written and directed by Habib Yazdi, a senior communication studies major at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill....



Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition, Jan. 22

[Joseph F. Schubert Library Excellence Award](#)

The 2007 Schubert award, administered by the New York State Regents Advisory Council on Libraries and funded by EBSCO Information Services, has been presented to the Galway (N.Y.) Public Library for its Story Quilt project. The library gathered stories from the community and turned them into one-page narrative poems that captured the images, people, and times of the town. A book featuring the 216 poems was published in April 2007....



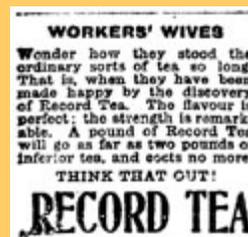
New York State Regents Advisory Council on Libraries, Dec. 17

[George W. Bush Presidential Library design contest](#)

The *Chronicle of Higher Education* is looking for serious, humorous, or adventurous designs for the Bush Library, drawn as if you'd sat down next to the president and sketched out your idea on a scrap piece of White House stationery. All submissions should be on the back of a size-10 envelope. The winning designer will win a brand new iPod

friends to sponsor you with a donation for every page or book you read (you choose). [Start](#) by creating a web page through Firstgiving, an online fundraising service.

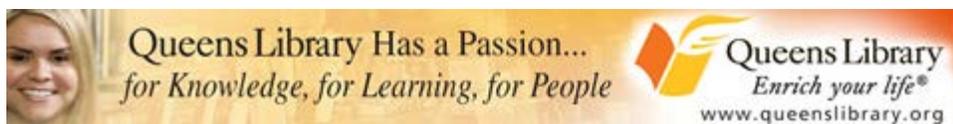
Digital Library of the Week



[Papers Past](#) contains more than one million pages of digitized New Zealand newspapers and periodicals. Developed by the National Library of New Zealand in Wellington, the collection covers the years 1840 to 1915 and includes publications from all regions of the country. In 2006–2007, digital versions of the *Nelson Examiner and New Zealand Chronicle*, *Hawera and Normanby Star*, and the *North Otago Times* were added. The newspapers in Papers Past are a good source of information about the social and political events of the times. Researchers of family history and genealogy will find the shipping news, births, deaths, and marriages of interest. Advertising also features strongly.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#)

Touch. The deadline is February 1....
Chronicle of Higher Education



Seen Online

[More on Washington's school library crisis](#)

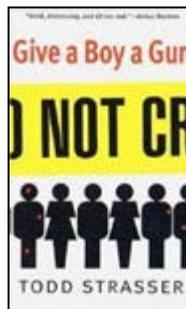
Once considered a mainstay of the school library, reading time could be in danger at some schools in Washington State, educators say. To adapt to state budgets, Southeast King County districts are overhauling how they run their libraries and how much money goes into library programs. Ideally, officials from all Southeast districts say they would keep a full-time librarian at every school, but rising transportation costs and state-mandated initiatives have forced districts to make tough decisions....

Seattle Times, Jan. 20

[School library book outrages aunt](#)

Kathryn Ann Frangos was upset when her 13-year-old nephew pulled *Give a Boy a Gun*, a tale of school violence, from the shelves of the Bangor Area (Pa.) Middle School. Author Todd Strasser's book is a story of two boys who avenge their social estrangement by holding classmates and teachers hostage at a school dance. Although they chose to retain it, the school board was prompted by Frangos's complaint to examine the way it chooses and keeps books at its school libraries....

Easton (Pa.) Express-Times, Jan. 22



[Flood damages Montana State library books](#)

Subzero weather caused a water line to freeze and then burst early on January 22 in Montana State University's Renne Library, flooding the building with thousands of gallons of water and damaging some of the library's most valuable books. The water flowed from the third floor to the Merrill G. Burlingame Special Collections department on the second floor, where hundreds of rare books were damaged. Library Dean Tamara Miller estimated 80–90% of them could be salvaged....

Bozeman (Mont.) Daily Chronicle, Jan. 23

[Disputed Iraqi archive finds a home at the Hoover Institution](#)

Two shipping containers' worth of records created by Iraq's Baath Party that have been stored on an American naval facility for the past 21 months are about to find a new home at the Hoover Institution, a conservative think tank and library affiliated with Stanford University. The deal, signed January 21, came despite recent impassioned calls from Iraqi National Librarian Saad Eskander for the collection's immediate repatriation to Baghdad....

Chronicle of Higher Education, Jan. 23

[Arkansas branch must improve its circulation or close](#)

The Greenland branch of the Washington County (Ark.) Library System has 11 months to prove it's earning its funding. The library board

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

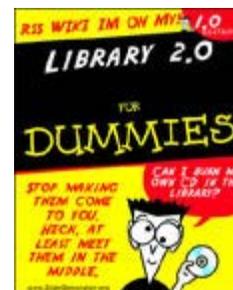
"Ah yes, the libraries of Erie County. Like aging beauty queens, they trudge forward, bedraggled and vulnerable, years of glory behind them—and badly in need of reinvention."

—Columnist Christy Vogel looks forward to the revitalization of the Buffalo and Erie County (N.Y.) Public Library, in "Libraries Aim to Turn a New Page," *Buffalo News*. Jan. 21.



[Watch the January 15 segment](#) of the *Today* show that featured ALA President Loriene Roy, Caldecott winner Brian Selznick, and Newbery winner Laura Amy Schlitz.

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. What is this Library 2.0 that I keep reading and

unanimously decided January 17 to give the faltering branch a year to improve its circulation, which has been down considerably from the past two years. It must also provide progress reports every three months, show an increase in patronage and circulation, and establish a Friends group as a nonprofit organization....

Fayetteville *Northwest Arkansas Times*, Jan. 18

[TV movie features haunted Evansville library](#)

A local writer who grew up hearing about the legend of a shadowy Grey Lady said to haunt the Willard Library (right) in Evansville, Indiana, used that tale as the inspiration for a screenplay that's been turned into a new television movie. Rod Spence's *The Good Witch*, a two-hour movie set in a small town, premiered January 19 on the Hallmark Channel. It will air again January 25 and 31....

Indianapolis Star, Jan. 20



[Dance your fines away at Milford](#)

The Wadleigh Memorial Library in Milford, New Hampshire, has added video games to the library programs to attract teens and to boost circulation, said Circulation Assistant Katie Spofford. In fact, the library will waive fines on overdue books for anyone who can beat her at Dance Dance Revolution during Patron Appreciation Day on January 31. Spofford is studying for her MLS with an emphasis on children and young adults....

Milford (N.H.) Cabinet Press, Jan. 18

[Area eccentric reads entire book](#) (satire)

Sitting in a quiet downtown diner, Greenwood (Ind.) hospital administrator Philip Meyer looks as normal and well-adjusted as can be. Yet, there's more to this 27-year-old than first meets the eye: Meyer has recently finished reading a book. Yes, the whole thing. Meyer, who never once jumped ahead to see what would happen and avoided skimming large passages of text in search of pictures, first began his oddball feat a week ago....

The Onion, Jan. 19

[Survey shows U.K. libraries spending more](#)

With nearly 300 million visits to England's public libraries in 2007, more than 10 million new books added to the stock, and 17% increased spending, libraries in the U.K. still must make better use of funds, improve customer service, and boost usage, according to a report released January 14. The definitive annual library statistics, published by CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) paint a picture of changing trends in public library usage....

Museums, Libraries, and Archives Council News, Jan. 14

[Library bags save the world in Norfolk](#)

The average adult will go through an estimated 300 plastic bags in 2008, but not the smart shoppers in Norfolk, England, who have snapped up special bags sold in the county's libraries. More than 20,000 "Love Your Library" jute bags have been sold in Norfolk since they were introduced last year as an alternative to environmentally damaging plastic carrier bags. The Norfolk and Norwich Millennium Library was the [busiest](#) library in England in 2007, with more than 1.5 million visits....



hearing about? What implications does it have for school and other types of libraries?

A. There are many definitions of Library 2.0. Simply put, it is the ongoing response to Web 2.0, a participatory, networked, interactive, and collaborative community of web users. The term "Web 2.0" was introduced by [O'Reilly Media](#) in 2004 as shorthand for a second generation of web applications that incorporated increasing amounts of social interaction and online collaboration. Similarly, "Library 2.0" is the shorthand for a vast array of initiatives in all types of libraries to incorporate the [tools](#) for online collaboration into new ways to deliver effective library services. YALSA has prepared three related resources: 1) Social Networking Toolkit for Librarians; 2) 30 Positive Uses of Social Networking; and 3) a pamphlet, Social Networking a Guide for Teens, all available from the [YALSA wiki](#). See the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#) for more....

@ The [ALA Librarian](#) welcomes your questions.

Calendar

Mar. 2-4:
[Ohio Digital Commons for Education 2008](#)



Tech Talk

Instant boot-up

Device VM has a product that circumvents the everlasting Windows boot-up. The company has released a tiny piece of software that, when integrated with common computer hardware, gives users the option to boot either Windows or a faster, less complex operating system called [Splashtop](#). Depending on the settings, a person using the software, based on the open-source operating system Linux, can start surfing the Web or watching a DVD in less than 20 seconds, and, in some cases, in less than five....

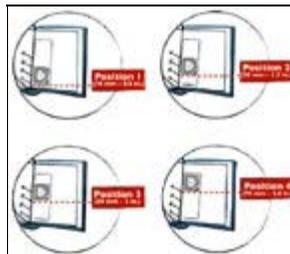
Technology Review, Jan. 16



RFID in libraries: Best practices

The National Information Standards Organization has issued *RFID in U.S. Libraries* ([PDF file](#)), containing recommended practices for using radio frequency identification (RFID) tags in library applications. The scope of the document is limited to item identification—that is, the implementation of RFID for books and other materials—and specifically excludes its use with regard to the identification of people....

National Information Standards Organization, Jan. 16



Make the most of Google Calendar

Christina Laun writes: "[Google Calendar](#) is fast becoming the application of choice for users all over the world. With great functionality and integration with Google's other products, it's no wonder its popularity is growing. But chances are good that you're not maxing out all the features of Google Calendar that you could be. Here are a few ways you can try to add to your Google Calendar experience."...

Virtual Hosting blog, Jan. 14

New ProQuest search widgets

ProQuest has made available portable search boxes that allow instant searching of most ProQuest platform databases on any page of a library website. Jenny Levine [explains](#) the process: "You can specify a database to be searched, include your proxy server's address, add specific terms to the search for automatic 'and' functionality, and even change the color and border of the box. The ProQuest [examples](#) are all for an academic library, but this works just as well for school libraries (classroom project pages), public libraries (municipality sites, park district pages, parent network pages), and even special libraries (intranets)."...

ProQuest, Jan. 10; *The Shifted Librarian blog*, Jan. 21



EBSCO adds customized Visual Search (PDF file)

Two new Visual Search options in the

[Conference](#), Columbus. "The Convergence of Learning, Libraries, and Technology."

Mar. 5–7:

[WebWise Conference](#), Miami Beach, Florida. "WebWise 2.0: The Power of Community."

Mar. 6–7:

[The Emerging Research Library: Our Role in the Digital Future](#), University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City. Register by February 15.

Mar. 12–14:

[South Carolina Association of School Librarians](#), Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. "Power Up @ your library."

Mar. 14–15:

[Northern Illinois University Children's Literature Conference](#), DeKalb. "Male Call: Boys and Books."

Mar. 18–21:

[Electronic Resources and Libraries](#), Atlanta, Georgia.

Mar. 19–22:

[Popular Culture Association/ American Culture Association Conference](#), San Francisco Marriott. "Libraries, Archives, and Popular Culture."

Mar. 24–28:

[American Educational Research Association](#), Annual Meeting and Exhibition, New York City. "Research on Schools, Neighborhoods, and Communities:



EBSCOhost interface offer visual learners additional graphical approaches to information discovery. The first style uses colorful blocks (above), each representing a record or article. The blocks are part of a map of results that enables users to see what they are searching and where the next step may lead. The second user interface style features rows or columns of results in which each item represents a subject or an article....

EBSCO Publishing, Jan. 11

[10 security menaces to worry about in 2008](#)

Twelve cybersecurity veterans with significant knowledge about emerging attack patterns worked together to compile a list of the attacks most likely to cause substantial damage during 2008. Number One is increasingly sophisticated website attacks that exploit browser vulnerabilities, especially on trusted websites....

SANS Institute, Jan. 14

Learn what other **librarians** are doing to serve **teens!**
Sign up for our **Free** newsletter...

Homework Happenings!

Actions & Answers

[AT&T considers broad internet filtering plan](#)

Tim Wu writes: "Chances are that as you read this article, it is passing over part of AT&T's network. That matters, because last week AT&T [announced](#) that it is seriously considering plans to examine all the traffic it carries for potential violations of U.S. intellectual property laws. The prospect of AT&T, already accused of [spying on our telephone calls](#), now scanning every email and download for outlawed content is way too totalitarian for my tastes. Has AT&T, after 122 years in business, simply lost its mind?"...

Slate, Jan. 16

[The 101 best free games on the Web](#)

Saving pennies can put you on the cutting edge, as today's gaming freebies are résumés for tomorrow's greats: The PlayStation 3 downloadable hit *Everyday Shooter* got its start as potential PC freeware—until Sony scooped it up after a gangbusters Game Developers Conference showing. Darren Gladstone and Scott Sharkey group these 101 games into the genre categories of action, adventure/RPG, arcade, fighting, puzzle, shooters, simulations, and strategy....

1UP.com, Jan. 14



[Improving Literacy through School Libraries grants](#)

The application package for the 2008 Improving Literacy through School Libraries program competition is now available on the Department of Education website. Eligible applicants include local educational agencies in which at least 20% of the students served are from families with incomes below the poverty line. The deadline is March 7....

Toward Civic Responsibility."

Apr. 6:

[Early Printed Herbals.](#)

a class in the Rare Botanical Book Series held at the Chicago Botanic Gardens, Glencoe, Illinois. Examine a variety of herbals, published between 1500 and 1700, that were essentially medical encyclopedias, providing clues on the uses of plants and the state of botanical knowledge in Europe. Other classes in the series are [Carolus Linnaeus, 1707-1778.](#) held April 13; and [Robert John Thornton and the Temple of Flora.](#) held April 27. Contact: (847) 835-6853.

Apr. 7-9:

[Computers in Libraries.](#) Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia.

Apr. 9-12:

[Museums and the Web 2008.](#) Montreal, Quebec.

Apr. 11-12:

[Quebec Library Association.](#) Annual Meeting, Holiday Inn Montreal Midtown. "Books and Beyond: Imagining the Possibilities."

Oct. 16-17:

[Internet Librarian International 2008.](#) Novotel London West Hotel. "Translating 2.0 Technologies for

U.S. Department of Education, Jan. 22

[IMLS awards 19 statewide planning grants for conservation](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services awarded 19 Connecting to Collections: Statewide Planning Grants January 23 that will be used to create conservation plans for collections held in libraries, museums, and archives. Under the "Connecting to Collections: A Call to Action" program, [19 states](#) will receive \$720,497, matched with \$527,930 of nonfederal funds, to implement recommendations of the Heritage Health Index Report on the State of America's Collections....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Jan. 23

[How to read *The New Yorker* in 10 easy steps](#)

Heather Champ writes: "I've subscribed to *The New Yorker* on and off for years. A subscription to any weekly magazine is a commitment. If you subscribe to more than one, it's even more important to ensure you stay on top of your consumption. I've developed the following process to ensure a timely yet comprehensive digestion of the beauty and wonder that is *The New Yorker*. Here's my 10-step approach to the January 7, 2008, issue."...

The Magazineer blog, Jan. 7



[It's time for universal computer education](#)

John Dvorak writes: "There's a huge knowledge gap in this country when it comes to computers and technology in general. I blame the educational system, as well as the big computer companies, which have done nothing to encourage public education about the dangers of the computing environment. A good school course about computers, if done right, would reinvigorate a lot of other studies, too, like science. Genuine universal computer literacy—for everyone, not just the geeks—should be a top priority in the U.S."...

PC Magazine, Jan. 14

[Connecting to Collections deadline extended](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services, in cooperation with the American Association for State and Local History, has extended the deadline to April 30 for applying for the IMLS *Connecting to Collections Bookshelf*, a core set of books, online resources, and a user's guide that are essential for the care of collections. A simple electronic [application](#) for the free IMLS Bookshelf is available online....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Jan. 22



[Search-engine freshness: A study](#) (PDF file)

Dirk Lewandowski of Hamburg University of Applied Sciences analyzed the update strategies of search engines Google, Yahoo, and MSN/Live.com by testing the updates of 40 daily updated pages and 30 irregularly updated pages. He found that the search engines change in up-to-dateness over the years and that none has an ideal solution for index freshness. A major problem is the delay in making crawled pages available for searching, which differs from one engine to another....

Journal of Information Science (forthcoming)

[Amazon's top reviewers and the fate of the literary amateur](#)

Garth Risk Hallberg writes: "Full disclosure: It was late at night, in a fit

Tangible Benefits and Transparency." Submit a proposal for a paper by March 28.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries
Direct



AL Direct is a free electronic newsletter emailed every Wednesday to personal members of the [American Library Association](#).

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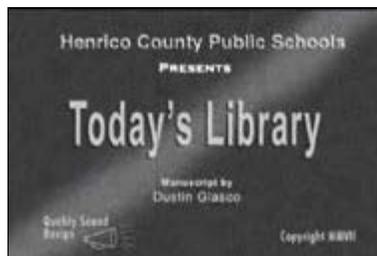
of furtive self-Googleing, that I discovered the first Amazon customer review of my debut book of fiction. 'Superb,' wrote Grady Harp of Los Angeles. 'Fascinating . . . addictive.' Not to mention 'profound.' Such extravagance should have aroused suspicion. Only when I noticed the Top 10 Reviewer tag did I wonder whether Grady Harp was more than just a satisfied customer."...

Slate, Jan. 22

[Henrico County video explains the modern media center](#)

The Henrico County (Va.) Public Schools recently produced this informative look at what school library media centers and media specialists can do to teach 21st-century literacy skills. Remixing a 1940s-era librarian vocational film with interviews with middle-school and high-school information specialists, teachers, and students, *Today's Library* is an entertaining showcase of the importance of professional librarians in the educational process....

Henrico County (Va.) Public Schools Video Vault



AL Direct, January 23, 2008

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | January 23, 2008

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[<http://www.schoolrooms.net>]

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

LC Working Group issues final report on bibliographic futures

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/january2008/lcworkgroup.cfm>]

A Library of Congress task force has completed its mission to look at the future of cataloging and other forms of bibliographic control and recommend steps on how the library community can continue to provide effective access in a changing technological world. The LC Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control released On the Record (PDF

file [<http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/news/lcwg-ontherecord-jan08-final.pdf>]), its 44-page final report, January 9 after responding to suggestions from a wide range of organizations and individuals who read a draft version issued November 30....

[http://www.flickr.com/photos/library_of_congress/2178345695/in/set-72157603671370361/]

Library of Congress places 3,000 photos on Flickr

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/january2008/lcflickr.cfm>]

The Library of Congress announced January 16 that it has teamed with the photo-sharing website Flickr to broaden public access to the 14 million photographs and other visual items in LC's collections. The pilot project is beginning with 3,000 photos from two of the library's most popular collections—the George Grantham Bain

Collection, featuring the photographic files of one of America's earliest news picture agencies, and Farm Security Administration/Office of War Information photos of rural and farm life and World War II mobilization taken between 1939 and 1944—that have been placed in an area of Flickr designated as The Commons.

[<http://www.flickr.com/commons/>]...

West Virginia funding flap flops back to court

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/january2008/flapflop.cfm>]

The boards of the Kanawha County (W.Va.) Schools and the Kanawha County Library were back before the state Supreme

Court in early January to revisit a critical funding issue believed to have been resolved last spring: Should boards of education in the state's nine largest counties be required to share a percentage of their state aid with county libraries?...

Protesting library workers shut down Victoria PL for three days

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/january2008/victoriashutdown.cfm>]

Members of the Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 410 did not report to work for three days, effectively closing the nine branches of Greater Victoria (B.C.) Public Library January 16, 18, and 21, in the latest skirmish in a labor dispute over pay equity. The dispute stems from a contract clause saying that library positions should be compared with equivalent city positions. The union argues that the comparison should refer to jobs with similar education and training requirements, while management says that it applies to strictly equivalent positions, such as a librarian in the city archives....

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[<http://www.tech-logic.com/>]
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ALA News

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Council adopts revised accreditation standards [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/standards08.htm>]

ALA Council adopted a revision of the 1992 Standards for Accreditation of Master's Programs in Library and Information

Studies on January 15 at the Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia. The revision places stronger emphasis on systematic planning, student learning outcomes, assessment, and diversity, tying the standards directly to ALA policies on diversity....

The American Dream Starts @ your library grants

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/adaylg08.htm>]

ALA is requesting proposals for a new grant titled "The American Dream Starts @ your library." The grant,

funded by the Dollar General Foundation, seeks to help public libraries increase their literacy services to adult English-language learners. The grant will give 15 libraries a one-time award of \$5,000 each. The deadline for submitting an online application [<http://www.americandreamtoolkit.org/>] is January 31....

Post-conference info from Midwinter 2008

[<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2008/01/16/post-conference-info-from-midwinter-2008/>]

ALA has started a wiki page for Handouts, Podcasts, and other Post-Midwinter Information

[http://wikis.ala.org/midwinter2008/index.php/Handouts%2C_Podcasts%2C_and_other_Post_Midwinter_Information]
where you

can post handouts, presentations, notes, minutes, and whatever else your committee or unit distributed during your meetings. Registered users can upload a 2MB or less file to the wiki and then link to it from that page.

Alternatively, If you already have files posted elsewhere, please link to them from the wiki....

ALA Marginalia, Jan. 16

AL Focus

FBI whistleblower answers questions at Midwinter [<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/fbi-whistleblower-answers-questions>] Despite a warning from his superiors, FBI Special Agent Bassem Youssef answered questions at a January 12 session of the ALA Midwinter Meeting. In 2002, Youssef blew the whistle to Congress and the director of the FBI that discriminatory practices within the Bureau were undermining the effectiveness of America's counterterrorism efforts. In this video (7:41), Youssef and his attorney Stephen M. Kohn discuss the case, talk about the abuse of National Security Letters following the passage of the Patriot Act, and speak of Abu Ghraib prison as an example of the U.S. failure to understand Middle Eastern culture. The ALA Washington Office has uploaded the complete session. [<http://www.ala.org/ala/washoff/washevents/midwinterwo/midwinter.cfm>]...

Booklist Online

Featured review: Media [http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2371323] Alive Day Memories: Home from Iraq. Oct. 2007. 56 min. HBO, DVD (978-0-7831-5708-5). According to this powerful documentary, 90% of those wounded in the war in Iraq survive their injuries, with nearly 50% of the wounded sustaining such life-altering traumas as lost limbs, severe head injuries, blindness, and post-traumatic stress disorder. The injured vets clearly remember their "Alive Day," the day of their injury and subsequent survival. Sitting on a stark stage, 10 veterans (all are in their 20s except for one) are interviewed individually by actor James Gandolfini (The Sopranos), who sits with his back to the camera. He probes the men and women about their reasons for enlisting, the circumstances surrounding their wounds, challenges they face, and plans for the future....

Book Group Buzz [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/bookblog08.htm>] Addressing the growing interest expressed by librarians, book group participants, publishers, authors, and general readers in what's going on in (and around) book groups for adults and youth, Booklist Online has launched a one-stop resource, Book Group Buzz. [<http://bookgroupbuzz.booklistonline.com/>] This blog is the newest online gathering place for anyone involved with, or interested in, book groups. "We were looking for a group of bloggers who could address book group needs from a variety of perspectives and experience," said Booklist Online Managing Editor Mary Ellen Quinn....

@ Visit Booklist Online [<http://www.booklistonline.com>] for other reviews and much more....

Awards

Best books for young adults [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/BBYA.htm>]

YALSA has announced its 2008 list of Best Books for Young Adults. The 85 books, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/booklistsawards/bestbooksya/08bbya.cfm>] drawn from 216 official nominations, are recommended for those ages 12–18 and meet the criteria of both quality literature and appealing reading for teens....

Popular paperbacks for young adults [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/paperback08.htm>]
YALSA's Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults Committee has announced its 2008 selections. This year, the committee produced four lists [<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/booklistsawards/popularpaperback/08ppya.cfm>] of selected titles in the following topics: Sex Is...; What Makes a Family?; Magic in the Real World; and Anyone Can Play....

Quick Picks for reluctant young adult readers [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/reluctant08.htm>]
YALSA has announced its 2008 Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers selection list. The list [<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/booklistsawards/quickpicks/08qp.cfm>] recommends books that teens, ages 12–18, will pick up on their own and read for pleasure; it is geared to the teenager who, for whatever reason, does not like to read. "Goths, gangs, rappers, and vamps reigned supreme on this year's list," said H. Jack Martin, committee chair....

Great graphic novels for teens [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/GGNT08.htm>]
YALSA has announced its 2008 Great Graphic Novels for Teens list. The books, recommended for those ages 12–18, meet the criteria of both quality literature and appealing reading for teens. The list [<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/yalsamemonly/yalsamoawards/08ggnt.cfm>] of 43 titles is drawn from 138 official nominations....

Audiobooks for young adults [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/audio08.htm>]
YALSA has announced its 2008 Selected Audiobook list for ages 12–18. This year's list [<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/yalsamemonly/yalsamoawards/08audio.cfm>] features a wide range of recordings, with 21 fiction titles and one nonfiction title representing diverse genres and styles, including fantasy, historical fiction, and adventure....

Selected DVDs and videos for young adults [<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/selected08.htm>]
YALSA has announced its 2008 Selected DVDs and Videos for Young Adults list. The list [<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/booklistsawards/selecteddvds/08sdvd.cfm>] recognizes productions for technical merit, content, and interest to young adults ages 12–18. Eight films were chosen, among them The Grace Lee Project, Juvies, and The Guarantee....

First annual Sparky Awards [<http://www.arl.org/sparc/media/08-0122.html>]
The Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC) announced the winners of the first Sparky Awards January 22. The contest called on entrants to imaginatively illustrate in a short video the value of sharing ideas and information of all kinds. In first place was Share (0:53), written and directed by Habib Yazdi, a senior communication studies major at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill....
Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition, Jan. 22

Joseph F. Schubert Library Excellence Award [<http://srv36.nysed.gov/libdev/adviscns/rac/award/>]
The 2007 Schubert award, administered by the New York State Regents Advisory Council on Libraries and funded by EBSCO Information Services, has been presented to the Galway (N.Y.) Public Library for its Story Quilt project. The library gathered stories from the community and turned them into one-page narrative poems that captured the images, people, and times of the town. A book featuring the 216 poems was published in April 2007....
New York State Regents Advisory Council on Libraries, Dec. 17

George W. Bush Presidential Library design contest [<http://chronicle.com/indepth/architecture/architecture-contest.htm>]

The Chronicle of Higher Education is looking for serious, humorous, or adventurous designs for the Bush Library, drawn as if you'd sat down next to the president and sketched out your idea on a scrap piece of White House stationery. All submissions should be on the back of a size-10 envelope. The winning designer will win a brand new iPod Touch. The deadline is February 1....
Chronicle of Higher Education

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[<http://www.queenslibrary.org/jobs>]
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Seen Online

More on Washington's school library crisis

[http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/southeastkingcountynews/2004133461_library20s.html]

Once considered a mainstay of the school library, reading time could be in danger at some schools in Washington State,

educators say. To adapt to state budgets, Southeast King County districts are overhauling how they run their libraries and how much money goes into library programs. Ideally, officials from all Southeast districts say they would keep a full-time librarian at every school, but rising transportation costs and state-mandated initiatives have forced districts to make tough decisions....

Seattle Times, Jan. 20

School library book outrages aunt

[<http://www.nj.com/news/expresstimes/pa/index.ssf?/base/news-15/1200978322264570.xml&coll=2>]

Kathryn Ann Frangos was upset when her 13-year-old nephew pulled Give a Boy a Gun, a tale of school violence, from the

shelves of the Bangor Area (Pa.) Middle School. Author Todd Strasser's book is a story of two boys who avenge their social estrangement by holding classmates and teachers hostage at a school dance. Although they chose to retain it, the school board was prompted by Frangos's complaint to examine the way it chooses and keeps books at its school libraries....

Easton (Pa.) Express-Times, Jan. 22

Flood damages Montana State library books [<http://dailychronicle.com/articles/2008/01/23/news/000cold.txt>]

Subzero weather caused a water line to freeze and then burst early on January 22 in Montana State University's Renne Library, flooding the building with thousands of gallons of water and damaging some of the library's most valuable books. The water flowed from the third floor to the Merrill G. Burlingame Special Collections department on the second

floor, where hundreds of rare books were damaged. Library Dean Tamara Miller estimated 80-90% of them could be salvaged....

Bozeman (Mont.) Daily Chronicle, Jan. 23

Disputed Iraqi archive finds a home at the Hoover Institution [<http://chronicle.com/free/2008/01/1335n.htm>]

Two shipping containers' worth of records created by Iraq's Baath Party that have been stored on an American naval facility for the past 21 months are about to find a new home at the Hoover Institution, a conservative think tank and library affiliated with Stanford University. The deal, signed January 21, came despite recent impassioned calls from Iraqi National Librarian Saad Eskander for the collection's immediate repatriation to Baghdad....

Chronicle of Higher Education, Jan. 23

Arkansas branch must improve its circulation or close [<http://nwanews.com/nwat/News/61286/>]

The Greenland branch of the Washington County (Ark.) Library System has 11 months to prove it's earning its funding.

The library board unanimously decided January 17 to give the faltering branch a year to improve its circulation, which has been down considerably from the past two years. It must also provide progress reports every three months, show an

increase in patronage and circulation, and establish a Friends group as a nonprofit organization....

Fayetteville Northwest Arkansas Times, Jan. 18

TV movie features haunted Evansville library

[<http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080120/LOCAL/80120003>]

A local writer who grew up hearing about the legend of a shadowy Grey Lady said to haunt the Willard Library (right) in Evansville, Indiana, used that tale as the inspiration for a screenplay that's been turned into a new television movie. Rod Spence's *The Good Witch*, a two-hour movie set in a small town, premiered January 19 on the Hallmark Channel. It will air again January 25 and 31....

Indianapolis Star, Jan. 20

Dance your fines away at Milford [[http://www.cabinet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?](http://www.cabinet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080118/MILFORD01/787025143)

[AID=/20080118/MILFORD01/787025143](http://www.cabinet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080118/MILFORD01/787025143)]

The Wadleigh Memorial Library in Milford, New Hampshire, has added video games to the library programs to attract teens and to boost circulation, said Circulation Assistant Katie Spofford. In fact, the library will waive fines on overdue books for anyone who can beat her at *Dance Dance Revolution* during Patron Appreciation Day on January 31.

Spofford is studying for her MLS with an emphasis on children and young adults....

Milford (N.H.) Cabinet Press, Jan. 18

Area eccentric reads entire book [http://www.theonion.com/content/news/area_eccentric_reads_entire_book] (satire)

Sitting in a quiet downtown diner, Greenwood (Ind.) hospital administrator Philip Meyer looks as normal and well-adjusted as can be. Yet, there's more to this 27-year-old than first meets the eye: Meyer has recently finished reading a book. Yes, the whole thing. Meyer, who never once jumped ahead to see what would happen and avoided skimming

large passages of text in search of pictures, first began his oddball feat a week ago....

The Onion, Jan. 19

Survey shows U.K. libraries spending more [http://www.mla.gov.uk/website/news/press_releases/cipfa_stats]

With nearly 300 million visits to England's public libraries in 2007, more than 10 million new books added to the stock, and 17% increased spending, libraries in the U.K. still must make better use of funds, improve customer service, and boost usage, according to a report released January 14. The definitive annual library statistics, published by CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) paint a picture of changing trends in public library usage....

Museums, Libraries, and Archives Council News, Jan. 14

Library bags save the world in Norfolk

[[http://www.eveningnews24.co.uk/search/story.aspx?](http://www.eveningnews24.co.uk/search/story.aspx?brand=ENOnline&category=News&itemid=NOED18%20Jan%202008%2006:56:12:610&tBrand=ENOnline&tCategory=search)

[brand=ENOnline&category=News&itemid=NOED18%20Jan%202008%2006:56:12:610](http://www.eveningnews24.co.uk/search/story.aspx?brand=ENOnline&category=News&itemid=NOED18%20Jan%202008%2006:56:12:610&tBrand=ENOnline&tCategory=search)

[&tBrand=ENOnline&tCategory=search](http://www.eveningnews24.co.uk/search/story.aspx?brand=ENOnline&category=News&itemid=NOED18%20Jan%202008%2006:56:12:610&tBrand=ENOnline&tCategory=search)]

The average adult will go through an estimated 300 plastic bags in 2008, but not the smart shoppers in Norfolk, England, who have snapped up special bags sold in the county's libraries. More than 20,000 "Love Your Library" jute bags have been sold in Norfolk since they were introduced last year as an alternative to environmentally damaging plastic carrier bags. The Norfolk and Norwich Millennium Library was the busiest

[http://www.cipfa.org.uk/press/press_show.cfm?news_id=32026] library in England in 2007, with more than 1.5 million

visits....

Norwich (U.K.) Evening News, Jan. 18; CIPFA, Jan. 14

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[<http://www.maintainITproject.org>]
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Tech Talk

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Instant boot-up [<http://www.technologyreview.com/Infotech/20072/>]

Device VM has a product that circumvents the everlasting Windows boot-up. The company has released a tiny piece of

software that, when integrated with common computer hardware, gives users the option to boot either Windows or a faster, less complex operating system called Splashtop. [<http://www.splashtop.com/index.php>] Depending on the settings, a person using the software, based on the open-source operating system Linux, can start surfing the Web or watching a DVD in less than 20 seconds, and, in some cases, in less than five....

Technology Review, Jan. 16

RFID in libraries: Best practices [<http://www.niso.org/news/releases/pr-PAS-1-08.html>]

The National Information Standards Organization has issued RFID in U.S. Libraries (PDF file

[<http://www.niso.org/standards/resources/RP-6-2008.pdf>]), containing recommended practices for using radio frequency

identification (RFID) tags in library applications. The scope of the document is limited to item identification—that is, the implementation of RFID for books and other materials—and specifically excludes its use with regard to the identification of people....

National Information Standards Organization, Jan. 16

Make the most of Google Calendar

[<http://www.virtualhosting.com/blog/2008/50-tips-tweaks-and-hacks-to-make-the-most-of-google-calendar/>]

Christina Laun writes: “Google Calendar [<http://www.google.com/googlecalendar/tour.html>] is fast becoming the application of choice for users all over the world. With great functionality and integration with Google’s other products, it’s no wonder its popularity is growing. But chances are good that you’re not maxing out all the features of Google Calendar that you could be. Here are a few ways you can try to add to your Google Calendar experience.”...

Virtual Hosting blog, Jan. 14

New ProQuest search widgets [<http://www.proquest.com/pressroom/pressrelease/08/20080110e.shtml>]

ProQuest has made available portable search boxes that allow instant searching of most ProQuest platform databases on

any page of a library website. Jenny Levine explains

[<http://theshiftedlibrarian.com/archives/2008/01/21/proquest-widgets.html>] the process: “You can specify a database to be searched, include your proxy server’s address, add specific terms to the search for automatic ‘and’ functionality, and even change the color and border of the box. The ProQuest examples

[http://www.proquest.com/products_pq/proquest/widgets/widget_placement_info.shtml] are all for an academic library, but this works just as well for school libraries (classroom project pages), public libraries (municipality sites, park district pages, parent network pages), and even special libraries (intranets).”...

ProQuest, Jan. 10; The Shifted Librarian blog, Jan. 21

EBSCO adds customized Visual Search [<http://www.ebscohost.com/uploads/thisTopic-dbTopic-964.pdf>] (PDF file) Two new Visual Search options in the EBSCOhost interface offer visual learners additional graphical approaches to information discovery. The first style uses colorful blocks (above), each representing a record or article. The blocks are part of a map of results that enables users to see what they are searching and where the next step may lead. The second user interface style features rows or columns of results in which each item represents a subject or an article....

EBSCO Publishing, Jan. 11

10 security menaces to worry about in 2008 [<http://www.sans.org/2008menaces/>]

Twelve cybersecurity veterans with significant knowledge about emerging attack patterns worked together to compile a list of the attacks most likely to cause substantial damage during 2008. Number One is increasingly sophisticated website attacks that exploit browser vulnerabilities, especially on trusted websites....

SANS Institute, Jan. 14

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[mailto:homeworkhappenings@tutor.com]
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Actions & Answers

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AT&T considers broad internet filtering plan [<http://www.slate.com/id/2182152/fr/rss/>]

Tim Wu writes: “Chances are that as you read this article, it is passing over part of AT&T’s network. That matters, because last week AT&T announced

[<http://bits.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/01/08/att-and-other-isps-may-be-getting-ready-to-filter/>] that it is seriously considering plans to examine all the traffic it carries for potential violations of U.S. intellectual property laws.

The prospect of AT&T, already accused of spying on our telephone calls

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/04/13/us/nationalspecial3/13nsa.html>], now scanning every email and download for outlawed

content is way too totalitarian for my tastes. Has AT&T, after 122 years in business, simply lost its mind?”...

Slate, Jan. 16

[<http://www.abstractica.mjkgames.com/about.html>]The 101 best free games on the Web

[<http://www.1up.com/do/feature?pager.offset=0&cId=3165201>]

Saving pennies can put you on the cutting edge, as today’s gaming freebies are résumés for tomorrow’s greats: The PlayStation 3 downloadable hit Everyday Shooter got its start as potential PC freeware—until Sony scooped it up after a gangbusters Game Developers Conference showing. Darren Gladstone and Scott Sharkey group these 101 games into the

genre categories of action, adventure/RPG, arcade, fighting, puzzle, shooters, simulations, and strategy....

1UP.com, Jan. 14

Improving Literacy through School Libraries grants [<http://www.ed.gov/programs/lsl/applicant.html>]

The application package for the 2008 Improving Literacy through School Libraries program competition is now available

on the Department of Education website. Eligible applicants include local educational agencies in which at least 20% of the students served are from families with incomes below the poverty line. The deadline is March 7....

U.S. Department of Education, Jan. 22

IMLS awards 19 statewide planning grants for conservation [<http://www.imls.gov/news/2008/012308.shtm>]
The Institute of Museum and Library Services awarded 19 Connecting to Collections: Statewide Planning Grants
January

23 that will be used to create conservation plans for collections held in libraries, museums, and archives. Under the
“Connecting to Collections: A Call to Action” program, 19 states [http://www.imls.gov/news/2008/012308_list.shtm]
will
receive \$720,497, matched with \$527,930 of nonfederal funds, to implement recommendations of the Heritage Health
Index
Report on the State of America’s Collections....
Institute of Museum and Library Services, Jan. 23

in 10 easy steps [<http://magazineer.com/howto/30>]

Heather Champ writes: “I’ve subscribed to The New Yorker on and off for years. A subscription to any weekly
magazine is a commitment. If you subscribe to more than one, it’s even more important to ensure you stay on
top
of your consumption. I’ve developed the following process to ensure a timely yet comprehensive digestion of
the
beauty and wonder that is The New Yorker. Here’s my 10-step approach to the January 7, 2008, issue.”...
The Magazineer blog, Jan. 7

It’s time for universal computer education [<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2704,2248931,00.asp>]

John Dvorak writes: “There’s a huge knowledge gap in this country when it comes to computers and technology in
general. I blame the educational system, as well as the big computer companies, which have done nothing to
encourage
public education about the dangers of the computing environment. A good school course about computers, if done
right,
would reinvigorate a lot of other studies, too, like science. Genuine universal computer literacy—for everyone,
not just the geeks—should be a top priority in the U.S.”...
PC Magazine, Jan. 14

Connecting to Collections deadline extended [<http://www.imls.gov/news/2008/012208c.shtm>]

The Institute of Museum and Library Services, in cooperation with the American Association for State and Local
History, has extended the deadline to April 30 for applying for the IMLS Connecting to Collections Bookshelf, a core
set of books, online resources, and a user’s guide that are essential for the care of collections. A simple
electronic application [<http://www.aaslh.org/Bookshelf/>] for the free IMLS Bookshelf is available online....
Institute of Museum and Library Services, Jan. 22

Search-engine freshness: A study [http://eprints.rclis.org/archive/00012556/01/JIS2008_preprint.pdf] (PDF file)

Dirk Lewandowski of Hamburg University of Applied Sciences analyzed the update strategies of search engines
Google,
Yahoo, and MSN/Live.com by testing the updates of 40 daily updated pages and 30 irregularly updated pages. He
found
that the search engines change in up-to-dateness over the years and that none has an ideal solution for index
freshness. A major problem is the delay in making crawled pages available for searching, which differs from one
engine
to another....
Journal of Information Science (forthcoming)

Amazon’s top reviewers and the fate of the literary amateur [<http://www.slate.com/id/2182002/pagenum/all/>]

Garth Risk Hallberg writes: “Full disclosure: It was late at night, in a fit of furtive self-Googleing, that I
discovered the first Amazon customer review of my debut book of fiction. ‘Superb,’ wrote Grady Harp of Los Angeles.
‘Fascinating . . . addictive.’ Not to mention ‘profound.’ Such extravagance should have aroused suspicion. Only when I

noticed the Top 10 Reviewer tag did I wonder whether Grady Harp was more than just a satisfied customer.”...
Slate, Jan. 22

Henrico County video explains the modern media center [http://henrico.k12.va.us/hcpstv/vv_library.html]
The Henrico County (Va.) Public Schools recently produced this informative look at what school library media centers and media specialists can do to teach 21st-century literacy skills. Remixing a 1940s-era librarian vocational film with interviews with middle-school and high-school information specialists, teachers, and students, Today’s Library is an entertaining showcase of the importance of professional librarians in the educational process....

Henrico County (Va.) Public Schools Video Vault
[<http://www.j-newvoices.org/>]

Ask the ALA Librarian

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Q. What is this Library 2.0 that I keep reading and hearing about? What implications does it have for school and other types of libraries?

A. There are many definitions of Library 2.0. Simply put, it is the ongoing response to Web 2.0, a participatory, networked, interactive, and collaborative community of web users. The term “Web 2.0” was introduced by O’Reilly Media [<http://www.oreillynet.com/>] in 2004 as shorthand for a second generation of web applications that incorporated increasing amounts of social interaction and online collaboration. Similarly, “Library 2.0” is the shorthand for a vast array of initiatives in all types of libraries to incorporate the tools [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Using_Current_Technologies] for online collaboration into new ways to deliver effective library services. YALSA has prepared three related resources: 1) Social Networking Toolkit for Librarians; 2) 30 Positive Uses of Social Networking; and 3) a pamphlet, Social Networking a Guide for Teens, all available from the YALSA wiki. [http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/Web_2.0_%26_Libraries] See the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/What_is_Library_2.0%3F] for more....

@ The ALA Librarian [<mailto:AskTheLibrarian@ala.org>] welcomes your questions.

Calendar

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Mar. 2–4:
Ohio Digital Commons for Education 2008 Conference [<http://www.ohn.org/conferences/ODCE2008>], Columbus. “The Convergence of Learning, Libraries, and Technology.”

Mar. 5–7:
WebWise Conference, [<http://webwise2008.fcla.edu/>] Miami Beach, Florida. “WebWise 2.0: The Power of Community.”

Mar. 6–7:
The Emerging Research Library: Our Role in the Digital Future [<http://libraries.ou.edu/conference>], University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City. Register by February 15.

Mar. 12–14:

South Carolina Association of School Librarians [<http://www.scasl.net>], Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. “Power Up @ your library.”

Mar. 14–15:

Northern Illinois University Children's Literature Conference, [http://www.cedu.niu.edu/oep/children_lit.html] DeKalb. “Male Call: Boys and Books.”

Mar. 18–21:

Electronic Resources and Libraries [<http://www.electroniclibrarian.org/ocs/index.php/erl/2008>], Atlanta, Georgia.

Mar. 19–22:

Popular Culture Association/ American Culture Association Conference [<http://www.pcaaca.org/>], San Francisco Marriott. “Libraries, Archives, and Popular Culture.”

Mar. 24–28:

American Educational Research Association, [http://www.aera.net/meetings/Default.aspx?menu_id=342&id=2936] Annual

Meeting and Exhibition, New York City. “Research on Schools, Neighborhoods, and Communities: Toward Civic Responsibility.”

Apr. 6:

Early Printed Herbals,

[[http://www.peopleware.net/index.cfm?](http://www.peopleware.net/index.cfm?siteCode=2147&eventDisp=BOA&subeventdisp=BOA019108&CFID=13830403&CFTOKEN=30120359)

siteCode=2147&eventDisp=BOA&subeventdisp=BOA019108&CFID=13830403&CFTOKEN=30120359] a class in the Rare Botanical Book Series held at the Chicago Botanic Gardens, Glencoe, Illinois. Examine a variety of herbals, published between 1500 and 1700, that were essentially medical encyclopedias, providing clues on the uses of plants and the state of botanical knowledge in Europe. Other classes in the series are Carolus Linnaeus,

1707–1778, [[http://www.peopleware.net/index.cfm?](http://www.peopleware.net/index.cfm?siteCode=2147&eventDisp=BOA&subeventdisp=BOA020108&CFID=13830403&CFTOKEN=30120359)

siteCode=2147&eventDisp=BOA&subeventdisp=BOA020108&CFID=13830403&CFTOKEN=30120359] held April 13; and Robert John Thornton and the Temple of Flora,

[[http://www.peopleware.net/index.cfm?](http://www.peopleware.net/index.cfm?siteCode=2147&eventDisp=BOA&subeventdisp=BOA021108&CFID=13830403&CFTOKEN=30120359)

siteCode=2147&eventDisp=BOA&subeventdisp=BOA021108&CFID=13830403&CFTOKEN=30120359] held April 27. Contact: (847) 835-6853.

Apr. 7–9:

Computers in Libraries [<http://www.infotoday.com/cil2008/>], Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia.

Apr. 9–12:

Museums and the Web 2008, [<http://www.archimuse.com/mw2008/>] Montreal, Quebec.

Apr. 11–12:

Quebec Library Association, [<http://www.abqla.qc.ca/conference.html>] Annual Meeting, Holiday Inn Montreal Midtown. “Books and Beyond: Imagining the Possibilities.”

Oct. 16–17:

Internet Librarian International 2008, [<http://www.internet-librarian.com/index.shtml>] Novotel London West Hotel. “Translating 2.0 Technologies for Tangible Benefits and Transparency.” Submit a proposal for a paper by March 28.

@ More [<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/calendar/calendar.cfm>]...

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American Libraries Direct

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | January 30, 2008

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SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

- ✓ Teacher-selected Content
- ✓ 71 Subjects – Aligned to Curriculum
- ✓ 3 Million High-quality Sites Searchable



U.S. & World News

[Grassroots group grows mini-SKILLs bill in Washington State](#)

Characterizing school library media specialists as “an endangered species,” Washington State Sen. Tracey J. Eide (right, D-Federal Way) introduced a bill (SB 6380) January 22 that codifies through a per-pupil formula how many credentialed school library media specialists should be employed by each district and offers some \$55 million to fund the initiative. Its aim of guaranteeing the presence in school libraries of certificated staff echoes the language of the federal SKILLs (Strengthening Kids’ Interest in Learning and Libraries) Act, introduced in June 2007 as an unfunded amendment to the No Child Left Behind Act and scheduled for Senate committee review in February....

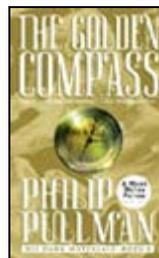


[Warrantless wiretap law extended until February 16](#)

On the evening of January 29, the House and Senate passed by voice vote a two-week extension of the [Protect America Act](#), which had been set to expire on February 1. Originally enacted in August 2007 as a six-month amendment to the 30-year-old Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, PAA enabled the National Security Agency to eavesdrop on foreign communications, including phone calls and email exchanges, between someone “reasonably believed to be outside the United States” and a person on U.S. soil. There is no exemption in the PAA for communications traveling to or from U.S. libraries....

[Golden Compass returns to Calgary schools](#)

The Calgary (Alberta) Catholic School District has returned Philip Pullman’s *The Golden Compass* to its library shelves after ordering its removal two months ago. Calgary was among several Catholic school systems that pulled the fantasy novel, which has been accused of antireligious content, for review following a complaint in the municipality of Halton in late November....



[Give a Boy a Gun triggers a challenge in Pennsylvania](#)

A reconsideration committee for Bangor Area (Pa.) Middle School unanimously voted to keep Todd Strasser’s *Give a*



2008 Request for Proposals

Will fund the start-up of 10 community news ventures in 2008. Each may receive up to \$17,000 in grants. Apply at: www.j-newvoices.org

Due: Feb. 20, 2008

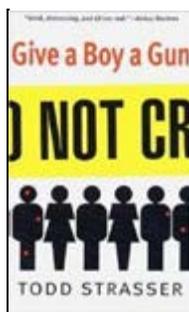
Administered by J-Lab with funding from John S. and James L. Knight Foundation



[ALA Annual Conference](#)

is in Anaheim, California, June 26–July 2. [Early bird registration](#) closes March 7. Join us for the [SupERTuesday Breakfast Reception](#) sponsored by Exhibits Round Table, your exhibitors, and ALA, on the exhibits floor, 9 a.m.–12 noon Tuesday, July 1.

Give a Boy a Gun on library shelves over a student's aunt's concerns about the book's depiction of school violence. School board members agreed January 21, deciding against tweaking materials selection policy. Published in the aftermath of the Columbine High School shootings, *Give a Boy a Gun* is a novel in which two students hold classmates and teachers hostage at a school dance....



ALA News

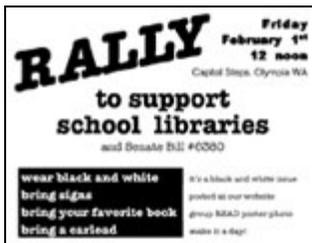
[Roy to speak at FCC digital television workshop](#)

On Thursday, January 31, ALA President Lorie Roy will speak at the Federal Communications Commission on the role of libraries in supporting tribal and rural communities during the upcoming Digital Television transition. This DTV Consumer Education Workshop will feature panel discussions focusing on both consumers on tribal lands and rural consumers and will explore the challenges associated with ensuring that those groups receive and can act on information regarding the DTV transition....



[ALA rallies in Washington State for school library reform](#)

ALA President Lorie Roy, AASL President Sara Kelly Johns, and school library supporters from across the country will gather at the Washington State Capitol in Olympia at noon on February 1 to rally in support of school library funding and staffing reform and Senate Bill 6380, which would give all students in the state full-time access to school libraries and certified school library media specialists....



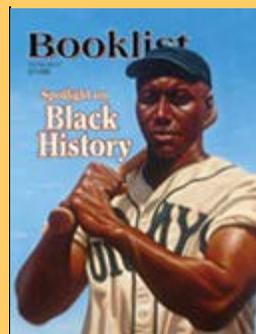
[Salary survey invitations sent](#)

Library directors and human resources staff at nearly 4,000 public and academic libraries have been sent invitations to participate in the 2008 ALA-APA Library Salary Survey. This year, the survey asks for salary data for six librarian titles. The deadline is February 29. In order to thank participants, all responding institutions will be given 30-day access to the [ALA-APA Library Salary Database](#)....

[Make your blog or wiki more visible](#)

ALA bloggers are invited to add missing links to the [ALA Read Write Connect wiki](#), which lists all of our known 2.0-ish sites ([blogs](#), [wikis](#), [podcasts](#), [discussion forums](#), etc.). Basically, this is our attempt to bring together in one place all of the online sites where you can interact with ALA staff and colleagues....

ALA Marginalia blog, Jan. 28



The February 1 issue of [Booklist](#) spotlights Black History Month. Hazel Rochman interviews Christopher Paul Curtis; Ian Chipman profiles author-illustrator Kadir Nelson, whose *We Are the Ship*, a stunning celebration of Negro League baseball, receives a starred review; and Brad Hooper serves up "African American Cuisine," perhaps the magazine's tastiest Core Collection entrée yet. **NEW! From Booklist.**

In this issue January/February 2008



**From Hoops to Ink:
An Interview with
Kareem Abdul-
Jabbar**

Welcome to Philly

Design Thinking

AL Focus

[Youth Media Awards 2008](#)

In just 60 seconds of images and sound, AL Focus Editor Dan Kraus conveys his impressions of the Youth Media Awards 2008—the Newbery and Caldecott medals, the Printz award, and others. If you missed the announcements at the ALA Midwinter Meeting, either in person or by webcast or by cellphone, you can glimpse the excitement of the moment in this video. A full list of the winners is on the [ALA website](#)...



Librarians in the Jury Box

Putting Students First



[PLA Virtual Conference in 2008](#)

If you can't make the trip to Minneapolis on March 27–28, you can still participate virtually in the PLA National Conference. [Read more](#) about PLA's first-ever Virtual Conference, and [register online](#).

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Reference](#)

Oxford Language Dictionaries Online. Nov. 2007. [Oxford University Press](#).



Oxford University Press is known for its excellent bilingual dictionaries in many languages. Libraries may now subscribe to them online. *Oxford Language Dictionaries Online* currently has French-English, English-French; German-English, English-German; Italian-English, English-Italian; and Spanish-English, English-Spanish dictionaries. The publisher plans to add Russian and Chinese in 2008. Libraries can subscribe to a single language or to any combination of languages. Tabs allow users to select French, German, Italian, or Spanish. The dictionaries are easy to search using the quick search box or advanced options that allow limiting searches by field (headwords or full text) and filtering by speech part, level of formality, and geographical variant....

@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....

Career Leads from

JobLIST

[Systems Administrator](#), Topeka and Shawnee County

(Kans.) Public Library. We're looking for someone in love with systems, servers, tech projects, and change. Someone capable of bringing cutting-edge ideas to the table and who thrives in a culture of teamwork. Someone who finds satisfaction in enabling the majority to do great things through technology....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Philadelphia Update

[Video of Tom Hayden's talk at ALA Midwinter](#)

On January 13, Alexander Street Press held its customer appreciation breakfast with guest speaker Tom Hayden. From the 1960s to today, Hayden has been a leading figure in social activism and political reform. Those who were there in the 60s (or have studied the period) remember Hayden as one of the Chicago Seven indicted after antiwar protests outside of the 1968 Chicago Democratic Convention.



Here he talks about the legacy of the Sixties....
Alexander Street Press

[Cognotes Midwinter Highlights issue](#)

If you missed the meeting and want a summary of the big events, browse or download the Highlights issue ([PDF file](#)) of *Cognotes*. ALA members should have received a paper copy in the mail....

Division News

[I Love My Librarian Valentine's Day campaign](#)

The Joint Youth Legislative Committee (AASL, ALSC, and YALSA) has created a campaign to support library legislation with ideas and talking points around Valentine's Day. To celebrate the holiday, have your teens, parents, children, and library supporters flood federal elected officials' district offices with Valentines that express love for your library and its staff and ask for support for important legislation....

YALSA wiki



[Host institution sought for 2009 Arbuthnot Lecture](#)

Institutions that would like to host next year's Arbuthnot Lecture, to be given in April or early May 2009 by YA author Walter Dean Myers, will be accepted by the ALSC Arbuthnot Lecture Committee through May 1....

[ALSC children and technology survey](#)

Do you feel the need for easy access to updates and information about cutting-edge technology and its use with the kids you serve? The ALSC Children and Technology Committee needs your input. Please complete this brief [survey](#), which will be available through March 1....

ALSC blog, Jan. 27

[Register for AASL Spring e-Academy courses](#)

Seven AASL e-Academy courses, offered via a partnership with the University of North Texas Project LE@D, are scheduled to begin April 7. The spring offerings include four facilitated courses and three self-paced courses. All programs offer 24-hour access. [Registration](#) is open until April 3....

[Library 2.0 initiatives in academic libraries](#)

College & Research Libraries News Editor-in-Chief David Free discusses Library 2.0 with Dawn Lawson of New York University and Susan Sharpless Smith of Wake Forest University in this ACRL podcast (11:58). Lawson and Sharpless Smith are contributors to the ACRL publication *Library 2.0 Initiatives in Academic Libraries*....

Round Table News

[CLENE Training Showcase](#)

The Continuing Library Education Network and Exchange Round Table is accepting applications for participants and sponsorships for its Training Showcase, to be held at ALA Annual Conference in



Only five weeks until **Teen Tech Week, March 2–8!** Be sure to [register](#) your library for TTW by February 4. Check [here](#) for a few things you can do to get ready.

Digital Library of the Week



The [Digital South Asia Library](#) provides digital materials for reference and research on South Asia to scholars, public officials, business leaders, and other users. This project builds upon a two-year pilot project funded by the Association of Research Libraries' Global Resources Program with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Participants in the Digital South Asia Library include leading U.S. universities, the Center for Research Libraries, the South Asia Microform Project, the Committee on South Asian Libraries and Documentation, the Association for Asian Studies, the Library of Congress, the Asia Society, the British Library, the University



Anaheim, June 29, 1:30–3:30 p.m. The showcase is a good way to connect one-on-one with colleagues who are using your products and services or your ideas to continue the educational advancement and networking of library staff. The deadline for submitting a [proposal](#) is February 22....

CE Buzz, Jan. 28

Awards

[Orson Scott Card's award stirs up controversy](#)

Debra Lau Whelan writes: "If a well-known author writes and speaks about gays and lesbians in a way that many interpret to be anti-gay, should he be given an award that honors his outstanding lifetime contribution to writing for teens? Librarians, authors, and academics have been debating that complex question since January 14, when this year's Margaret A. Edwards Award was handed to Orson Scott Card. The award, established in 1988, honors an author and a specific portion of his or her work, and is administered by YALSA and sponsored by *School Library Journal*."...

School Library Journal, Jan. 16



[Nominations for the Madison awards](#)

The ALA Washington Office is accepting nominations until February 6 for the James Madison Award and the Eileen Cooke State and Local Madison Award. The awards, which will be presented at Freedom of Information Day on March 14, recognize those individuals or groups that have championed, protected, and promoted public access to government information and the public's right to know....

[Peter Heron is academic/research librarian of the year](#)

Peter Heron, professor in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Simmons College, is ACRL's 2008 Academic/Research Librarian of the Year. The award, sponsored by YBP Library Services, recognizes an outstanding member of the library profession who has made a significant contribution to academic/research librarianship and library development. The \$5,000 award will be presented at the ACRL President's Program at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim....



[Excellence in Academic Libraries winners](#)

The recipients of the 2008 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award are the Shatford Library at Pasadena (Calif.) City College (right); the Laurence McKinley Gould Library at Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota; and the McMaster University Libraries, Hamilton, Ontario. Sponsored by ACRL and Blackwell's Book Services, the award recognizes the staff of a college, university, and community college library for programs that deliver



of Oxford, the University of Cambridge, MOZHI in India, the Sundarayya Vignana Kendram in India, Madan Puraskar Pustakalaya in Nepal, and other institutions in South Asia.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#)

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"Self-satisfaction with the inability to remain conscious when faced with printed matter seems questionable. But I also want to question the assumption—whether gloomy or faintly gloating—that books are on the way out. I think they're here to stay. It's just that not all that many people ever did read them. Why should we think everybody ought to now?"

—Author Ursula K. Le Guin, on the National Endowment for the Arts 2004 report on the decline of reading fiction, "Staying Awake: Notes on the Alleged Decline of Reading," *Harpers*, Feb. 2008, pp. 33–38.

"Public libraries."

—Comedian Sarah Silverman, in her list of 34 "Things That Don't Suck," *Wired*, Jan. 18, along with *Guitar Hero*, the set design on *Mad Men*, and salt-and-

exemplary services and resources to further the educational mission of the institution....

Batting for Literacy winner named

Al Smitley of the Northville (Mich.) District Library has been named the winner of the "Batting for literacy @ your library" program for his use of baseball to promote literacy and library services. Smitley will receive a trip for two to the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, New York, for a behind-the-scenes tour of the museum and archives. He will also be recognized on field in front of an audience of 10,000 spectators at the 2008 Hall of Fame Game, an exhibition game between two Major League teams held each year at the Hall of Fame's Doubleday Park, on June 16....

New ALCTS award for 2008

The ALCTS Collection Management and Development Section will present the Coutts Award for Innovation in Electronic Resources Management in 2008. Coutts Information Services has agreed to sponsor the award, which recognizes significant and innovative contributions to electronic collections management and development practice. The award consists of a citation and \$2,000 donated by Coutts. The deadline for nominations is March 1....

2008 notable children's books

ALSC has selected its 2008 list of Notable Children's Books. The list of titles includes fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and picture books of special interest, quality, creativity, and value to children 14 years of age and younger....

2008 notable children's videos

ALSC has selected its 2008 list of Notable Children's Videos, which showcases videos for children 14 years of age and younger that exhibit especially commendable quality, show respect for children's intelligence and imagination, and reflect and encourage the interests of children in exemplary ways....

35 sites added to Great Web Sites for Kids

ALSC has added 35 websites to its [Great Web Sites for Kids page](#), an online resource containing hundreds of links to commendable websites for children. The ALSC Great Web Sites for Kids Committee maintains and updates the site....

BWI/YALSA Collection Development Grant winners

Sarah Daviau of the Lincoln County (Mont.) Public Libraries and Joan Light-Kraft of the Montrose (Colo.) Regional Library District are the winners of the 2008 BWI/YALSA Collection Development Grant. The \$1,000 grant is awarded to YALSA members who represent a public library and work directly with young adults ages 12–18....

2008 Baker & Taylor scholarship winners

YALSA has named Sudi Q. Napalan and Charlene Helsel-Kather the recipients of the 2008 Baker & Taylor Conference Grant. Each will receive a \$1,000 grant to attend ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, June 26–July 2. Napalan is the school library media specialist at Saipan Southern High School in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Helsel-Kather is the young adult librarian for the Elyria (Ohio) Public Library....

Apply for a Harvard Leadership Institute scholarship

vinegar potato chips.

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. I know there are seals libraries can buy for children's books that win awards from the American Library Association. Are there seals I can buy to put on the copies of those books that our library already owns that were named Notable Books for Children?

A. Yes! Seals for the [Children's Notable Lists](#)—and several of the other ALA literary awards—may be purchased in packages of 24 through the [ALA Online Store](#). Rolls of 1,000 pressure-sensitive seals may also be purchased by [special arrangement](#). Seals are available for bulk sales for many ALA awards. (See the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#) for details.) Just a reminder that ALA Award and Notable Seals are the sole property of the American Library Association. Publishers or any other organizations are prohibited from reproducing seals without permission from ALA. Seals may only be placed on the

ACRL is offering two scholarships for the 2008 ACRL/Harvard Leadership Institute, which will be held in Cambridge, Massachusetts, August 3–8. The scholarships are for individuals currently working in historically black colleges and universities, tribal colleges or universities, or Hispanic-serving institutions. The deadline to [apply](#) is February 29....

[Great Books Giveaway winners](#)

YALSA has named the Margaret Green Junior High School in Cleveland, Mississippi, the winner of its 2008 Great Books Giveaway. Its library will receive one ton of books, audiobooks, and other materials, worth approximately \$30,000, from items donated to YALSA in 2007. Camden County (N.C.) High School will receive approximately \$4,000 in similar materials....

[New ALISE award named for Norman Horrocks](#)

The Association for Library and Information Science Education has established a Norman Horrocks Leadership Award to honor an ALISE member of no more than seven years membership who has demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities in professional ALISE activities. The award honors Norman Horrocks, past president of ALISE and a former ALA councilor for 21 years....

Association for Library and Information Science Education, Jan. 22

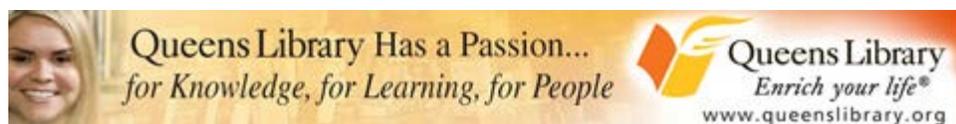
[New ISTE Media Specialist Technology awards](#)

Entries are being accepted for the first annual International Society for Technology in Education SIG Media Specialist Technology Innovation Award, sponsored by Linworth Publishing, *Library Media Connection*, and Follett Software Company. The award will be presented to two teams, consisting of a school librarian and collaborating teacher, who have conducted an exemplary technology program extending beyond the library to meet the needs of classroom students and teachers. The deadline is March 15....

[Gilroy librarian wins Mover of Mountains award](#)

Lani Yoshimura, community librarian of the Gilroy branch of the Santa Clara County (Calif.) Library, accepted the Mover of Mountains Award January 21 from the Martin Luther King Jr. Association of Santa Clara Valley. The award is presented to an individual whose life and work perpetuates the philosophy and spirit of Dr. King....

Gilroy (Calif.) Dispatch, Jan. 18



Seen Online

[Danish library to exhibit Muhammad cartoons](#)

Denmark's Royal Library is risking the wrath of Muslims with plans to display controversial cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad that sparked violent protest throughout the Islamic world two years ago. The 12 caricatures of Islam's founder were published in Danish newspapers in September 2005, triggering riots and violence which claimed the lives of over 50 people. The library is classifying the cartoons as "historic" objects alongside other Danish treasures, such as original manuscripts by Martin Luther....

Daily Telegraph (U.K.), Jan. 30

media that originally won the award. For example, a video treatment of a Newbery-winning book should not carry a Newbery seal....

@ The [ALA Librarian](#) welcomes your questions.

Calendar

Feb. 6:

[Follett Lecture.](#)

Dominican University GSLIS, River Forest, Illinois. Steven Herb, a past president of ALSC, talks about "The Importance of Libraries in the Lives of Young Children." Contact: [GSLIS](#). (708) 524-6845.

Feb. 10:

[Frances Clarke Sayers Lecture.](#)

Korn Auditorium, University of California, Los Angeles. Panel consists of David Diaz, Sid Fleischman, Cynthia Kadohata, and Michael Cart. Contact: (310) 206-0375.

Feb. 28–

Mar. 2:

[Alaska Library Association.](#)

Conference, Fairbanks Princess Riverfront Lodge. "Can't Stop Raven About Libraries."

Mar. 4–6:

[Louisiana Library Association.](#)

Conference, Shreveport Convention Center.

Mar. 14:

[National Information Standards](#)

[New York archivist charged in thefts from state library](#)

A veteran state archivist said he stole hundreds of historical artifacts from the New York State Library in Albany—including two Davy Crockett almanacs—to pay for home renovations, tuition, and his daughter's \$10,000 credit card bill. Daniel Lorello, accessioning and special project coordinator with the state archives, was arraigned in city court January 28 and allegedly told investigators he took the items on an "as-needed basis" starting in 2002 and auctioned them on the internet....

Albany (N.Y.) Times-Union, Jan. 29

[New Jersey Library Association launches grassroots campaign](#)

In attempts to thwart state legislation that would change the long-established formula for funding libraries, the New Jersey Library Association has launched a [postcard campaign](#). Libraries around the state are making the postcards available for patrons to fill out as they browse the shelves. The bill the campaign focuses on, written by Assemblywoman Linda Greenstein, would change the current library funding formula and limit it to a 4% increase per year....

East Brunswick (N.J.) Sentinel, Jan. 24; New Jersey Library Association



[New Rochelle trustee arrested in sex sting](#)

The New Rochelle (N.Y.) Public Library is consulting with attorneys to determine how it might deal with a board member caught in an internet sex sting. Frank Pasquale III, whose five-year term on the library board is up for election on May 20, was arrested January 24 in Naugatuck, Connecticut, where police accused him of going for a prearranged sexual encounter with whom he thought was a 14-year-old girl, but instead was a detective....

Lower Hudson Valley (N.Y.) Journal-News, Jan. 29

[The line between freedom and safety](#)

Most of the dozen computer terminals on the spacious second level of the Mahopac (N.Y.) Public Library were in use one morning late in January. One terminal was missing, however, having been removed by the police after the arrest of a 53-year-old man from Brewster who the police said was caught downloading images of child pornography while at the library....

New York Times, Jan. 27

[Librarians indispensable to Tucson schools](#)

Ann-Eve Pedersen writes: "There's no ambiguity in the Tucson Unified School District's own policy statement about the importance of having its libraries staffed by a 'highly qualified teacher-librarian.' Yet because of budget problems, TUSD administrators have been floating different plans to eliminate or severely reduce the number of librarians in our schools."...

Tucson Arizona Daily Star, Jan. 29

[Methodists against Bush Library force vote](#)

Methodists opposed to a George W. Bush Presidential Library, museum, and policy institute at Southern Methodist University in Dallas are mounting a last-ditch effort to block a nearly completed deal by throwing the decision to a regional church conference in July. Opponents of the project, including current and retired bishops and

Organization, Digital Preservation Forum, Holiday Inn on the Hill, Washington, D.C. "Planning Today for Tomorrow's Resources." Contact: [NISO](#).

Mar. 15:

[SPLAT! A Graphic Novel Symposium](#)

New York Center for Independent Publishing, New York City. Keynote speaker will be Scott McCloud. Contact: [NYCIP](#).

Apr. 9–11:

[New Mexico Library Association](#)

Conference, Las Cruces. "Seek-Learn-Inspire."

Apr. 9–11:

[Kansas Library Association](#)

Conference, Century City II Convention Center, Wichita.

Apr. 9–11:

[Tennessee Library Association](#)

Conference, Meadowview Convention Center, Kingsport.

Apr. 9–12:

[Montana Library Association](#)

Conference, Heritage Inn, Great Falls. "Libraries: Montana's Voice for Freedom."

Apr. 15-18:

[Texas Library Association](#)

Conference, Dallas. "Books, Bytes, and Beyond."

Apr. 15–18:

[Oregon Library Association / Washington Library Association](#)

Joint Conference, Vancouver,

faculty members hostile to President Bush over the Iraq war and social issues, say church rules require that an agreement be submitted to the 290 elected delegates of the church's South Central Jurisdiction....

New York Times, Jan. 30

[Massachusetts library raises big bucks with golf fundraiser](#)

Winter winds and swirling snow failed to dampen the enthusiasm that greeted the inaugural miniature golf championship held at the Southworth branch of the Dartmouth (Mass.) Public Library January 27. Dolly Sharek, treasurer of the library foundation, said "We had 274 golfers sign up, and we raised just over \$10,000." Golfers of all ages were challenged by the unique aspect of the library course, which explored all corners of the building with a 10th hole that teed off on the second floor and finished on the first....

New Bedford (Mass.) Standard-Times, Jan. 28

[Khmer books enrich Long Beach collection](#)

A small crowd tore with delight into eight tightly sealed cardboard boxes January 28 at the Mark Twain branch of the Long Beach (Calif.) Public Library, pulling out the first of 1,105 new Khmer-language books recently arrived from Cambodia. The additional books will give Long Beach's sizable Cambodian community some much-needed new reading materials that will serve both young and old....

Long Beach (Calif.) Press-Telegram, Jan. 28



Tech Talk

[Say good-bye to Wi-Fi](#)

Sascha Segan writes: "It's 2008, and I still can't find a working Wi-Fi hotspot half the time. But that's okay, because three major cellular service providers now have nationwide high-speed data networks to connect PCs and Macs to the internet pretty much anywhere. One of the major drawbacks, however, is the price you'll pay for the privilege of connectivity with USB modem and wireless card plans."...

PC Magazine, Jan. 23



[How to tell if you are addicted to technology](#)

Clara Moskowitz writes: "They're not called 'Crackberries' for nothing. Some people may be as addicted to Blackberries and other personal electronics as junkies are to drugs, according to John O'Neill, director of addictions services for the Menninger Clinic in Houston. These overwired people are so focused on their gadgets, they neglect relationships with other people, O'Neill said. Communication aids such as texting and email may actually hamper our abilities to have more important face-to-face conversations."...

LiveScience, Jan. 28

[Meeting the needs of device-happy teens](#)

Depending on the report, last year saw anywhere from half to three-quarters of teens owning MP3 players. And

Washington. "Sharing More than a Border."

Apr. 16:

[Lazerow Lecture](#)

Dominican University
GSLIS, River Forest,
Illinois. Rosalind Picard,
director of MIT's
Affective Computing
Research Group, will
present "From Tin Man
to Cyborg: Technology
and Emotional
Intelligence." Contact:
[GSLIS](#), (708) 524-6845.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

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Direct



AL Direct is a free electronic newsletter emailed every Wednesday to personal members of the [American Library Association](#).

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given that MP3 players remain at the [top of teen wish lists](#), you're going to see even more teens asking the question: "How do I download MP3s on these computers?" Increasingly, the software and security on your library's computers is going to decide whether you're poised to meet teen information needs. Here's a brief guide to making your library's computers MP3 capable....
YALSA Blog, Jan. 28

All links outside the ALA website are provided for informational purposes only. Questions about the content of any external site should be addressed to the administrator of that site.

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Learn what other **librarians** are doing to serve **teens!**
Sign up for our **Free** newsletter...

Homework Happenings!



Actions & Answers

[British researchers: The "Google Generation" is a myth](#)

A new study questions the common assumption that the "Google Generation"—youngsters born or brought up in the internet age—is the most web-literate. A virtual longitudinal study ([PDF file](#)) carried out by the CIBER research team at University College London claims that, although young people demonstrate an apparent ease and familiarity with computers, they rely heavily on search engines, view rather than read, and do not possess the critical and analytical skills to assess the information that they find on the Web....

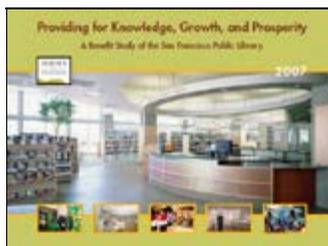
British Library, Jan. 16



[New study lauds the value of San Francisco's libraries](#)

A study released January 30 by the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library quantifies the substantial value that the San Francisco Public Library provides to city residents. Through an examination of an array of library benefits, the study reveals that the SFPL generates an impressive return of \$3.34 for every dollar spent on its operations and services....

Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, Jan. 30



[Sunshine Week 2008 webcast](#)

A two-part webcast on open government will be held during Sunshine Week on March 19, 1–2:30 p.m. Eastern time. The webcast, hosted by OpenTheGovernment.org, is free to those who [register](#), but there is an option for a fee-based satellite downlink. The first segment is a panel discussion on executive branch power and secrecy, congressional rights and responsibilities, and the role of the press. The focus of the second segment is on citizen self-help....

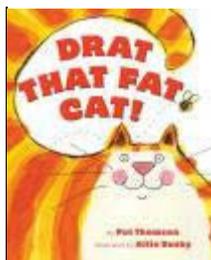
District Dispatch, Jan. 30

[Storytime with a cat theme](#)

Jennifer Schultz writes: "It's so disgustingly simple to create a cats storytime that I'm almost ashamed of myself. There's such a huge assortment of cat-themed

picture books that I had difficulty in choosing which books to include. But including oldies-but-goodies is a nice way to reconnect parents, grandparents, and childcare providers with childhood favorites or to introduce 'neglected' picture books."...

ALSC blog, Jan. 23



[Can you loan a Kindle to patrons?](#)

Rochelle Hartman asked Amazon.com to verify whether a library would be in violation of its terms of service contract to circulate ebooks on the Kindle. One person she talked to said yes, but a commenter to her blog got a completely different answer: "You will be able to purchase Kindles for your library to use for checking out to patrons, as long as you are not reselling the digital content." Why the discrepancy?...

Tinfoil + Raccoon blog, Jan. 28

[LISjobs.com now offers forums](#)

Rachel Singer Gordon has launched [LISJobs Forum](#), a discussion place for librarians to share ideas and experiences related to career development. Current threads include job-hunting strategies, professional success, and LIS education....

LISJobs



[Growth in gaming far outpaces movies, music](#)

2007 was a banner year for video gaming, and the industry has the figures to prove it. The Entertainment Software Association announced January 24 that total sales for 2007 were \$18.85 billion, with \$9.5 billion of that spent on games (both PC and console) and \$9.35 billion on consoles. The motion picture industry saw a modest growth in 2007, but things aren't going as smoothly for the music industry....

Ars Technica, Jan. 24

[Carcassonne: The board game](#)

Brian Mayer writes: "There are very few board games that have had a profound effect on the gaming cultural iconography. Carcassonne's meeples permeate gaming fan imagery. People have self-crafted life-size meeples, made meeple cakes, and even taken photos of their meeples in France, the locale of the game. Along with Settlers of Catan, Carcassonne helped refocus part of the gaming culture back towards board games."...

Library Gamer blog, Jan. 22



[Thoughts on the essence of Library 2.0](#)

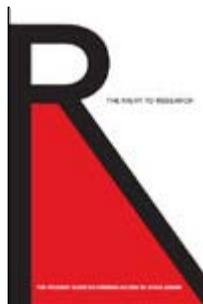
Meredith Farkas writes: "I found John Blyberg's post, [Library 2.0 Debased](#), very interesting and in many ways, a breath of fresh air. I agree with him on a lot of levels. I agree that mistakes have been made. I think there has been a lot of confusing rhetoric about Library 2.0. I think a lot of people lost touch with what their patrons actually needed and wanted and started implementing cool technologies because they thought that was what Library 2.0 was about. I think the only thing we really disagree on is whether Library 2.0 actually has a single coherent definition."...

Information Wants to Be Free blog, Jan. 24

[New SPARC student campaign for Open Access](#)

The Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition has released a new educational initiative to engage students on the topic of Open Access. "The Right to Research" repeats SPARC's call for student voices to broaden the ongoing discussion of access to research. The campaign includes a [brochure](#), a [website](#), and other informative materials....

Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition, Jan. 28



[Mildly attractive guybrarian calendar](#)

The University of South Carolina School of Library and Information Science Student Association has created a "Mildly Attractive Men of SLIS" calendar as a fundraising effort to send students to the 2008 IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Quebec. "A different guybrarian each month! One for every taste!"...

University of South Carolina LISSA



[What young people can expect from the library](#)

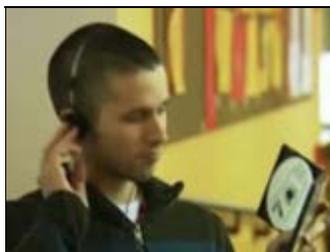
The UK Museums, Libraries, and Archives Council issued a statement January 29 defining what young people should be entitled to from their local library. The statement is part of a wider agenda to ensure children and young people, both through schools and other institutions such as libraries, have increasing access to cultural services and learning opportunities....

Museums, Libraries, and Archives Council, Jan. 29

[Massachusetts library promo](#)

The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners developed this TV spot to promote its new website that connects state residents with their local libraries, even virtually: "You can get everything the library offers, even when you're not actually at the library." It also includes a link to Mass Answers, a 24/7 reference chatline....

Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners



[Tour the Harper College Library](#)

Hop on a cart and take a video tour (2:40) of the Harper College Library in Palatine, Illinois, while the knowledgeable staff guides you to your destination, whether that's the information desk, a quiet room, the stacks, the reference desk, or circulation. "Good morning! Would you like a beverage or a pillow?"...

YouTube, Dec. 13



AL Direct, January 30, 2008

Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail? Click here [[util.viewHtmlLink %>\].](#)]

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | January 30, 2008

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[<http://www.schoolrooms.net>]

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Grassroots group grows mini-SKILLs bill in Washington State

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/january2008/washingtonskills.cfm>]

Characterizing school library media specialists as “an endangered species,” Washington State Sen. Tracey J. Eide (right, D-Federal Way) introduced a bill (SB 6380) January 22 that codifies through a per-pupil formula how many credentialed school library media specialists should be employed by each district and offers some \$55 million to fund the initiative. Its aim of guaranteeing the presence in school libraries of certificated staff echoes the language of the federal SKILLs (Strengthening Kids’s Interest in Learning and Libraries) Act, introduced in June 2007 as an unfunded amendment to the No Child Left Behind Act and scheduled for Senate committee review in February....

Warrantless wiretap law extended until February 16

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/january2008/paextended.cfm>]

On the evening of January 29, the House and Senate passed by voice vote a two-week extension of the Protect America Act [<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d110:s.01927:>], which had been set to expire on February 1. Originally enacted in August 2007 as a six-month amendment to the 30-year-old Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, PAA enabled the National Security Agency to eavesdrop on foreign communications, including phone calls and email exchanges, between someone “reasonably believed to be outside the United States” and a person on U.S. soil. There is no exemption in the PAA for communications traveling to or from U.S. libraries....

returns to Calgary schools

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/january2008/goldencompass.cfm>]

The Calgary (Alberta) Catholic School District has returned Philip Pullman’s The Golden Compass to its library shelves after ordering its removal two months ago. Calgary was among several Catholic school systems that pulled the fantasy novel, which has been accused of antireligious content, for review following a complaint in the municipality of Halton in late November....

triggers a challenge in Pennsylvania

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/january2008/giveaboy.cfm>]

A reconsideration committee for Bangor Area (Pa.) Middle School unanimously voted to keep Todd Strasser’s Give a Boy a Gun on library shelves over a student’s aunt’s concerns about the book’s depiction of school violence. School board members agreed January 21, deciding against tweaking materials selection policy. Published in the aftermath of the Columbine High School shootings, Give a Boy a Gun is a novel in which two students hold classmates and teachers hostage at a school dance....

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[<http://www.tech-logic.com/>]
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ALA News

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Roy to speak at FCC digital television workshop

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/fccdtvroy.htm>]

On Thursday, January 31, ALA President Loriene Roy will speak at the Federal Communications Commission on the role of libraries in supporting tribal and rural communities during the upcoming Digital Television transition. This DTV Consumer Education Workshop will feature panel discussions focusing on both consumers on tribal lands and rural consumers and will explore the challenges associated with ensuring that those groups receive and can act on information regarding the DTV transition....

ALA rallies in Washington State for school library reform

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/rally08.htm>]

ALA President Loriene Roy, AASL President Sara Kelly Johns, and school library supporters from across the country will gather at the Washington State Capitol in Olympia at noon on February 1 to rally in support of school library funding and staffing reform and Senate Bill 6380, which would give all students in the state full-time access to school libraries and certified school library media specialists....

Salary survey invitations sent

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/survey08.htm>]
Library directors and human resources staff at nearly 4,000 public and academic libraries have been sent invitations to participate in the 2008 ALA-APA Library Salary Survey. This year, the survey asks for salary data for six librarian titles. The deadline is February 29. In order to thank participants, all responding institutions will be given 30-day access to the ALA-APA Library Salary Database.
[<http://cs.ala.org/websurvey/salariesurvey/login/login.cfm>]...

Make your blog or wiki more visible

[<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2008/01/28/making-your-units-blog-more-visible/>]
ALA bloggers are invited to add missing links to the ALA Read Write Connect wiki [<http://wikis.ala.org/readwriteconnect/>], which lists all of our known 2.0-ish sites (blogs [http://wikis.ala.org/readwriteconnect/index.php/ALA_blogs], wikis [http://wikis.ala.org/readwriteconnect/index.php/ALA_wikis], podcasts [http://wikis.ala.org/readwriteconnect/index.php/ALA_podcasts], discussion forums [http://wikis.ala.org/readwriteconnect/index.php/ALA_discussion_forums], etc.). Basically, this is our attempt to bring together in one place all of the online sites where you can interact with ALA staff and colleagues....
ALA Marginalia blog, Jan. 28

AL Focus

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Youth Media Awards 2008

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/youth-media-awards-2008>]
In just 60 seconds of images and sound, AL Focus Editor Dan Kraus conveys his impressions of the Youth Media Awards 2008—the Newbery and Caldecott medals, the Printz award, and others. If you missed the announcements at the ALA Midwinter Meeting, either in person or by webcast or by cellphone, you can glimpse the excitement of the moment in this video. A full list of the winners is on the ALA website.
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/presscentera/piopresskits/alamidwintermeeting2008/yma08sp.htm>]...

Featured review: Reference

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2432905]
Oxford Language Dictionaries Online. Nov. 2007. Oxford University Press.

[<http://www.oxfordlanguagedictionaries.com>]

Oxford University Press is known for its excellent bilingual dictionaries in many languages. Libraries may now subscribe to them online. Oxford Language Dictionaries Online currently has French-English, English-French; German-English, English-German; Italian-English, English-Italian; and Spanish-English, English-Spanish dictionaries. The publisher plans to add Russian and Chinese in 2008. Libraries can subscribe to a single language or to any combination of languages. Tabs allow users to select French, German, Italian, or Spanish. The dictionaries are easy to search using the quick search box or advanced options that allow limiting searches by field (headwords or full text) and filtering by speech part, level of formality, and geographical variant....

@ Visit Booklist Online [<http://www.booklistonline.com>] for other reviews and much more....

Philadelphia Update

Video of Tom Hayden's talk at ALA Midwinter

[http://mambo.alexanderstreet.com/player/video/index.php?dorp_id=4142008]

On January 13, Alexander Street Press held its customer appreciation breakfast with guest speaker Tom Hayden. From the 1960s to today, Hayden has been a leading figure in social activism and political reform. Those who were there in the 60s (or have studied the period) remember Hayden as one of the Chicago Seven indicted after antiwar protests outside of the 1968 Chicago Democratic Convention. Here he talks about the legacy of the Sixties....

Alexander Street Press

Midwinter Highlights issue

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2008/cognotes.htm>]

If you missed the meeting and want a summary of the big events, browse or download the Highlights issue (PDF file

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2008/Cognotes-Highlights-MW08.pdf>]) of Cognotes. ALA members should have received a paper copy in the mail....

Division News

I Love My Librarian Valentine's Day campaign

[http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/I_Love_My_Librarian_Campaign]

The Joint Youth Legislative Committee (AASL, ALSC, and YALSA) has created a campaign to support library legislation with ideas and talking points around Valentine's Day. To celebrate the holiday, have your teens, parents, children, and library supporters flood federal elected officials' district offices with Valentines that express love for your library and its staff and ask for support for important legislation....

YALSA wiki

Host institution sought for 2009 Arbuthnot Lecture

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/arbuthnothonor/HostApplication.htm>]

Institutions that would like to host next year's Arbuthnot Lecture, to be given in April or early May 2009 by YA author Walter Dean Myers, will be accepted by the ALSC Arbuthnot Lecture Committee through May 1....

ALSC children and technology survey [<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/?p=225>]

Do you feel the need for easy access to updates and information about cutting-edge technology and its use with the kids you serve? The ALSC Children and Technology Committee needs your input. Please complete this brief survey,

[<http://survey.jocolibrary.org/Surveys/TakeSurvey.aspx?surveyid=1072>]

which will be available through March 1....

ALSC blog, Jan. 27

Register for AASL Spring e-Academy courses

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/eacademy08.htm>]

Seven AASL e-Academy courses, offered via a partnership with the University of North Texas Project LE@D, are scheduled to begin April 7.

The spring offerings include four facilitated courses and three self-paced courses. All programs offer 24-hour access. Registration

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aasleducation/onlinecontinuing/courses/courses.cfm>] is open until April 3....

Library 2.0 initiatives in academic libraries

[http://blogs.ala.org/acrlpodcast.php?title=library_2_0_initiatives_in_academic_libr&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1]

College & Research Libraries News Editor-in-Chief David Free discusses Library 2.0 with Dawn Lawson of New York University and Susan Sharpless Smith of Wake Forest University in this ACRL podcast (11:58). Lawson and Sharpless Smith are contributors to the ACRL publication Library 2.0 Initiatives in Academic Libraries....

Round Table News

CLENE Training Showcase

[<http://cebuzz.wordpress.com/2008/01/28/clene-training-showcase-2008-now-accepting-applications/>]

The Continuing Library Education Network and Exchange Round Table is accepting applications for participants and sponsorships for its Training Showcase, to be held at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, June 29, 1:30–3:30 p.m. The showcase is a good way to connect one-on-one with colleagues who are using your products and services or your ideas to continue the educational advancement and networking of library staff. The deadline for submitting a proposal

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/clenert/trainingshowcase/index.cfm>] is February 22....

CE Buzz, Jan. 28

Orson Scott Card's award stirs up controversy

[<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6523290.html>]

Debra Lau Whelan writes: "If a well-known author writes and speaks about gays and lesbians in a way that many interpret to be anti-gay, should he be given an award that honors his outstanding lifetime contribution to writing for teens? Librarians, authors, and academics have been debating that complex question since January 14, when this year's Margaret A. Edwards Award was handed to Orson Scott Card. The award, established in 1988, honors an author and a specific portion of his or her work, and is administered by YALSA and sponsored by School Library Journal."... School Library Journal, Jan. 16

Nominations for the Madison awards

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/madison08.htm>]

The ALA Washington Office is accepting nominations until February 6 for the James Madison Award and the Eileen Cooke State and Local Madison Award. The awards, which will be presented at Freedom of Information Day on March 14, recognize those individuals or groups that have championed, protected, and promoted public access to government information and the public's right to know....

Peter Herson is academic/research librarian of the year

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/hernon08.htm>]

Peter Herson, professor in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Simmons College, is ACRL's 2008 Academic/Research Librarian of the Year. The award, sponsored by YBP Library Services, recognizes an outstanding member of the library profession who has made a significant contribution to academic/research librarianship and library development. The \$5,000 award will be presented at the ACRL President's Program at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim....

Excellence in Academic Libraries winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/academic08.htm>]

The recipients of the 2008 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award are the Shatford Library at Pasadena (Calif.) City College (right); the Laurence McKinley Gould Library at Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota; and the McMaster University Libraries, Hamilton, Ontario. Sponsored by ACRL and Blackwell's Book Services, the award recognizes the staff of a college, university, and community college library for programs that deliver exemplary services and resources to further the educational mission of the institution....

Batting for Literacy winner named

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/battingforliteracy.htm>]

Al Smitley of the Northville (Mich.) District Library has been named the winner of the "Batting for literacy @ your library" program for his use of baseball to promote literacy and library services. Smitley will receive a trip for two to the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, New York, for a behind-the-scenes tour of the

museum and archives. He will also be recognized on field in front of an audience of 10,000 spectators at the 2008 Hall of Fame Game, an exhibition game between two Major League teams held each year at the Hall of Fame’s Doubleday Park, on June 16....

New ALCTS award for 2008

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/coutts08.htm>]

The ALCTS Collection Management and Development Section will present the Coutts Award for Innovation in Electronic Resources Management in 2008. Coutts Information Services has agreed to sponsor the award, which recognizes significant and innovative contributions to electronic collections management and development practice. The award consists of a citation and \$2,000 donated by Coutts. The deadline for nominations is March 1....

2008 notable children’s books

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/ncb2008.htm>]

ALSC has selected its 2008 list of Notable Children's Books. The list of titles includes fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and picture books of special interest, quality, creativity, and value to children 14 years of age and younger....

2008 notable children’s videos

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/ncv08.htm>]

ALSC has selected its 2008 list of Notable Children's Videos, which showcases videos for children 14 years of age and younger that exhibit especially commendable quality, show respect for children's intelligence and imagination, and reflect and encourage the interests of children in exemplary ways....

35 sites added to Great Web Sites for Kids

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/ews08.htm>]

ALSC has added 35 websites to its Great Web Sites for Kids page, [<http://www.ala.org/greatsites/>] an online resource containing hundreds of links to commendable websites for children. The ALSC Great Web Sites for Kids Committee maintains and updates the site....

BWI/YALSA Collection Development Grant winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/ydev08.htm>]

Sarah Daviau of the Lincoln County (Mont.) Public Libraries and Joan Light-Kraft of the Montrose (Colo.) Regional Library District are the winners of the 2008 BWI/YALSA Collection Development Grant. The \$1,000 grant is awarded to YALSA members who represent a public library and work directly with young adults ages 12-18....

2008 Baker & Taylor scholarship winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/bt08.htm>]

YALSA has named Sudi Q. Napalan and Charlene Helsel-Kather the recipients of the 2008 Baker & Taylor Conference Grant. Each will receive a \$1,000 grant to attend ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, June 26-July 2. Napalan is the school library media specialist at Saipan Southern High School in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Helsel-Kather is the young adult librarian for the Elyria (Ohio) Public Library....

Apply for a Harvard Leadership Institute scholarship

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/harvard08.htm>]

ACRL is offering two scholarships for the 2008 ACRL/Harvard Leadership Institute, which will be held in Cambridge, Massachusetts, August 3–8.

The scholarships are for individuals currently working in historically black colleges and universities, tribal colleges or universities, or Hispanic-serving institutions. The deadline to apply

[<https://marvin.foresightint.com/surveys/Tier1Survey/ACRL/239>] is

February 29....

Great Books Giveaway winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/january2008/giveaway08.htm>]

YALSA has named the Margaret Green Junior High School in Cleveland, Mississippi, the winner of its 2008 Great Books Giveaway. Its library will receive one ton of books, audiobooks, and other materials, worth approximately \$30,000, from items donated to YALSA in 2007. Camden County (N.C.) High School will receive approximately \$4,000 in similar materials....

New ALISE award named for Norman Horrocks

[<http://www.alise.org/mc/page.do?sitePageId=62136&orgId=ali>]

The Association for Library and Information Science Education has established a Norman Horrocks Leadership Award to honor an ALISE member of no more than seven years membership who has demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities in professional ALISE activities. The award honors Norman Horrocks, past president of ALISE and a former ALA councilor for 21 years....

Association for Library and Information Science Education, Jan. 22

New ISTE Media Specialist Technology awards

[http://www.iste.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Membership/SIGs/SIGMS_Media_Specialists_/TechnologyInnovationAward/Technology_Innovation_Award.htm]

Entries are being accepted for the first annual International Society for Technology in Education SIG Media Specialist Technology Innovation Award, sponsored by Linworth Publishing, Library Media Connection, and Follett Software Company. The award will be presented to two teams, consisting of a school librarian and collaborating teacher, who have conducted an exemplary technology program extending beyond the library to meet the needs of classroom students and teachers. The deadline is March 15....

Gilroy librarian wins Mover of Mountains award

[<http://www.gilroydispatch.com/news/234156-better-than-your-average-librarian>]

Lani Yoshimura, community librarian of the Gilroy branch of the Santa Clara County (Calif.) Library, accepted the Mover of Mountains Award January 21 from the Martin Luther King Jr. Association of Santa Clara Valley. The award is presented to an individual whose life and work perpetuates the philosophy and spirit of Dr. King....

Gilroy (Calif.) Dispatch, Jan. 18

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[<http://www.queenslibrary.org/jobs>]

Seen Online

Danish library to exhibit Muhammad cartoons

[<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2008/01/30/wcartoon130.xml>]

Denmark's Royal Library is risking the wrath of Muslims with plans to display controversial cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad that sparked violent protest throughout the Islamic world two years ago. The 12 caricatures of Islam's founder were published in Danish newspapers in September 2005, triggering riots and violence which claimed the lives of over 50 people. The library is classifying the cartoons as "historic" objects alongside other Danish treasures, such as original manuscripts by Martin Luther....

Daily Telegraph (U.K.), Jan. 30

New York archivist charged in thefts from state library

[<http://timesunion.com/AspStories/story.asp?storyID=659133&category=FRONTPG&BCCCode=HOME&newsdate=1/29/2008>]

A veteran state archivist said he stole hundreds of historical artifacts from the New York State Library in Albany—including two Davy Crockett almanacs—to pay for home renovations, tuition, and his daughter's \$10,000 credit card bill. Daniel Lorello, accessioning and special project coordinator with the state archives, was arraigned in city court January 28 and allegedly told investigators he took the items on an "as-needed basis" starting in 2002 and auctioned them on the internet....

Albany (N.Y.) Times-Union, Jan. 29

New Jersey Library Association launches grassroots campaign

[http://ebs.gmnews.com/news/2008/0124/Front_Page/041.html]

In attempts to thwart state legislation that would change the long-established formula for funding libraries, the New Jersey Library Association has launched a postcard campaign. [<http://www.njla.org/>] Libraries around the state are making the postcards available for patrons to fill out as they browse the shelves. The bill the campaign focuses on, written by Assemblywoman Linda Greenstein, would change the current library funding formula and limit it to a 4% increase per year....

East Brunswick (N.J.) Sentinel, Jan. 24; New Jersey Library Association

New Rochelle trustee arrested in sex sting

[<http://www.lohud.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2008801290342>]

The New Rochelle (N.Y.) Public Library is consulting with attorneys to determine how it might deal with a board member caught in an internet sex sting. Frank Pasquale III, whose five-year term on the library board is up for election on May 20, was arrested January 24 in Naugatuck, Connecticut, where police accused him of going for a prearranged sexual encounter with whom he thought was a 14-year-old girl, but instead was a detective....

Lower Hudson Valley (N.Y.) Journal-News, Jan. 29

The line between freedom and safety

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/27/nyregion/nyregionspecial2/27librarywe.html>]

Most of the dozen computer terminals on the spacious second level of the Mahopac (N.Y.) Public Library were in use one morning late in January. One terminal was missing, however, having been removed by the police after the arrest of a 53-year-old man from Brewster who the police said was caught downloading images of child pornography while at the library....

New York Times, Jan. 27

Librarians indispensable to Tucson schools

[<http://www.azstarnet.com/allheadlines/222557.php>]

Ann-Eve Pedersen writes: "There's no ambiguity in the Tucson Unified School District's own policy statement about the importance of having its libraries staffed by a 'highly qualified teacher-librarian.' Yet because of budget problems, TUSD administrators have been floating different plans to eliminate or severely reduce the number of librarians in our schools."...

Tucson Arizona Daily Star, Jan. 29

Methodists against Bush Library force vote

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/30/us/30smu.html>]

Methodists opposed to a George W. Bush Presidential Library, museum, and policy institute at Southern Methodist University in Dallas are mounting a last-ditch effort to block a nearly completed deal by throwing the decision to a regional church conference in July. Opponents of the project, including current and retired bishops and faculty members hostile to President Bush over the Iraq war and social issues, say church rules require that an agreement be submitted to the 290 elected delegates of the church's South Central Jurisdiction....

New York Times, Jan. 30

Massachusetts library raises big bucks with golf fundraiser

[<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080128/NEWS/801280335>]

Winter winds and swirling snow failed to dampen the enthusiasm that greeted the inaugural miniature golf championship held at the Southworth branch of the Dartmouth (Mass.) Public Library January 27. Dolly Sharek, treasurer of the library foundation, said "We had 274 golfers sign up, and we raised just over \$10,000." Golfers of all ages were challenged by the unique aspect of the library course, which explored all corners of the building with a 10th hole that teed off on the second floor and finished on the first....

New Bedford (Mass.) Standard-Times, Jan. 28

Khmer books enrich Long Beach collection

[http://www2.presstelegram.com/ci_8105355]

A small crowd tore with delight into eight tightly sealed cardboard boxes January 28 at the Mark Twain branch of the Long Beach (Calif.) Public Library, pulling out the first of 1,105 new Khmer-language books recently arrived from Cambodia. The additional books will give Long Beach's sizable Cambodian community some much-needed new reading materials that will serve both young and old....

[<http://www.maintainITproject.org>]

Tech Talk

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2704,2249616,00.asp>] Say good-bye to Wi-Fi [<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,1759,2251604,00.asp>]
Sascha Segan writes: "It's 2008, and I still can't find a working Wi-Fi hotspot half the time. But that's okay, because three major cellular service providers now have nationwide high-speed data networks to connect PCs and Macs to the internet pretty much anywhere. One of the major drawbacks, however, is the price you'll pay for the privilege of connectivity with USB modem and wireless card plans."...
PC Magazine, Jan. 23

How to tell if you are addicted to technology
[<http://www.livescience.com/technology/080125-tech-addicts.html>]
Clara Moskowitz writes: "They're not called 'Crackberries' for nothing. Some people may be as addicted to Blackberries and other personal electronics as junkies are to drugs, according to John O'Neill, director of addictions services for the Menninger Clinic in Houston. These overwired people are so focused on their gadgets, they neglect relationships with other people, O'Neill said. Communication aids such as texting and email may actually hamper our abilities to have more important face-to-face conversations."...
LiveScience, Jan. 28

Meeting the needs of device-happy teens
[http://blogs.ala.org/yalsa.php?title=meeting_the_needs_of_device_happy_teens_1&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1]
Depending on the report, last year saw anywhere from half to three-quarters of teens owning MP3 players. And given that MP3 players remain at the top of teen wish lists [http://www.appliancedesign.com/CDA/Archives/BNP_GUID_9-5-2006_A_1000000000000188836], you're going to see even more teens asking the question: "How do I download MP3s on these computers?" Increasingly, the software and security on your library's computers is going to decide whether you're poised to meet teen information needs. Here's a brief guide to making your library's computers MP3 capable....
YALSA Blog, Jan. 28

[<mailto:homeworkhappenings@tutor.com>]

British researchers: The ‘Google Generation’ is a myth
[<http://www.bl.uk/news/2008/pressrelease20080116.html>]

A new study questions the common assumption that the “Google Generation”—youngsters born or brought up in the internet age—is the most web-literate. A virtual longitudinal study (PDF file [<http://www.bl.uk/news/pdf/googlegen.pdf>]) carried out by the CIBER research team at University College London claims that, although young people demonstrate an apparent ease and familiarity with computers, they rely heavily on search engines, view rather than read, and do not possess the critical and analytical skills to assess the information that they find on the Web....

British Library, Jan. 16

New study lauds the value of San Francisco’s libraries

[<http://www.friendssfpl.org/>]

A study released January 30 by the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library quantifies the substantial value that the San Francisco Public Library provides to city residents. Through an examination of an array of library benefits, the study reveals that the SFPL generates an impressive return of \$3.34 for every dollar spent on its operations and services....

Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, Jan. 30

Sunshine Week 2008 webcast [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=351>]

A two-part webcast on open government will be held during Sunshine Week on March 19, 1–2:30 p.m. Eastern time. The webcast, hosted by OpenTheGovernment.org, is free to those who register, [<http://www.openthegovernment.org/article/articleview/292/>] but there is an option for a fee-based satellite downlink. The first segment is a panel discussion on executive branch power and secrecy, congressional rights and responsibilities, and the role of the press. The focus of the second segment is on citizen self-help....

District Dispatch, Jan. 30

Storytime with a cat theme [<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/?p=219>]

Jennifer Schultz writes: “It’s so disgustingly simple to create a cats storytime that I’m almost ashamed of myself. There’s such a huge assortment of cat-themed picture books that I had difficulty in choosing which books to include. But including oldies-but-goodies is a nice way to reconnect parents, grandparents, and childcare providers with childhood favorites or to introduce ‘neglected’ picture books.”...

ALSC blog, Jan. 23

Can you loan a Kindle to patrons?

[<http://rochellejustrochelle.typepad.com/copilot/2008/01/loaning-kindle.html>]

Rochelle Hartman asked Amazon.com to verify whether a library would be in violation of its terms of service contract to circulate ebooks on the Kindle. One person she talked to said yes, but a commenter to her blog got a completely different answer: “You will be able to purchase Kindles for your library to use for checking out to patrons, as long as you are

not reselling the digital content.” Why the discrepancy?...
Tinfoil + Raccoon blog, Jan. 28

LISjobs.com now offers forums [<http://www.lisjobs.com/blog/?p=251>]
Rachel Singer Gordon has launched LISJobs Forum,
[<http://lisjobs.com/forum/>] a discussion place for librarians to share
ideas and experiences related to career development. Current threads
include job-hunting strategies, professional success, and LIS
education....
LISJobs

Growth in gaming far outpaces movies, music
[<http://arstechnica.com/news.ars/post/20080124-growth-of-gaming-in-2007-far-outpaces-movies-music.html>]
2007 was a banner year for video gaming, and the industry has the figures
to prove it. The Entertainment Software Association announced January 24
that total sales for 2007 were \$18.85 billion, with \$9.5 billion of that
spent on games (both PC and console) and \$9.35 billion on consoles. The
motion picture industry saw a modest growth in 2007, but things aren't
going as smoothly for the music industry....
Ars Technica, Jan. 24

Carcassonne: The board game
[<http://librarygamer.wordpress.com/2008/01/22/carcassonne/>]
Brian Mayer writes: “There are very few board games that have had a
profound effect on the gaming cultural iconography. Carcassonne’s
meeples permeate gaming fan imagery. People have self-crafted life-size
meeples, made meeples cakes, and even taken photos of their meeples in
France, the locale of the game. Along with Settlers of Catan, Carcassonne
helped refocus part of the gaming culture back towards board games.”...
Library Gamer blog, Jan. 22

Thoughts on the essence of Library 2.0
[<http://meredith.wolfwater.com/wordpress/index.php/2008/01/24/the-essence-of-library-20/>]
Meredith Farkas writes: “I found John Blyberg’s post, Library 2.0
Debased [<http://www.blyberg.net/2008/01/17/library-20-debased/>], very
interesting and in many ways, a breath of fresh air. I agree with him on
a lot of levels. I agree that mistakes have been made. I think there has
been a lot of confusing rhetoric about Library 2.0. I think a lot of
people lost touch with what their patrons actually needed and wanted and
started implementing cool technologies because they thought that was what
Library 2.0 was about. I think the only thing we really disagree on is
whether Library 2.0 actually has a single coherent definition.”...
Information Wants to Be Free blog, Jan. 24

New SPARC student campaign for Open Access
[<http://www.arl.org/sparc/media/08-0128.html>]
The Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition has released a
new educational initiative to engage students on the topic of Open
Access. “The Right to Research” repeats SPARC’s call for student
voices to broaden the ongoing discussion of access to research. The
campaign includes a brochure
[<http://www.arl.org/sparc/students/resources.html>], a website,

[<http://www.arl.org/sparc/students/>] and other informative materials....
Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition, Jan. 28

Mildly attractive guybrarian calendar

[<http://www.heidihoerman.com/lissacalendar.html>]

The University of South Carolina School of Library and Information Science Student Association has created a “Mildly Attractive Men of SLIS” calendar as a fundraising effort to send students to the 2008 IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Quebec. “A different guybrarian each month! One for every taste!”...

University of South Carolina LISSA

What young people can expect from the library

[http://www.mla.gov.uk/news/press_releases/Youth_Offer]

The UK Museums, Libraries, and Archives Council issued a statement January 29 defining what young people should be entitled to from their local library. The statement is part of a wider agenda to ensure children and young people, both through schools and other institutions such as libraries, have increasing access to cultural services and learning opportunities....

Museums, Libraries, and Archives Council, Jan. 29

Massachusetts library promo [http://www.masslibraries.org/tv/tv_spot.htm]

The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners developed this TV spot to promote its new website that connects state residents with their local libraries, even virtually: “You can get everything the library offers, even when you’re not actually at the library.” It also includes a link to Mass Answers, a 24/7 reference chatline....

Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners

Tour the Harper College Library

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JHljR4LYmOA>]

Hop on a cart and take a video tour (2:40) of the Harper College Library in Palatine, Illinois, while the knowledgeable staff guides you to your destination, whether that’s the information desk, a quiet room, the stacks, the reference desk, or circulation. “Good morning! Would you like a beverage or a pillow?”...

YouTube, Dec. 13

[<http://www.j-newvoices.org/>]

=====
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/geninfo.htm>]

ALA Annual Conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/home.htm>] is in Anaheim, California, June 26–July 2. Early bird registration

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/registration.htm>

] closes March 7. Join us for the SupERTuesday Breakfast Reception

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/exhibits.htm>]

sponsored by Exhibits Round Table, your exhibitors, and ALA, on the exhibits floor, 9 a.m.–12 noon Tuesday, July 1.

The February 1 issue of Booklist [<http://www.booklistonline.com/>] spotlights Black History Month. Hazel Rochman interviews Christopher Paul Curtis; Ian Chipman profiles author-illustrator Kadir Nelson, whose *We Are the Ship*, a stunning celebration of Negro League baseball, receives a starred review; and Brad Hooper serves up “African American Cuisine,” perhaps the magazine’s tastiest Core Collection entrée yet. NEW! From Booklist.

In this issue
January/February 2008

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/tableofcontents/2008contents/janfeb2008.cfm>]

From Hoops to Ink: An Interview with Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

Welcome to Philly

Design Thinking

Librarians in the Jury Box

Putting Students First

PLA Virtual Conference in 2008

[<http://plablog.org/2008/01/first-ever-pla-virtual-conference-in-2008.html>]

If you can’t make the trip to Minneapolis on March 27–28, you can still participate virtually in the PLA National Conference. Read more [http://www.placonference.org/virtual_conference.cfm] about PLA’s first-ever Virtual Conference, and register online [<http://www.ala.org/Template.cfm?Section=eventsconf&Template=/Conference/ConferenceList.cfm&ConferenceTypeCode=C>].

Career Leads from
[<http://joblist.ala.org/>]

Systems Administrator,
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=9372>] Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library. We’re looking for someone in love with systems, servers, tech projects, and change. Someone capable of bringing cutting-edge ideas to the table and who thrives in a culture of teamwork. Someone who finds satisfaction in enabling the majority to do great things through technology....

@ More jobs [<http://joblist.ala.org/>]...

[http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/Tune_In_@_Your_Library_resources]

Only five weeks until Teen Tech Week, March 2–8! Be sure to register [<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw08/ttw.cfm>] your library for TTW by February 4. Check here [<http://blogs.ala.org/yalsa.php?title=5weeksuntillttw&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1>] for a few things you can do to get ready.

Digital Library of the Week

[http://dsal.uchicago.edu/maps/gazetteer/images/gazetteer_V8_bc.jpg]

The Digital South Asia Library [<http://dsal.uchicago.edu/>] provides digital materials for reference and research on South Asia to scholars, public officials, business leaders, and other users. This project builds upon a two-year pilot project funded by the Association of Research Libraries' Global Resources Program with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Participants in the Digital South Asia Library include leading U.S. universities, the Center for Research Libraries, the South Asia Microform Project, the Committee on South Asian Libraries and Documentation, the Association for Asian Studies, the Library of Congress, the Asia Society, the British Library, the University of Oxford, the University of Cambridge, MOZHI in India, the Sundarayya Vignana Kendram in India, Madan Puraskar Pustakalaya in Nepal, and other institutions in South Asia.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this AL Direct feature? Tell us about it. [<mailto:aldirect@ala.org>]

Public Perception How the World Sees Us

“Self-satisfaction with the inability to remain conscious when faced with printed matter seems questionable. But I also want to question the assumption—whether gloomy or faintly gloating—that books are on the way out. I think they’re here to stay. It’s just that not all that many people ever did read them. Why should we think everybody ought to now?”

?Author Ursula K. Le Guin, on the National Endowment for the Arts 2004 report on the decline of reading fiction, “Staying Awake: Notes on the Alleged Decline of Reading,” Harpers, Feb. 2008, pp. 33–38.

“Public libraries.”

?Comedian Sarah Silverman, in her list of 34 “Things That Don’t Suck,” Wired, Jan. 18, along with Guitar Hero, the set design on Mad Men, and

salt-and-vinegar potato chips.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. I know there are seals libraries can buy for children's books that win awards from the American Library Association. Are there seals I can buy to put on the copies of those books that our library already owns that were named Notable Books for Children?

A. Yes! Seals for the Children's Notable Lists

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Media_Awards#Children.27s_Notable_Lists]
—and several of the other ALA literary awards—may be purchased in packages of 24 through the ALA Online Store

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog&_pn=sub_category&_op=62]. Rolls of 1,000 pressure-sensitive seals may also be purchased by special arrangement.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/awardscholarship/booksealsforpurchase/booksealsforpurchase.htm>] Seals are available for bulk sales for many ALA awards. (See the ALA Professional Tips wiki

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Award_Seal_Stickers] for details.) Just a reminder that ALA Award and Notable Seals are the sole property of the American Library Association. Publishers or any other organizations are prohibited from reproducing seals without permission from ALA. Seals may only be placed on the media that originally won the award. For example, a video treatment of a Newbery-winning book should not carry a Newbery seal.....

@ The ALA Librarian [<mailto:AskTheLibrarian@ala.org>] welcomes your questions.

Calendar

Feb. 6:

Follett Lecture, [<http://www.dom.edu/academics/gslis/news-events.html>]
Dominican University GSLIS, River Forest, Illinois. Steven Herb, a past president of ALSC, talks about “The Importance of Libraries in the Lives of Young Children.” Contact: GSLIS, [<mailto:gslis@dom.edu>] (708) 524-6845.

Feb. 10:

Frances Clarke Sayers Lecture,
[<https://giving.ucla.edu/gseis/sayerslecture/>] Korn Auditorium,
University of California, Los Angeles. Panel consists of David Diaz, Sid Fleischman, Cynthia Kadohata, and Michael Cart. Contact: (310) 206-0375.

Feb. 28–

Mar. 2:

Alaska Library Association, [<http://www.akla.org/fairbanks2008/index.php>]
Conference, Fairbanks Princess Riverfront Lodge. “Can't Stop Raven
About Libraries.”

Mar. 4–6:

Louisiana Library Association,
[http://www.llaonline.org/ne/lla_conference.php] Conference, Shreveport
Convention Center.

Mar. 14:

National Information Standards Organization,
[http://www.niso.org/news/events_workshops/digpres08/index.html] Digital
Preservation Forum, Holiday Inn on the Hill, Washington, D.C. “Planning
Today for Tomorrow’s Resources.” Contact: NISO. [<mailto:nisohq@niso.org>]

Mar. 15:

SPLAT! A Graphic Novel Symposium,
[<http://www.nycip.org/graphicnovelsymposium/registration.php>] New York
Center for Independent Publishing, New York City. Keynote speaker will be
Scott McCloud. Contact: NYCIP. [<mailto:nycip@nycip.org>]

Apr. 9–11:

New Mexico Library Association,
[http://www.nmla.org/2008_Conference/conference_home.htm] Conference, Las
Cruces. “Seek-Learn-Inspire.”

Apr. 9–11:

Kansas Library Association, [<http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KLA/>] Conference,
Century City II Convention Center, Wichita.

Apr. 9–11:

Tennessee Library Association,
[<http://www.tnla.org/displayconvention.cfm?conventionnbr=3506>]
Conference, Meadowview Convention Center, Kingsport.

Apr. 9–12:

Montana Library Association, [<http://www.mtlib.org/conf/index.html>]
Conference, Heritage Inn, Great Falls. “Libraries: Montana’s Voice
for Freedom.”

Apr. 15-18:

Texas Library Association, [<http://www.txla.org/conference/conf.html>]
Conference, Dallas. “Books, Bytes, and Beyond.”

Apr. 15–18:

Oregon Library Association / Washington Library Association,
[<http://wla.org/olawla2008/>] Joint Conference, Vancouver, Washington.
“Sharing More than a Border.”

Apr. 16:

Lazerow Lecture, [<http://www.dom.edu/academics/gslis/news-events.html>]
Dominican University GSLIS, River Forest, Illinois. Rosalind Picard,
director of MIT’s Affective Computing Research Group, will present “From
Tin Man to Cyborg: Technology and Emotional Intelligence.” Contact:

GSLIS, [mailto:gslis@dom.edu] (708) 524-6845.

@ More [http://www.ala.org/ala/online/calendar/calendar.cfm]...

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