

# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | November 5, 2008

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BUYERS GUIDE

## U.S. & World News

### [Early voting taxes library polling places](#)

Record early-voting turnout for the 2008 election may bode well for civic involvement, but libraries across the country that served as early voting sites faced unexpected pressures—and opportunities—providing service to the throngs of early voters coming through their doors. Broward County (Fla.) Libraries may have taken the most extreme step: closing the Davie/Cooper City, Tamarac, and Pompano Beach branches to everyone except early voters from October 30 through November 2. On Election Day, voters [lined up](#) around the block at the Boston Public Library, while the wait at the Orange County (Fla.) Library in Orlando was about [two hours](#) long. Libraries [around the country](#) hosted activities and events to register voters and to educate them on the important election issues....

American Libraries Online, Oct. 31; WBZ-TV, Boston, Nov. 4; *Orlando Sentinel*, Nov. 4



### [Voters save borough library in New Jersey](#)

The voters of Jamesburg, New Jersey, decisively defeated a ballot measure November 4 asking for their approval for the town to “discontinue the support, maintenance, and control of the Jamesburg Public Library” (right). In a one-square-mile town with 6,500 residents, the measure was defeated 959–564. What defeated the 2008 measure was a concerted campaign by trustees and library Friends. In addition to yard signs, banners, and media contacts, volunteers canvassed the one-square-mile community....

American Libraries Online, Nov. 5



### [Harvard unswayed by Google settlement](#)

Voicing its dissatisfaction with the terms of a settlement of lawsuits challenging the Google Book Search project, Harvard University Library will not take part in the program’s scanning of copyright-protected works. One of the original library partners in the project, Harvard plans to continue its policy of only allowing Google to scan books whose copyrights have expired. However, Harvard officials have declared their belief in the project’s legality...



### [ALA Midwinter Meeting.](#)

Denver, January 23–28. Locate Midwinter exhibitors with this [Online Exhibitor Planner](#). Booth and author [events](#) in the exhibit hall are listed in the Midwinter wiki.

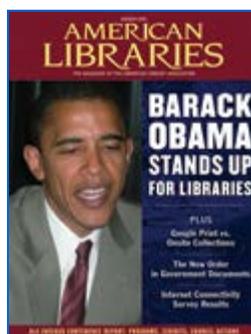
American Libraries Online, Oct. 31

## ALA News

### Tuesday in the park with Barack

*American Libraries* Editor Leonard Kniffel writes: "In the elevator on my way up to the office this morning, I ran into Deidre Ross, and I thanked her for whatever she did as head of ALA Conference Services to bring Barack Obama to the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago in 2005, when his campaign for the presidency was in its infancy. Ross's prescience led to one of the most rousing Opening General Session speeches I have ever heard. So library-specific, so tailor-made for librarians it was, that we were able to work with Obama to adapt it into the cover story for the August 2005 issue of *American Libraries*."...

AL Inside Scoop, Nov. 5



### From one president-elect to another

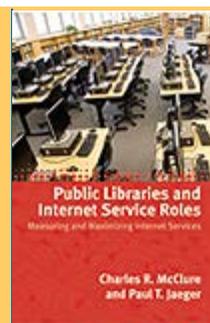
ALA President-elect Camila Alire writes: "Today I woke up with mixed feelings. I went to bed with the 'Yes, we can' rallying cry coming from over 100,000 folks in Grant Park in Chicago, Illinois. I woke up this morning to find that in that same state, [all 10 library-related referenda failed](#). There is some good news: The library-related referenda passed in Fulton County, Ga.; New Mexico (first time for tribal libraries); Clackamas County, Oreg.; Walpole and Brockton, Mass.; and Fairfield County, Pa. President-elect Obama's campaign will be my model for ALA. It was so successful because he enlisted the grassroots of this country to get involved and vote."...

Camila Alire's blog, Nov. 5; Illinois Library Association, Nov. 5



### Gaming Symposium: Complex games lead to complex thinking

Modern games aren't trivial, and librarians who dismiss them as such do their patrons a disservice, presenters told some 215 attendees of the second annual ALA TechSource Gaming, Learning, and Libraries Symposium. Held November 2-4 in Oak Brook, Illinois, the event was replete with examples of how the complexity of modern games prepare young people for their futures. The oft-mocked Pokémon series, for example, has more than 500 characters, each falling into one of 17 types that may be



### In Public Libraries and Internet Service Roles: Measuring and Maximizing Internet Services.

authors Charles McClure and Paul T. Jaeger speak to the ways in which the internet has had more impact on public libraries than any other technology since the creation of the book. This resources examines the social and service roles that libraries play in providing online access, and the expectations and challenges librarians face in changing policy and research environments. **NEW!** From ALA Editions.

### In this issue November 2008



**Effective Training**

**After-School Success Stories**

**Time to Retool**

particularly strong or weak against other types.”...

American Libraries Online, Nov. 5

### [More than just a game](#)

Daniel A. Freeman writes: “As I write this from the 2008 *ALA TechSource* Gaming, Learning, and Libraries Symposium, I can’t help but think how far gaming technology has come since the days of 8-bit graphics and cheap MIDI sound effects. At this symposium, gaming is hardly a game—it’s a rapidly evolving and increasingly important part of our profession. More and more, librarians are using gaming to help students of all ages learn, to help adults improve and hone their skills, and to draw young people into a lifetime of library use. Allan M. Kleiman presented this [video](#) (0:57) showing seniors bowling on a Wii.” For more coverage, see [AL Inside Scoop](#)....



ALA TechSource blog, Nov. 3; AL Inside Scoop, Nov. 2–4

### [New survey on diversity, recruitment in library schools](#)

ALA is conducting a new online survey to examine strategies used by library schools to recruit students of color. This survey has been designed to assess strategies employed to recruit students of color, and efforts to foster an educational environment where respect, appreciation, equity, and inclusion are core values. The survey will be electronically distributed to all ALA-accredited and AASL approved/NCATE accredited master’s programs by November 7. Replies are requested by November 24....

### [Simmons College supports a Spectrum Scholar](#)

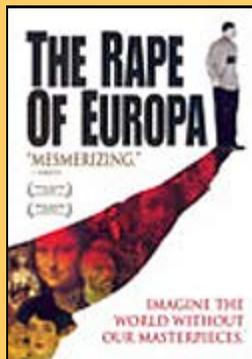
The Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science will provide \$5,000 in matching scholarship funds to Steven De’Juan Booth, a 2008 ALA Spectrum Scholarship winner. Booth is pursuing an MLS at Simmons, which has offered matching scholarships to Spectrum recipients in its graduate program in library and information science since 1999....

## Booklist ONLINE

### [Featured review: Media](#)

*The Rape of Europa*. Sept. 2008. 117 min. Passion River, DVD.

More than 60 years following World War II, thousands of art treasures stolen by Nazis as they swept through Europe are still missing. Private collectors, museum curators, and family heirs battle over the rightful ownership of priceless artwork that has resurfaced. Hitler’s plan, according to interviewed historians, authors, and other experts in this riveting program, was to obliterate enemy culture and history while adding to his private art collection. In well-selected archival footage, viewers witness German armies destroying architectural landmarks,



### Hennen’s Public Library Rankings



Richard Rubin, chair of the ALA Committee on Accreditation, discusses trends affecting the broader aspects of [accreditation in higher education](#), in the Fall edition of *Prism*, the ALA Office for Accreditation newsletter.

### Career Leads from



### [Librarian for Digital Humanities Research](#)

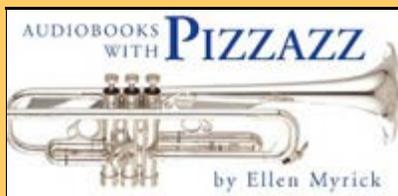
Yale University Library is looking for a creative, technically grounded, visionary person to serve as an advisor, advocate, and implementer for digital humanities resources. Reporting to the Head of Research Services and Collections, the position will work closely with subject specialists, the department coordinator for research education, the library web manager and other members of the library’s technology department, and affiliates of the Collaborative Learning Center....

@ [More jobs...](#)

burning libraries, and pillaging art museums. Hitler, an adequate artist himself, was obsessed with the work of the masters....

### [Say it with music](#)

Ellen Myrick writes: "Music has long played a part in audiobooks, cueing listeners to chapter beginnings and endings, signaling transitions, and underscoring moments of great emotion. In several recent audios, music has moved from a supporting role to an integral part of the production. Gail Carson Levine's *Fairest* (2006) is a story about music. The tale is set in Ayortha, where bursting into song is a common way for the characters to express emotion."...



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

## Denver Update

### [Five best travel sites for cheap tickets](#)

Adam Pash writes: "Where can you find tickets cheap enough to offset the extra \$40 you'll have to spend to check your bags and enjoy a snack on your six-hour flight? Earlier this week we asked Lifehacker readers to share their favorite travel websites for cheap tickets, and today we're back with the five most popular answers. Keep reading for a breakdown of the best travel sites." Also, check out some [lesser-known](#) options....

Lifehacker, Nov. 2, 4



### [Terror at the CELL](#)

"Anyone, Anytime, Anywhere" is an interactive multimedia exhibit aimed at educating the general public about terrorism and terrorist organizations. Hosted by the Center for Empowered Living and Learning at 99 W. 12th Avenue, the exhibit debuted at the Denver Democratic National Convention in August. Visitors can explore various notions about terrorist ideology and aims, as well as the role of media coverage in terrorist activities....

Center for Empowered Living and Learning



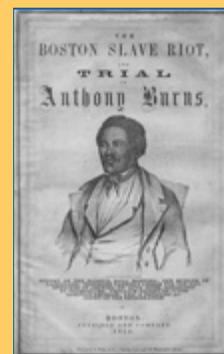
### [Visit the Money Museum](#)

Perhaps America's favorite collectible, money is the center of attraction at the American Numismatic Association's Money Museum in Colorado Springs, on the campus of Colorado College. The museum collection consists of over 250,000 objects encompassing the history of numismatics from the earliest invention of money to modern day—paper money, coins, tokens, medals, exnumia, and traditional money from all over the world. "A House Divided: Money of the Civil War" will be a [featured exhibit](#) during the Midwinter Meeting in January....

American Numismatic Association



## Digital Library of the Week



### [Slavery and Abolition in the U.S.: Select Publications of the 1800s](#)

is a collaborative project between Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and Millersville University of Pennsylvania that consists of digitized books and pamphlets demonstrating the varying ideas and beliefs about slavery in the United States throughout the 19th century. The collection includes more than 70 titles published between 1787 and 1911 with some 15,000 individual pages of text and searchable transcriptions. Materials were drawn from the Special Collections holdings at both partner institutions and utilize CONTENTdm digital collection management software. The collaborative project was funded in part by LSTA digitization grants and is freely available to the global community.

**Do you know** of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#) Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the [L](#)

## Division News

### [ALSC's Exceptional Websites for Children](#)

ALSC has added 15 websites this fall to [Great Web Sites for Kids](#), its online resource containing hundreds of commendable links. The site is organized by subject headings such as animals; literature and languages; mathematics and computers; the arts; and history and biography. There is also a special section with sites of interest to parents, caregivers, and teachers, plus an area devoted to sites in Spanish....



### [ALSC Great Interactive Software for Kids](#)

ALSC has selected its Fall 2008 list of Great Interactive Software for Kids, which recognizes high-quality computer programs and digital media for children 14 years of age and younger. The selected products are: Beep, GollyGee Blocks, LEGO Indiana Jones: The Original Adventures (right), Mastering Elementary School, Mastering Elementary and Middle School Math, and Nancy Drew and the Phantom of Venice....



### [Register for Teen Tech Week](#)

YALSA launched its Teen Tech Week 2009 [website](#) November 4, opening registration and offering resources for the annual celebration of nonprint resources. Teen Tech Week is March 8–14, with a theme of "Press Play @ your library," encouraging teens to take advantage of the many technologies available to them, free of charge, at their libraries....



### [Melissa De Fino named ALCTS Emerging Leader](#)

Melissa De Fino, special collections catalog librarian at Rutgers University libraries, has been selected as the ALCTS sponsored Emerging Leader for 2008–2009. ALCTS sponsors one Emerging Leader who has chosen technical services as a career....

### [Web 2.0 in schools: Our digital divides are showing](#)

Marcia Mardis writes: "The findings of the AASL longitudinal study suggest that Web 2.0 tools are gaining popularity in schools across the United States. These tools are enabling forms of communication, collaboration, and learning never seen in K–12 education. This is exciting because it signals the timely, if not prescient, nature of the *Standards for the 21st-Century Learner*."...

AASL Blog, Oct. 30

### [ACRL preconference unconference](#)

As an adjunct to the ACRL National Conference, members of Radical Reference are organizing an unconference on social justice and alternative or radical collections and programs in academic libraries, Thursday, 10 a.m.–2:30 p.m., March 12, at the Good Shepherd Center in Seattle. Contact [Radical Reference](#) for more information....  
Radical Reference, Oct. 9

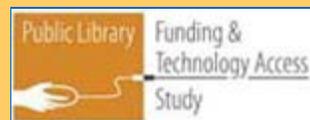
[Love Libraries](#) site.

## Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

**"At the dawn of the 21st century, where knowledge is literally power, where it unlocks the gates of opportunity and success, we all have responsibilities as parents, as librarians, as educators, as politicians, and as citizens to instill in our children a love of reading so that we can give them a chance to fulfill their dreams. That's what all of you do each and every day, and for that, I am grateful."**

—Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.), in an adaptation of his keynote speech at the Opening General Session of the 2005 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, "Bound to the Word," *American Libraries* 36, no. 7 (Aug. 2005): 48–52.



### Library internet

**survey extended.** In an effort to push national and state responses over 60%, ALA has extended the deadline to respond to the online survey for the [Public Library Funding & Technology Study](#). Data from the survey, which will now close

## Awards

### [Apply for a Google Policy Fellowship](#)

The ALA Washington Office will be participating again in the [Google Policy Fellowship program](#) for summer 2009. The [first class of fellows](#) worked for 10 weeks last summer at the Washington Office and other public-interest organizations involved in debates on broadband and access policy, content regulation, copyright reform, online privacy, and open government. Master's and doctoral students in library and information studies with an interest in national public policy can apply for this fellowship. ALA's one fellow will focus on [these issues](#) from the perspective of the library community. [Apply](#) by December 12....

District Dispatch, Nov. 4

### [Enter the 2009 StoryTubes video contest](#)

The 2009 video contest features new partner libraries, new categories that provide opportunities for kindergartners through high school seniors, groups, and people of all ages, new contest dates, and the addition of TeacherTube as a video host to assist organizations that do not enable access to YouTube. Visit [StoryTubes.info](#) to [watch videos](#) from last year, identify the [partner libraries](#), read the [contest rules](#), and find [contact information](#)....

StoryTubes, Oct. 27



### [NYPL rewards New York City unsung hero](#)

The New York Public Library's 2008 Brooke Russell Astor Award has been awarded to Rev. Terry Troia, executive director of Project Hospitality, an interfaith program committed to serving the needs of hungry and homeless people. The \$10,000 award was established in 1987 and recognizes unsung heroes who have substantially contributed to improving the quality of life in New York City. Troia was nominated for the award by Janet Klucsevsek, supervising librarian at the NYPL Port Richmond branch....

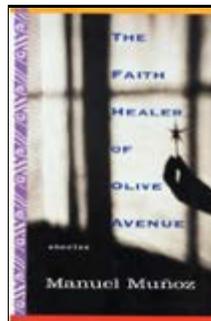
New York Public Library, Oct. 28



### [Whiting Writers' Awards, 2008](#)

The Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation named 10 recipients October 29 of the 2008 Whiting Writers' Awards. The awards, \$50,000 each, have been given annually since 1985 to writers of exceptional talent and promise in early career. Among them is Manuel Muñoz, the author of two collections of short stories, *Zigzagger* (Northwestern University Press, 2003) and *The Faith Healer of Olive Avenue* (Algonquin Books, 2007)....

Whiting Foundation, Oct. 29



## Seen Online

### [Obama mentions 106-year-old library supporter](#)

November 4, for the second time in this election, Ann Nixon Cooper

**November 14**, is used for peer comparison, budget requests, media outreach, and testimony before legislative bodies. [Log on now.](#)

### Ask the ALA Librarian



**Q.** *As a children's librarian, I am often asked to suggest software or websites that are appropriate for children. Do you have any suggestions of where to look for this information?*

**A.** Each year [ALSC](#) announces two lists that address these topics. [Great Interactive Software for Kids](#) and [Great Websites for Kids](#) offer websites and software that has been reviewed and selected by committees of children's librarians and school librarians. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

was a part of history. The first time was when the 106-year-old Atlanta woman voted for Barack Obama for president in October. The second was when the candidate she voted for gave her the ultimate shout-out in his election night speech. And she has shared her rich history with the rest of us. The [Ann N. Cooper Collection](#) at the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System's Auburn Avenue Research Library contains items from 1922 to 1956, including a daybook, two scrapbooks, and other personal effects from the Coopers....

*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, Nov. 5

### [Arizona librarian loses election to incumbent](#)

Democrat Rebecca Schneider, the overnight manager at Arizona State University's Hayden Library, lost her race for a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives in Congressional District 6. The Republican incumbent Jeff Flake took 62% of the vote, Schneider took 35%, and Libertarian Rick Biondi took 3% of the vote....

ASU Web Devil, Nov. 5



### [Hartford gets task force's recommendations](#)

A task force formed this summer to study safety and security issues at the main branch of the Hartford (Conn.) Public Library has sent its recommendations to the board of directors. The group was formed following a newspaper investigation that detailed security and public safety problems at the library, including drinking, drug use, and sexual activity in bathrooms; threats made to staff members by library visitors; and the theft of CDs and DVDs. Board President Geraldine Sullivan said November 3 she was pleased with the report....

*Hartford (Conn.) Courant*, Nov. 4

### [Book overdue since 1947 nets \\$250 fee](#)

A library book checked out from an Oklahoma school library in 1947 has turned up in Ohio and was returned, with a \$250 check to cover overdue fees.

Librarian Betty Niver said the book *New Word Analysis: Or, School Etymology of English Derivative Words*, by William Swinton (1879), was mailed to Holland Hall school in Tulsa by Martha McCabe Jarrett, who was a high school sophomore when she signed out the book 61 years ago....

Associated Press, Nov. 1; New England Cable News, Nov. 1



### [Kayaker hopes to keep Wareham library afloat](#)

Former educator and avid outdoorsman Richard Wheeler is kayaking around the waters—up and down the coast and in and out of inlets, bays, and harbors—to raise money for the cash-strapped Wareham (Mass.) Free Library. Wheeler, best known for his 1,500-mile kayak trip in 1991 from Newfoundland to Cape Cod following the migratory route of the extinct great auk, enlisted for this fundraiser after the library budget was reduced 47% to help make up for a town-wide



## Calendar

**Jan. 23–28:**

[ALA Midwinter Meeting](#), Denver.

Includes: **January 22:**

ALCTS symposium, "Implementing an Institutional Repository: Benefits and Challenges";

**January 23:** AASL

School Library

Advocacy Institute;

ALCTS symposium,

"Breaking Down the

Silos: Planning for

Discovery Tools for

Library 2.0"; LLAMA

institute, "Library

Leadership: You Are

How You

Communicate"; LLAMA

institute, "Mission

Possible: Practical

Project Management";

LSSIRT institute,

"Success in the

Workplace"; ACRL

Institute, "Bring it

Home! Creating

Custom Search Plug-

ins for Your Library";

ACRL Institute, "Do

You Q? Looking at

Your Users in a New

Way"; ACRL Institute,

"Nobody Told Me I'd

Have to Teach!

Strategies for the

Accidental Librarian."

**Mar. 8–14:**

[Teen Tech Week](#).

**Mar. 12–15:**

[ACRL National](#)

[Conference](#), Seattle,

Washington. "Pushing

the Edge: Explore,

shortfall....

*Boston Globe*, Nov. 2

### [Transylvania thieves get a break](#)

A federal judge declined to give additional jail time October 30 to four men serving 87-month sentences for stealing rare books from the Transylvania University Library in Lexington, Kentucky, and tasing a librarian. An appeals court in February said that U.S. District Judge Jennifer Coffman miscalculated the federal sentencing guidelines by not including the cost of all the books that the men tried to steal in the December 2004 heists. But Coffman said the guidelines were no longer mandatory....

*Lexington (Ky.) Herald-Leader*, Oct. 30

### [German libraries hold thousands of looted volumes](#)

Records indicate that Berlin's Central and Regional Library purchased "more than 40,000 volumes from the private libraries of evacuated Jews" through the City Pawn Office in the 1940s. And, this being Germany, the librarians maintained meticulous record books to keep track of their purchases—even though parts of the German capital were already in ruins. As always, preserving order was paramount. The librarians signed each volume and gave it an accession number, beginning with the letter J. No one knows how many stolen books are still on the shelves in German libraries today, although experts, like historian Görz Aly, estimate that there are at least one million....

*Der Spiegel*, Oct. 24



## Tech Talk

### [What an Obama presidency means for technology](#)

Declan McCullagh writes: "When Barack Obama becomes president in January with a strongly Democratic Congress, he'll have the chance to push a technology policy that relies more on government subsidy and regulation than that of his immediate predecessor. In Washington and Silicon Valley circles, betting has already begun on who will be the nation's first Chief Technology Officer. Could it be Google CEO Eric Schmidt, who conveniently [endorsed](#) Obama? Or Vint Cerf? If there's an opening for a Beltway type, perhaps ex-regulator Reed Hundt, who's been a [proxy](#) for the president-elect?"...

CNET News, Nov. 5

### [10 election tweets worth remembering](#)

Caroline McCarthy writes: "It was a marathon evening for media buffs as Barack Obama beat rival John McCain to become the first U.S. African-American president-elect. You couldn't miss it on Twitter, as the microblogging service exploded with election updates, commentary, and speculation. Miraculously, Twitter's servers lasted the night, and had quite a lot of terrific, 140-character-long election commentary (in messages known as 'tweets') to serve up for hungry news hounds. Here are 10 of CNET News' favorites."...

CNET News, Nov. 5

twitter

### [Sneaky fees: 7 new ways you'll be paying more](#)

J. R. Raphael writes: "It's no secret that the faltering economy is

Engage, Extend."

**Apr. 2–4:**

[PLA Spring Symposium](#), Nashville, Tennessee.

**Apr. 12–18:**

[National Library Week](#).

**Apr. 30:**

[El Día de los Niños/El Día de los Libros](#).

**May 7–8:**

[LITA Camp](#), Dublin, Ohio.

**May 11–12:**

[National Library Legislative Day](#).

**July 9–15:**

[ALA Annual Conference](#), Chicago.

**Oct. 1–4, 2009:**

[LITA National Forum](#), Salt Lake City, Utah. "Open and Mobile." Submit proposals by February 20.

**Oct. 18–24,**

**2009:** [Teen Read Week](#). "Read Beyond Reality @ your library."

**Nov. 5–8, 2009:**

[AASL National Conference](#), Charlotte, North Carolina. "Rev Up Learning @ your library." Submit proposals for concurrent sessions by December 1, and proposals for Exploratorium sessions by March 30, 2009.

@ [More...](#)

taking its toll on the tech world. You may not have noticed, though, how often your wallet has been hit with sneaky fees as a result. We've identified seven recently introduced surcharges on tech-related products—add-ons that vendors aren't exactly trumpeting. Ready to see where companies are hiding the new fees?"...

*PC World*, Oct. 28

### [Blog search engines: An overview](#)

Ann Smarty writes: "Blog search tools are numerous; most of them are pretty much useless (per my opinion). Here I am looking only at the most helpful ones that I do recommend trying and that offer some great features: Google Blog Search, Technorati, Blog Pulse, and Blog Lines."...

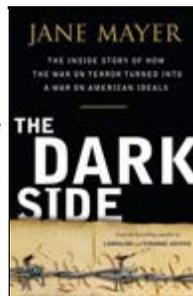
*Search Engine Journal*, Oct. 24

## Publishing

### [Mr. President-elect, start reading](#)

Garry Wills and Aleksandar Hemon offer some recommendations for Barack Obama to put on his reading list, because even if he has already read these titles, "it is good to refresh the message of each, to show where we have been going wrong." At the top of the list is Jane Mayer's *The Dark Side*: "If Mark Twain said at one time that America had become the United States of Lyncherdom, this book shows why, in the world's eyes, we have become the United States of Torturedom."...

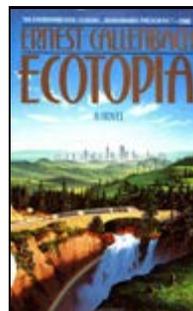
*Chicago Tribune*, Nov. 1



### [Science fiction that caused political change](#)

Lauren Davis writes: "Ronald Reagan, Winston Churchill, and Eugene Debs all had one thing in common: They were fans of science fiction. More than that, they all used sci-fi at one point or another to shape their political actions and views. From presidents and prime ministers to ordinary citizens looking for change, many people have turned to science fiction as their political guide. We look at some of the ways space operas, utopias, and aliens have shaped our political landscape and given us hope for a more futuristic tomorrow."...

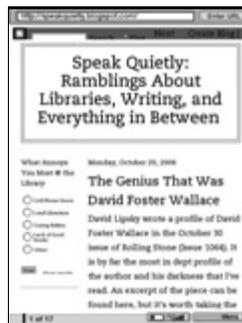
*io9*, Nov. 4



### [Amazon's Kindle: A five-day review](#)

Scott Douglas writes: "I'm going to spend the next week giving an overview of basically every Kindle future. I think at the right price it will be in the hands of every book reader (or even web reader) in the very near future. Today, I'll go over the overall look and feel of the device; over the next couple days, I'll show you what the free internet looks like (yes, free), and some of the other less talked about features. When I turned the Kindle on for the first time, it looked fake—I didn't think words could ever be so clear on something. It's just like words in a book. When I took it outside there was absolutely no glare."...

*Speak Quietly*, Oct. 27-31



## Contact Us

American Libraries  
Direct



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

George M. Eberhart,  
Editor:  
[geberhart@ala.org](mailto:geberhart@ala.org)

Greg Landgraf,  
Associate Editor:  
[glandgraf@ala.org](mailto:glandgraf@ala.org)

Leonard Kniffel,  
Editor-in-Chief,  
*American Libraries*:  
[lkniffel@ala.org](mailto:lkniffel@ala.org)

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50 E. Huron St.  
Chicago, IL 60611  
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## Actions & Answers

### ["We Shall Remain" to premiere in April](#)

In April, PBS *American Experience* will feature "We Shall Remain," a miniseries and multimedia project that establishes native history as an essential part of American history. Five 90-minute documentaries spanning 300 years tell the story of pivotal moments in U.S. history from the Native American perspective. ALA Past President Loriene Roy served as a consultant. Visit the website to download a [library event kit](#) that offers programming ideas and resources to help libraries deliver engaging events leading up to, during, and after the broadcast....

*American Experience*



### [November is Native American Heritage Month](#)

The Library of Congress, the [National Museum of the American Indian](#), the [Indian Health Service](#), the [Smithsonian](#), the [National Register of Historic Places](#), and other organizations are paying tribute in November to the rich ancestry and traditions of American Indians and Alaska Natives. Native American activist, journalist, and poet Suzan Shown Harjo will deliver the keynote address November 13 for LC's celebration. The LC website also points to [teaching resources](#) and [digital collections](#) useful for instruction....

Library of Congress



### [Making news social](#)

Linda Braun writes: "Today is definitely a big news day in the United States. I've been thinking about how teens find out about news and how librarians might help them to be more successful at news gathering. What I'm realizing is that [Social Median](#) might be the perfect Web 2.0 site to use for this purpose. Social Median is a social news site that gives users the chance to join networks on a particular topic, say election 2008, and read news stories (that members of the network post) on that topic."...

YALSA Blog, Nov. 4



### [Copyright status and the Google agreement](#)

Karen Coyle writes: "Among the many interesting bits in the Google/AAP agreement is Section E ([PDF file](#)) which essentially lays out in detail what steps Google must take to determine if an item is or is not in the public domain. As we know, this is not easy. I decided to try this out. What I found was that just because Google determines that a book is in the public domain doesn't mean that's the legal status of the book. It also means that the rest of us can't use the excuse: 'But Google says it's in the public domain.'"...

Coyle's InFormation, Nov. 3

### [Best place to meet someone you'd take home to mom](#)

The Eugene (Oreg.) Public Library won first place in the reader-selected "Best of Eugene 2008–2009" poll in two categories—best [public space](#), and best place to [meet someone](#) you'd take home to mom: "The gorgeously housed Eugene Public Library contains more knowledge in book, CD, DVD, video, audio, Braille, and other formats—including those human search engines, reference librarians—than anyone could encompass. This means you've got plenty of opportunities to meet cute, from winking across the room during toddler story time, to banging heads as you go for the microfilm of that 1982 issue of *Commonweal*, or competing for the same episodes of *Six Feet Under*." ...

*Eugene (Oreg.) Weekly*, Oct. 30



### [Neil Armstrong donates papers to Purdue](#)

The personal story of the first person to land a craft on the moon and to step on its surface will live forever—in the Purdue University Libraries, West Lafayette, Indiana. Astronaut Neil A. Armstrong will give his alma mater personal papers that will serve as historic archives and scholarly resources, Purdue President France A. Córdoba announced November 1. Dean of Libraries James L. Mullins said the papers will be housed in Archives and Special Collections, where the Amelia Earhart papers reside....

Purdue University, Nov. 1



### [Special collections reach out to undergrads](#)

Rare books and manuscripts, once restricted to scholars and graduate students in white gloves, are being incorporated into undergraduate courses at institutions like the University of Iowa, Smith College, the University of Washington, and Harvard. Last academic year, almost 200 classes and student tours visited the rare-books collection of the University of Pennsylvania. Students today often blindly grant authority to the online world. Curators want to reconnect them with original sources and teach them to question those sources....

*New York Times*, Oct. 30

### [Harvard: It's in the cards](#)

Matthew Reidsma writes: "Until the 18th century, when French revolutionaries took inventories of libraries on the backs of confiscated playing cards, library catalogs were merely lists written or printed in books. But as book production dramatically increased, libraries looked for a more expandable way to organize their holdings. The Harvard Library's answer to this problem, the card catalog, became the standard way to access library materials throughout the world for more than a century." ...

*Et Seq.*, Oct. 27



### [How to search for rare books on eBay](#)

S. P. Wurth writes: "We want to narrow down and sort out what appears on your eBay search page, and we want to change the look of that search page. I will show you what I do—you can adapt it easily to fit your book collecting goals. The process I describe here

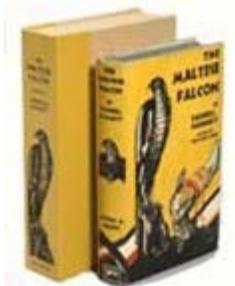
will reduce 101,809 books on 1,114 pages to 299 books on 3 pages. Those are the books that I want to look at.”...

Collectible Book Blog, Nov. 3

### [Bookshelves of the rich and famous](#)

In these economically uncertain times, it's tempting to daydream. What if you had unlimited funds? What treasures would you add to your bookshelf? If you answered "Ptolemy's first Atlas printed in Germany, from 10 years before Columbus sailed the ocean blue" (*Cosmographia*), you'd be in for a bargain at a cool \$1.8 million. A first edition of Dashiell Hammett's *The Maltese Falcon* (right), on the other hand, might only run \$175,000....

Abebooks



### [Webinar on why public libraries close](#)

WebJunction is hosting a webinar November 13 (12 noon Pacific Time, 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time), with Christie M. Koontz, Dean K. Jue, and Bradley Wade Bishop, the principal investigators of the study [Why Public Libraries Close](#). This webinar is the kickoff to WebJunction's winter focus on [economic tough times](#). Register [online](#)....

BlogJunction, Oct. 30

### [Innovative libraries overseas](#)

Marshall Breeding writes: "I've been extremely fortunate over the last few years to have had the opportunity to travel to many different parts of the world and speak and work with librarians in many countries. It has been great to have the chance to see first-hand some incredible libraries that demonstrate creative approaches to library services, innovative uses of technology, expansive resource sharing, and pragmatic approaches to library automation. In my experience, many of the libraries that most push beyond the traditional boundaries can be found in other parts of the world. Let me give you a quick tour."...

*Computers in Libraries* 28, no. 10 (Nov./Dec.)



### [The tragedy of Louvain](#)

For a library to be destroyed twice by acts of war is almost unthinkable. Yet that was the case with the University of Louvain library in Belgium, destroyed in both [World War I](#) and II. In 1943–1944, the U.S. Post Office issued a series of stamps honoring countries that were overrun by Germany and Japan. Above is a First Day Cover for the stamp issued to honor Belgium, featuring an illustration of the burning of the University of Louvain library....



Library History Buff, Nov. 1; Burning Books blog, Aug. 21

### [Archives of Dissent](#)

"Archives of Dissent" was one of a week-long series of Bay Area events in September, held under the auspices of the Global Commons Foundation, that commemorated the worldwide upheavals



of 1968, their impact, and legacy. The event (1:58:58) brought together librarians, curators, oral historians, conservators, publishers, booksellers, and others working to prevent the loss and erasure of radical voices, events, and movements of both the past and the present. Speakers included Julie Herrada (above), Labadie Collection librarian at the University of Michigan; Kalim Smith, Berkeley doctoral student in anthropology; and Megan Shaw Prelinger and Rick Prelinger, cofounders of the Prelinger Library....

YouTube, Oct. 14

### [Searching for the truth in Iraq?](#)

Iraqi National Librarian Saad Eskander writes: In 2007, "the Pentagon issued an announcement that called upon American universities to submit social-science research proposals to its Minerva Research Initiative. Under its Iraqi Perspectives Project, the Pentagon will allow access to its collections of seized Iraqi records. This essay approaches the issue of the use and abuse of the seized Iraqi records from legal, academic, moral, and sociopolitical perspectives."...

Social Science Research Council, Oct. 29

AL Direct, November 5, 2008

Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail (or seeing it in full)? Click here [[%= util.viewHtmlLink %>](#)].

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | November 5, 2008

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[<http://www.sirsiidynix.com/Solutions/Products/portalsearch.php>]

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

## U.S. & World News

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### Early voting taxes library polling places

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/october2008/earlyvoting.cfm>]

Record early-voting turnout for the 2008 election may bode well for civic involvement, but libraries across the country that served as early voting sites faced unexpected pressures—and opportunities—providing service to the throngs of early voters coming through their doors.

Broward County (Fla.) Libraries may have taken the most extreme step: closing the Davie/Cooper City, Tamarac, and Pompano Beach branches to everyone except early voters from October 30 through November 2. On Election Day, voters lined up

[<http://www.blinkx.com/video/raw-video-long-lines-at-boston-public-library/ankcB-fNRfeO03sNdpgDUw>] around the block at the Boston Public Library, while the wait at the Orange County (Fla.) Library in Orlando was about two hours

[[http://blogs.orlandosentinel.com/news\\_politics/2008/11/orange-county-1.html](http://blogs.orlandosentinel.com/news_politics/2008/11/orange-county-1.html)] long. Libraries around the country

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/CampaignVote.cfm>] hosted activities and events to register voters and to educate them on the important election issues....

American Libraries Online, Oct. 31; WBZ-TV, Boston, Nov. 4; Orlando Sentinel, Nov. 4

Voters save borough library in New Jersey

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/November2008/jamesburgsaved.cfm>]

The voters of Jamesburg, New Jersey, decisively defeated a ballot measure November 4 asking for their approval for the town to “discontinue the support, maintenance, and control of the Jamesburg Public Library” (right). In a one-square-mile town with 6,500 residents, the measure was defeated 959–564. What defeated the 2008 measure was a concerted campaign by trustees and library Friends. In addition to yard signs, banners, and media contacts, volunteers canvassed the one-square-mile community....

American Libraries Online, Nov. 5

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/october2008/harvarddissesgoogledeal.cfm>] Harvard unswayed by Google settlement

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/october2008/harvarddissesgoogledeal.cfm>]

Voicing its dissatisfaction with the terms of a settlement of lawsuits challenging the Google Book Search project, Harvard University Library will not take part in the program’s scanning of copyright-protected works. One of the original library partners in the project, Harvard plans to continue its policy of only allowing Google to scan books whose copyrights have expired. However, Harvard officials have declared their belief in the project’s legality...

American Libraries Online, Oct. 31

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[<http://www.nationscourts.com/#Harry%20Potter%20&%20the%20Order%20of%20the%20Court>]

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ALA News  
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[<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala/document/display.jsp?docID=10083176&page=1>]

Tuesday in the park with Barack [<http://www.al.ala.org/insidescoop/?p=172>]

American Libraries Editor Leonard Kniffel writes: “In the elevator on my way up to the office this morning, I ran into Deidre Ross, and I thanked her for whatever she did as head of ALA Conference Services to bring Barack Obama to the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago in 2005, when his campaign for the presidency was in its infancy. Ross’s prescience led to one of the most rousing Opening General Session speeches I have ever heard. So library-specific, so tailor-made for librarians it was, that we were able to work with Obama to adapt it into the cover story for the August 2005 issue of American Libraries.”...

AL Inside Scoop, Nov. 5

From one president-elect to another

[<http://camilaalire.wordpress.com/2008/11/05/si-nos-podremos-yes-we-can/>]

ALA President-elect Camila Alire writes: "Today I woke up with mixed feelings. I went to bed with the 'Yes, we can' rallying cry coming from over 100,000 folks in Grant Park in Chicago, Illinois. I woke up this morning to find that in that same state, all 10 library-related referenda failed.

[<http://capwiz.com/ala/il/issues/alert/?alertid=12161496&queueid=2592085956>]

There is some good news: The library-related referenda passed in Fulton County, Ga.; New Mexico (first time for tribal libraries); Clackamas County, Oreg.; Walpole and Brockton, Mass.; and Fairfield County, Pa.

President-elect Obama's campaign will be my model for ALA. It was so successful because he enlisted the grassroots of this country to get involved and vote."...

Camila Alire's blog, Nov. 5; Illinois Library Association, Nov. 5

Gaming Symposium: Complex games lead to complex thinking

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/November2008/2008gaming.cfm>]

Modern games aren't trivial, and librarians who dismiss them as such do their patrons a disservice, presenters told some 215 attendees of the second annual ALA TechSource Gaming, Learning, and Libraries Symposium. Held November 2–4 in Oak Brook, Illinois, the event was replete with examples of how the complexity of modern games prepare young people for their futures. The oft-mocked Pokémon series, for example, has more than 500 characters, each falling into one of 17 types that may be particularly strong or weak against other types."...

American Libraries Online, Nov. 5

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZqHS7qiZh8Q>]

[<http://www.alatechsource.org/blog/2008/11/more-than-just-a-game.html>]

Daniel A. Freeman writes: "As I write this from the 2008 ALA TechSource Gaming, Learning, and Libraries Symposium, I can't help but think how far gaming technology has come since the days of 8-bit graphics and cheap MIDI sound effects. At this symposium, gaming is hardly a game—it's a rapidly evolving and increasingly important part of our profession. More and more, librarians are using gaming to help students of all ages learn, to help adults improve and hone their skills, and to draw young people into a lifetime of library use. Allan M. Kleiman presented this video [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZqHS7qiZh8Q>] (0:57) showing seniors bowling on a Wii." For more coverage, see AL Inside Scoop [<http://www.al.ala.org/insidescoop/?p=170>]....

ALA TechSource blog, Nov. 3; AL Inside Scoop, Nov. 2–4

New survey on diversity, recruitment in library schools

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/OFDsurvey.cfm>]

ALA is conducting a new online survey to examine strategies used by library schools to recruit students of color. This survey has been designed to assess strategies employed to recruit students of color, and efforts to foster an educational environment where respect, appreciation, equity, and inclusion are core values. The survey will be electronically

distributed to all ALA-accredited and AASL approved/NCATE accredited master's programs by November 7. Replies are requested by November 24....

Simmons College supports a Spectrum Scholar

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/OFDsimmons.cfm>]

The Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science will provide \$5,000 in matching scholarship funds to Steven De'Juan Booth, a 2008 ALA Spectrum Scholarship winner. Booth is pursuing an MLS at Simmons, which has offered matching scholarships to Spectrum recipients in its graduate program in library and information science since 1999....

Featured review: Media

[[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=3061176](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3061176)]

The Rape of Europa. Sept. 2008. 117 min. Passion River, DVD.

More than 60 years following World War II, thousands of art treasures stolen by Nazis as they swept through Europe are still missing. Private collectors, museum curators, and family heirs battle over the rightful ownership of priceless artwork that has resurfaced. Hitler's plan, according to interviewed historians, authors, and other experts in this riveting program, was to obliterate enemy culture and history while adding to his private art collection. In well-selected archival footage, viewers witness German armies destroying architectural landmarks, burning libraries, and pillaging art museums. Hitler, an adequate artist himself, was obsessed with the work of the masters....

Say it with music

[[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=3086522](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3086522)]

Ellen Myrick writes: "Music has long played a part in audiobooks, cueing listeners to chapter beginnings and endings, signaling transitions, and underscoring moments of great emotion. In several recent audios, music has moved from a supporting role to an integral part of the production. Gail Carson Levine's *Fairest* (2006) is a story about music. The tale is set in Ayortha, where bursting into song is a common way for the characters to express emotion."...

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

Denver Update

[<http://farecast.live.com/>]Five best travel sites for cheap tickets

[<http://lifehacker.com/5073437/five-best-travel-sites-for-cheap-tickets>]

Adam Pash writes: "Where can you find tickets cheap enough to offset the extra \$40 you'll have to spend to check your bags and enjoy a snack on your six-hour flight? Earlier this week we asked Lifehacker readers to

share their favorite travel websites for cheap tickets, and today we're back with the five most popular answers. Keep reading for a breakdown of the best travel sites." Also, check out some lesser-known [http://lifehacker.com/5075138/more-travel-deal-web-sites-worth-checking-out] options....  
Lifehacker, Nov. 2, 4

Terror at the CELL [http://www.thecell.org/]  
"Anyone, Anytime, Anywhere" is an interactive multimedia exhibit aimed at educating the general public about terrorism and terrorist organizations. Hosted by the Center for Empowered Living and Learning at 99 W. 12th Avenue, the exhibit debuted at the Denver Democratic National Convention in August. Visitors can explore various notions about terrorist ideology and aims, as well as the role of media coverage in terrorist activities....  
Center for Empowered Living and Learning

Visit the Money Museum  
[http://www.money.org/Content/NavigationMenu/ExploretheWorldofMoney/MoneyMuseum/default.htm]  
Perhaps America's favorite collectible, money is the center of attraction at the American Numismatic Association's Money Museum in Colorado Springs, on the campus of Colorado College. The museum collection consists of over 250,000 objects encompassing the history of numismatics from the earliest invention of money to modern day—paper money, coins, tokens, medals, exonumia, and traditional money from all over the world. "A House Divided: Money of the Civil War" will be a featured exhibit [http://www.money.org/Content/NavigationMenu/ExploretheWorldofMoney/MoneyMuseum/CurrentExhibits/Civil\_War\_Exhibit.htm] during the Midwinter Meeting in January....  
American Numismatic Association

## Division News

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[http://www.vickicobb.com/]ALSC's Exceptional Websites for Children [http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/ALSCexceptionalwebsites.cfm]  
ALSC has added 15 websites this fall to Great Web Sites for Kids [http://www.ala.org/greatsites], its online resource containing hundreds of commendable links. The site is organized by subject headings such as animals; literature and languages; mathematics and computers; the arts; and history and biography. There is also a special section with sites of interest to parents, caregivers, and teachers, plus an area devoted to sites in Spanish....

ALSC Great Interactive Software for Kids  
[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/ALSCgreatsoftware.cfm]  
ALSC has selected its Fall 2008 list of Great Interactive Software for Kids, which recognizes high-quality computer programs and digital media for children 14 years of age and younger. The selected products are: Beep, GollyGee Blocks, LEGO Indiana Jones: The Original Adventures

(right), Mastering Elementary School, Mastering Elementary and Middle School Math, and Nancy Drew and the Phantom of Venice....

Register for Teen Tech Week

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/YALSAttwreg.cfm>]

YALSA launched its Teen Tech Week 2009 website

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw09/home.cfm>]

November 4, opening registration and offering resources for the annual celebration of nonprint resources. Teen Tech Week is March 8–14, with a theme of “Press Play @ your library,” encouraging teens to take advantage of the many technologies available to them, free of charge, at their libraries....

Melissa De Fino named ALCTS Emerging Leader

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/ALCTSemergingleader.cfm>]

Melissa De Fino, special collections catalog librarian at Rutgers

University libraries, has been selected as the ALCTS sponsored Emerging Leader for 2008–2009. ALCTS sponsors one Emerging Leader who has chosen technical services as a career....

Web 2.0 in schools: Our digital divides are showing

[<http://www.aasl.ala.org/aasblog/2008/10/30/web-20-in-schools-our-digital-divides-are-showing/>]

Marcia Mardis writes: “The findings of the AASL longitudinal study suggest that Web 2.0 tools are gaining popularity in schools across the United States. These tools are enabling forms of communication, collaboration, and learning never seen in K–12 education. This is exciting because it signals the timely, if not prescient, nature of the Standards for the 21st-Century Learner.”...

AASL Blog, Oct. 30

ACRL preconference unconference

[<http://www.radicalreference.info/acrl/preconuncon>]

As an adjunct to the ACRL National Conference, members of Radical Reference are organizing an unconference on social justice and alternative or radical collections and programs in academic libraries, Thursday, 10 a.m.–2:30 p.m., March 12, at the Good Shepherd Center in Seattle. Contact Radical Reference [<mailto:lia.friedman@gmail.com>] for more information....

Radical Reference, Oct. 9

Awards

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Apply for a Google Policy Fellowship

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=1003>]

The ALA Washington Office will be participating again in the Google Policy Fellowship program [<http://www.google.com/policyfellowship/>] for summer 2009. The first class of fellows

[<http://www.google.com/policyfellowship/fellows.html>] worked for 10 weeks

last summer at the Washington Office and other public-interest organizations involved in debates on broadband and access policy, content regulation, copyright reform, online privacy, and open government. Master's and doctoral students in library and information studies with an interest in national public policy can apply for this fellowship. ALA's one fellow will focus on these issues [http://www.google.com/policyfellowship/hosts.html#ala] from the perspective of the library community. Apply [https://services.google.com/inquiry/policyfellowship] by December 12.... District Dispatch, Nov. 4

Enter the 2009 StoryTubes video contest [http://storytubes.info/libraries/index.html] The 2009 video contest features new partner libraries, new categories that provide opportunities for kindergartners through high school seniors, groups, and people of all ages, new contest dates, and the addition of TeacherTube as a video host to assist organizations that do not enable access to YouTube. Visit StoryTubes.info to watch videos [http://storytubes.info/index.html#winners] from last year, identify the partner libraries, [http://storytubes.info/index.html#libraries] read the contest rules [http://storytubes.info/rules/index.html], and find contact information [http://storytubes.info/libraries/index.html].... StoryTubes, Oct. 27

NYPL rewards New York City unsung hero [http://www.nypl.org/press/releases/?article\_id=200] The New York Public Library's 2008 Brooke Russell Astor Award has been awarded to Rev. Terry Troia, executive director of Project Hospitality, an interfaith program committed to serving the needs of hungry and homeless people. The \$10,000 award was established in 1987 and recognizes unsung heroes who have substantially contributed to improving the quality of life in New York City. Troia was nominated for the award by Janet Klucvsek, supervising librarian at the NYPL Port Richmond branch.... New York Public Library, Oct. 28

Whiting Writers' Awards, 2008 [http://www.whitingfoundation.org/whiting\_2008.html] The Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation named 10 recipients October 29 of the 2008 Whiting Writers' Awards. The awards, \$50,000 each, have been given annually since 1985 to writers of exceptional talent and promise in early career. Among them is Manuel Muñoz, the author of two collections of short stories, Zigzagger (Northwestern University Press, 2003) and The Faith Healer of Olive Avenue (Algonquin Books, 2007).... Whiting Foundation, Oct. 29

Seen Online

Obama mentions 106-year-old library supporter [http://www.ajc.com/metro/content/metro/stories/2008/11/05/106\_year\_old\_obama\_speech.html] November 4, for the second time in this election, Ann Nixon Cooper was a

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part of history. The first time was when the 106-year-old Atlanta woman voted for Barack Obama for president in October. The second was when the candidate she voted for gave her the ultimate shout-out in his election night speech. And she has shared her rich history with the rest of us.

The Ann N. Cooper Collection

[[http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/aafa/html/aafa\\_aar195-007.html](http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/aafa/html/aafa_aar195-007.html)] at the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System's Auburn Avenue Research Library contains items from 1922 to 1956, including a daybook, two scrapbooks, and other personal effects from the Coopers....

Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Nov. 5

Arizona librarian loses election to incumbent

[<http://www.asuwebdevil.com/node/2583>]

Democrat Rebecca Schneider, the overnight manager at Arizona State University's Hayden Library, lost her race for a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives in Congressional District 6. The Republican incumbent Jeff Flake took 62% of the vote, Schneider took 35%, and Libertarian Rick Biondi took 3% of the vote....

ASU Web Devil, Nov. 5

Hartford gets task force's recommendations

[<http://www.courant.com/community/news/hfd/hc-librules1104.artnov04,0,4338281.story>]

A task force formed this summer to study safety and security issues at the main branch of the Hartford (Conn.) Public Library has sent its recommendations to the board of directors. The group was formed following a newspaper investigation that detailed security and public safety problems at the library, including drinking, drug use, and sexual activity in bathrooms; threats made to staff members by library visitors; and the theft of CDs and DVDs. Board President Geraldine Sullivan said November 3 she was pleased with the report....

Hartford (Conn.) Courant, Nov. 4

Book overdue since 1947 nets \$250 fee

[[http://www.blinkx.com/video/book-overdue-for-61-years-returned-in-tulsa-ok/b2yPGtqGkkSr\\_RSMCHSgyw/](http://www.blinkx.com/video/book-overdue-for-61-years-returned-in-tulsa-ok/b2yPGtqGkkSr_RSMCHSgyw/)]

A library book checked out from an Oklahoma school library in 1947 has turned up in Ohio and was returned, with a \$250 check to cover overdue fees. Librarian Betty Niver said the book *New Word Analysis: Or, School Etymology of English Derivative Words*, by William Swinton (1879), was mailed to Holland Hall school in Tulsa by Martha McCabe Jarrett, who was a high school sophomore when she signed out the book 61 years ago....

Associated Press, Nov. 1; New England Cable News, Nov. 1

Kayaker hopes to keep Wareham library afloat

[[http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/11/02/kayaker\\_hopes\\_marathon\\_trek\\_keeps\\_wareham\\_library\\_afloat/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/11/02/kayaker_hopes_marathon_trek_keeps_wareham_library_afloat/)]

Former educator and avid outdoorsman Richard Wheeler is kayaking around the waters—up and down the coast and in and out of inlets, bays, and harbors—to raise money for the cash-strapped Wareham (Mass.) Free Library. Wheeler, best known for his 1,500-mile kayak trip in 1991 from Newfoundland to Cape Cod following the migratory route of the extinct great auk, enlisted for this fundraiser after the library budget was reduced 47% to help make up for a town-wide shortfall....

Boston Globe, Nov. 2

Transylvania thieves get a break

[<http://www.kentucky.com/181/story/574260.html>]

A federal judge declined to give additional jail time October 30 to four men serving 87-month sentences for stealing rare books from the Transylvania University Library in Lexington, Kentucky, and tasing a librarian. An appeals court in February said that U.S. District Judge Jennifer Coffman miscalculated the federal sentencing guidelines by not including the cost of all the books that the men tried to steal in the December 2004 heists. But Coffman said the guidelines were no longer mandatory....

Lexington (Ky.) Herald-Leader, Oct. 30

German libraries hold thousands of looted volumes

[<http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,586379,00.html>]

Records indicate that Berlin's Central and Regional Library purchased "more than 40,000 volumes from the private libraries of evacuated Jews" through the City Pawn Office in the 1940s. And, this being Germany, the librarians maintained meticulous record books to keep track of their purchases—even though parts of the German capital were already in ruins. As always, preserving order was paramount. The librarians signed each volume and gave it an accession number, beginning with the letter J. No one knows how many stolen books are still on the shelves in German libraries today, although experts, like historian Görz Aly, estimate that there are at least one million....

Der Spiegel, Oct. 24

Tech Talk

What an Obama presidency means for technology

[[http://news.cnet.com/8301-13578\\_3-10082672-38.html?tag=newsLeadStoriesArea.0](http://news.cnet.com/8301-13578_3-10082672-38.html?tag=newsLeadStoriesArea.0)]

Declan McCullagh writes: "When Barack Obama becomes president in January with a strongly Democratic Congress, he'll have the chance to push a technology policy that relies more on government subsidy and regulation than that of his immediate predecessor. In Washington and Silicon Valley circles, betting has already begun on who will be the nation's first Chief Technology Officer. Could it be Google CEO Eric Schmidt, who conveniently endorsed

[[http://news.cnet.com/8301-13578\\_3-10069998-38.html](http://news.cnet.com/8301-13578_3-10069998-38.html)] Obama? Or Vint Cerf?

If there's an opening for a Beltway type, perhaps ex-regulator Reed Hundt, who's been a proxy

[[http://news.cnet.com/8301-13578\\_3-10079575-38.html](http://news.cnet.com/8301-13578_3-10079575-38.html)] for the president-elect?"...

CNET News, Nov. 5

10 election tweets worth remembering

[[http://news.cnet.com/8301-13577\\_3-10082721-36.html](http://news.cnet.com/8301-13577_3-10082721-36.html)]

Caroline McCarthy writes: "It was a marathon evening for media buffs as Barack Obama beat rival John McCain to become the first U.S.

African-American president-elect. You couldn't miss it on Twitter, as the

microblogging service exploded with election updates, commentary, and speculation. Miraculously, Twitter's servers lasted the night, and had quite a lot of terrific, 140-character-long election commentary (in messages known as 'tweets') to serve up for hungry news hounds. Here are 10 of CNET News' favorites."...  
CNET News, Nov. 5

Sneaky fees: 7 new ways you'll be paying more  
[[http://www.pcworld.com/article/152825/sneaky\\_fees\\_7\\_new\\_ways\\_youre\\_paying\\_more.html](http://www.pcworld.com/article/152825/sneaky_fees_7_new_ways_youre_paying_more.html)]

J. R. Raphael writes: "It's no secret that the faltering economy is taking its toll on the tech world. You may not have noticed, though, how often your wallet has been hit with sneaky fees as a result. We've identified seven recently introduced surcharges on tech-related products—add-ons that vendors aren't exactly trumpeting. Ready to see where companies are hiding the new fees?"...  
PC World, Oct. 28

Blog search engines: An overview  
[<http://www.searchenginejournal.com/blog-search-engines-the-complete-overview/7856/>]

Ann Smarty writes: "Blog search tools are numerous; most of them are pretty much useless (per my opinion). Here I am looking only at the most helpful ones that I do recommend trying and that offer some great features: Google Blog Search, Technorati, Blog Pulse, and Blog Lines."...  
Search Engine Journal, Oct. 24

## Publishing

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Mr. President-elect, start reading  
[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/features/booksmags/chi-1101-books-for-president-nov01,0,5020196.story>]

Garry Wills and Aleksandar Hemon offer some recommendations for Barack Obama to put on his reading list, because even if he has already read these titles, "it is good to refresh the message of each, to show where we have been going wrong." At the top of the list is Jane Mayer's *The Dark Side*: "If Mark Twain said at one time that America had become the United States of Lyncherdom, this book shows why, in the world's eyes, we have become the United States of Torturedom."...  
Chicago Tribune, Nov. 1

Science fiction that caused political change  
[<http://io9.com/5075613/science-fiction-that-caused-political-change>]  
Lauren Davis writes: "Ronald Reagan, Winston Churchill, and Eugene Debs all had one thing in common: They were fans of science fiction. More than that, they all used sci-fi at one point or another to shape their political actions and views. From presidents and prime ministers to ordinary citizens looking for change, many people have turned to science fiction as their political guide. We look at some of the ways space operas, utopias, and aliens have shaped our political landscape and given us hope for a more futuristic tomorrow."...

io9, Nov. 4

Amazon's Kindle: A five-day review

[<http://speakquietly.blogspot.com/2008/10/amazon-kindle-day-one-out-of-box.html>]

Scott Douglas writes: "I'm going to spend the next week giving an overview of basically every Kindle future. I think at the right price it will be in the hands of every book reader (or even web reader) in the very near future. Today, I'll go over the overall look and feel of the device; over the next couple days, I'll show you what the free internet looks like (yes, free), and some of the other less talked about features. When I turned the Kindle on for the first time, it looked fake—I didn't think words could ever be so clear on something. It's just like words in a book. When I took it outside there was absolutely no glare."...

Speak Quietly, Oct. 27–31

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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## Actions & Answers

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&#8220;We Shall Remain&#8221; to premiere in April

[[http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/weshallremain/the\\_films/index](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/weshallremain/the_films/index)]

In April, PBS American Experience will feature "We Shall Remain," a miniseries and multimedia project that establishes native history as an essential part of American history. Five 90-minute documentaries spanning 300 years tell the story of pivotal moments in U.S. history from the Native American perspective. ALA Past President Loriene Roy served as a consultant. Visit the website to download a library event kit [<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/weshallremain/libraries>] that offers programming ideas and resources to help libraries deliver engaging events leading up to, during, and after the broadcast....

American Experience

November is Native American Heritage Month

[<http://www.loc.gov/topics/nativeamericans/index.html>]

The Library of Congress, the National Museum of the American Indian,

[<http://www.nmai.si.edu/heritagemonth/>] the Indian Health Service,

[<http://www.ihs.gov/PublicAffairs/Heritage/08PartnerList.cfm>] the

Smithsonian, [[http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/heritage\\_month/](http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/heritage_month/)] the

National Register of Historic Places,

[<http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/feature/indian/>] and other organizations

are paying tribute in November to the rich ancestry and traditions of

American Indians and Alaska Natives. Native American activist,

journalist, and poet Suzan Shown Harjo will deliver the keynote address

November 13 for LC's celebration. The LC website also points to

teaching resources

[[http://memory.loc.gov/learn/community/cc\\_nativeamerican.php](http://memory.loc.gov/learn/community/cc_nativeamerican.php)] and digital

collections [<http://www.loc.gov/topics/nativeamericans/collections/>]

useful for instruction....  
Library of Congress

[<http://www.socialmedian.com/>]Making news social  
[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2008/11/04/making-news-social/>]  
Linda Braun writes: “Today is definitely a big news day in the United States. I’ve been thinking about how teens find out about news and how librarians might help them to be more successful at news gathering. What I’m realizing is that Social Median [<http://www.socialmedian.com/>] might be the perfect Web 2.0 site to use for this purpose. Social Median is a social news site that gives users the chance to join networks on a particular topic, say election 2008, and read news stories (that members of the network post) on that topic.”...  
YALSA Blog, Nov. 4

[<http://kcoyle.blogspot.com/2008/11/determining-copyright-status.html>]Copyright status and the Google agreement  
[<http://kcoyle.blogspot.com/2008/11/determining-copyright-status.html>]  
Karen Coyle writes: “Among the many interesting bits in the Google/AAP agreement is Section E (PDF file [<http://books.google.com/booksrightsholders/Attachment-E-Safe-Harbor-Public-Domain-Process.pdf>]) which essentially lays out in detail what steps Google must take to determine if an item is or is not in the public domain. As we know, this is not easy. I decided to try this out. What I found was that just because Google determines that a book is in the public domain doesn’t mean that’s the legal status of the book. It also means that the rest of us can’t use the excuse: ‘But Google says it’s in the public domain.’”...  
Coyle’s InFormation, Nov. 3

Best place to meet someone you’d take home to mom  
[<http://www.eugeneweekly.com/2008/10/30/coverstory.html>]  
The Eugene (Oreg.) Public Library won first place in the reader-selected “Best of Eugene 2008–2009” poll in two categories—best public space, [<http://www.eugeneweekly.com/2008/10/30/coverstory2.html>] and best place to meet someone [<http://www.eugeneweekly.com/2008/10/30/coverstory4.html>]  
you’d take home to mom: “The gorgeously housed Eugene Public Library contains more knowledge in book, CD, DVD, video, audio, Braille, and other formats—including those human search engines, reference librarians—than anyone could encompass. This means you’ve got plenty of opportunities to meet cute, from winking across the room during toddler story time, to banging heads as you go for the microfilm of that 1982 issue of Commonweal, or competing for the same episodes of Six Feet Under.”...  
Eugene (Oreg.) Weekly, Oct. 30

Neil Armstrong donates papers to Purdue  
[<http://news.uns.purdue.edu/x/2008b/081101CordovaArmstrong.html>]  
The personal story of the first person to land a craft on the moon and to step on its surface will live forever—in the Purdue University Libraries, West Lafayette, Indiana. Astronaut Neil A. Armstrong will give his alma mater personal papers that will serve as historic archives and scholarly resources, Purdue President France A. Córdoba announced November 1. Dean of Libraries James L. Mullins said the papers will be housed in Archives

and Special Collections, where the Amelia Earhart papers reside....  
Purdue University, Nov. 1

Special collections reach out to undergrads

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/02/education/edlife/rarebks.html>]

Rare books and manuscripts, once restricted to scholars and graduate students in white gloves, are being incorporated into undergraduate courses at institutions like the University of Iowa, Smith College, the University of Washington, and Harvard. Last academic year, almost 200 classes and student tours visited the rare-books collection of the University of Pennsylvania. Students today often blindly grant authority to the online world. Curators want to reconnect them with original sources and teach them to question those sources....

New York Times, Oct. 30

Harvard: It's in the cards

[<http://etseq.law.harvard.edu/index.php/site/447/>]

Matthew Reidsma writes: "Until the 18th century, when French revolutionaries took inventories of libraries on the backs of confiscated playing cards, library catalogs were merely lists written or printed in books. But as book production dramatically increased, libraries looked for a more expandable way to organize their holdings. The Harvard Library's answer to this problem, the card catalog, became the standard way to access library materials throughout the world for more than a century."...

Et Seq., Oct. 27

How to search for rare books on eBay

[<http://www.collectiblebookblog.com/eBay-buying-selling/buying-collectible-books-on-eBay/eBay-book-collecting-search-set-up>]

S. P. Wurth writes: "We want to narrow down and sort out what appears on your eBay search page, and we want to change the look of that search page. I will show you what I do—you can adapt it easily to fit your book collecting goals. The process I describe here will reduce 101,809 books on 1,114 pages to 299 books on 3 pages. Those are the books that I want to look at."...

Collectible Book Blog, Nov. 3

Bookshelves of the rich and famous

[[http://www.abebooks.com/books/bookshelves-of-the-rich-and-famous.shtml?cm\\_vn=nl&cm\\_cat=nl&cm\\_pla=cme\\_richandfamous&cm\\_ite=othertreasures](http://www.abebooks.com/books/bookshelves-of-the-rich-and-famous.shtml?cm_vn=nl&cm_cat=nl&cm_pla=cme_richandfamous&cm_ite=othertreasures)]

In these economically uncertain times, it's tempting to daydream. What if you had unlimited funds? What treasures would you add to your bookshelf? If you answered "Ptolemy's first Atlas printed in Germany, from 10 years before Columbus sailed the ocean blue" (Cosmographia), you'd be in for a bargain at a cool \$1.8 million. A first edition of Dashiell Hammett's *The Maltese Falcon* (right), on the other hand, might only run \$175,000....

Abebooks

Webinar on why public libraries close

[<http://blog.webjunctionworks.org/index.php/2008/10/30/why-public-libraries-close-webinar/>]

WebJunction is hosting a webinar November 13 (12 noon Pacific Time, 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time), with Christie M. Koontz, Dean K. Jue, and Bradley

Wade Bishop, the principal investigators of the study Why Public Libraries Close

[<http://www.webjunction.org/facilities/articles/content/11041525>]. This webinar is the kickoff to WebJunction's winter focus on economic tough times. [<http://www.webjunction.org/events>] Register online [<http://evanced.info/webjunction/evanced/events/signup.asp?ID=1532>].... BlogJunction, Oct. 30

Innovative libraries overseas

[<http://www.infotoday.com/cilmag/nov08/Breeding.shtml>]  
Marshall Breeding writes: "I've been extremely fortunate over the last few years to have had the opportunity to travel to many different parts of the world and speak and work with librarians in many countries. It has been great to have the chance to see first-hand some incredible libraries that demonstrate creative approaches to library services, innovative uses of technology, expansive resource sharing, and pragmatic approaches to library automation. In my experience, many of the libraries that most push beyond the traditional boundaries can be found in other parts of the world. Let me give you a quick tour."...  
Computers in Libraries 28, no. 10 (Nov./Dec.)

The tragedy of Louvain [<http://www.libraryhistorybuff.org/louvain.htm>]  
For a library to be destroyed twice by acts of war is almost unthinkable. Yet that was the case with the University of Louvain library in Belgium, destroyed in both World War I [<http://burningbookspalgrave.blogspot.com/2008/08/louvain-furore-teutonica-diruta.html>] and II. In 1943–1944, the U.S. Post Office issued a series of stamps honoring countries that were overrun by Germany and Japan. Above is a First Day Cover for the stamp issued to honor Belgium, featuring an illustration of the burning of the University of Louvain library....  
Library History Buff, Nov. 1; Burning Books blog, Aug. 21

[[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvRu\\_6qkAmA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvRu_6qkAmA)]Archives of Dissent  
[[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvRu\\_6qkAmA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvRu_6qkAmA)]  
"Archives of Dissent" was one of a week-long series of Bay Area events in September, held under the auspices of the Global Commons Foundation, that commemorated the worldwide upheavals of 1968, their impact, and legacy. The event (1:58:58) brought together librarians, curators, oral historians, conservators, publishers, booksellers, and others working to prevent the loss and erasure of radical voices, events, and movements of both the past and the present. Speakers included Julie Herrada (above), Labadie Collection librarian at the University of Michigan; Kalim Smith, Berkeley doctoral student in anthropology; and Megan Shaw Prelinger and Rick Prelinger, cofounders of the Prelinger Library....  
YouTube, Oct. 14

Searching for the truth in Iraq?

[<http://www.ssrc.org/essays/minerva/2008/10/29/eskander/>]  
Iraqi National Librarian Saad Eskander writes: In 2007, "the Pentagon issued an announcement that called upon American universities to submit social-science research proposals to its Minerva Research Initiative. Under its Iraqi Perspectives Project, the Pentagon will allow access to its collections of seized Iraqi records. This essay approaches the issue

of the use and abuse of the seized Iraqi records from legal, academic, moral, and sociopolitical perspectives.”...  
Social Science Research Council, Oct. 29

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[<http://gaming.ala.org/resources/index.php?title=Ngd2008>]  
[<http://www.wizards.com/default.asp?x=dc/wpn/libraries>]

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/home.cfm>]

ALA Midwinter Meeting,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2009/faq.cfm>]

Denver, January 23–28. Locate Midwinter exhibitors with this Online Exhibitor Planner.

[[http://iebms.heiexpo.com/iebms/oep/oep\\_p1\\_exhibitors.aspx?cc=alamw09&oc=15](http://iebms.heiexpo.com/iebms/oep/oep_p1_exhibitors.aspx?cc=alamw09&oc=15)

] Booth and author events

[[http://wikis.ala.org/midwinter2009/index.php/Booth\\_Events\\_and\\_Author\\_Events](http://wikis.ala.org/midwinter2009/index.php/Booth_Events_and_Author_Events)] in the exhibit hall are listed in the Midwinter wiki.

[[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?\\_sn=catalog2&\\_pn=product\\_detail&\\_op=2656](http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2656)]

In Public Libraries and Internet Service Roles: Measuring and Maximizing Internet Services,

[[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?\\_sn=catalog2&\\_pn=product\\_detail&\\_op=2656](http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2656)] authors Charles McClure and Paul T. Jaeger speak to the ways

in which the internet has had more impact on public libraries than any other technology since the creation of the book. This resources examines the social and service roles that libraries play in providing online access, and the expectations and challenges librarians face in changing policy and research environments. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue

November 2008

[<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala/document/display.jsp?docID=10249458&page=1>]

Effective Training

After-School Success Stories

Time to Retool

## Hennen's Public Library Rankings

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/accreditation/prp/prism/prism\\_current.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/accreditation/prp/prism/prism_current.cfm)]

Richard Rubin, chair of the ALA Committee on Accreditation, discusses trends affecting the broader aspects of accreditation in higher education, [[http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/accreditation/prp/prism/prism\\_current.cfm#From%20the%20COA%20chair](http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/accreditation/prp/prism/prism_current.cfm#From%20the%20COA%20chair)] in the Fall edition of Prism, [[http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/accreditation/prp/prism/prism\\_current.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/accreditation/prp/prism/prism_current.cfm)] the ALA Office for Accreditation newsletter.

## Career Leads from

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

### Librarian for Digital Humanities Research.

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=12140>] Yale University Library is looking for a creative, technically grounded, visionary person to serve as an advisor, advocate, and implementer for digital humanities resources. Reporting to the Head of Research Services and Collections, the position will work closely with subject specialists, the department coordinator for research education, the library web manager and other members of the library's technology department, and affiliates of the Collaborative Learning Center....

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

## Digital Library of the Week

[<http://deila.dickinson.edu/slaveryandabolition/title/0103.html>]

### Slavery and Abolition in the U.S.: Select Publications of the 1800s

[<http://deila.dickinson.edu/slaveryandabolition/>] is a collaborative project between Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and Millersville University of Pennsylvania that consists of digitized books and pamphlets demonstrating the varying ideas and beliefs about slavery in the United States throughout the 19th century. The collection includes more than 70 titles published between 1787 and 1911 with some 15,000 individual pages of text and searchable transcriptions. Materials were drawn from the Special Collections holdings at both partner institutions and utilize CONTENTdm digital collection management software. The collaborative project was funded in part by LSTA digitization grants and is freely available to the global community.

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>] Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the I Love Libraries

[<http://www.ilovelibraries.ala.org/diglibweekly/>] site.

## Public Perception How the World Sees Us

“At the dawn of the 21st century, where knowledge is literally power, where it unlocks the gates of opportunity and success, we all have responsibilities as parents, as librarians, as educators, as politicians, and as citizens to instill in our children a love of reading so that we can give them a chance to fulfill their dreams. That’s what all of you do each and every day, and for that, I am grateful.”

?Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.), in an adaptation of his keynote speech at the Opening General Session of the 2005 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, “Bound to the Word,” *American Libraries* 36, no. 7 (Aug. 2005): 48–52.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ors/plftas/pullibfunandtechacstudy.cfm>]

Library internet survey extended. In an effort to push national and state responses over 60%, ALA has extended the deadline to respond to the online survey for the Public Library Funding & Technology Study. [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ors/plftas/pullibfunandtechacstudy.cfm>] Data from the survey, which will now close November 14, is used for peer comparison, budget requests, media outreach, and testimony before legislative bodies. Log on now. [<http://www.plinternetsurvey.org/>]

## Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. As a children’s librarian, I am often asked to suggest software or websites that are appropriate for children. Do you have any suggestions of where to look for this information?

A. Each year ALSC [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/index.cfm>] announces two lists that address these topics. Great Interactive Software for Kids [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/awardsgrants/childrensnortable/gisk/index.cfm>] and Great Websites for Kids [<http://www.ala.org/gwstemplate.cfm?section=greatwebsites&template=/cfapps/gws/default.cfm>] offer websites and software that has been reviewed and selected by committees of children’s librarians and school librarians. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Software\\_for\\_Children](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Software_for_Children)].

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

[[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?\\_sn=catalog2&\\_pn=product\\_detail&\\_op=1926](http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=1926)]

## Calendar

Jan. 23&ndash;28:

### ALA Midwinter Meeting

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2009/home.cfm>], Denver. Includes: January 22: ALCTS symposium, "Implementing an Institutional Repository: Benefits and Challenges"; January 23: AASL School Library Advocacy Institute; ALCTS symposium, "Breaking Down the Silos: Planning for Discovery Tools for Library 2.0"; LLAMA institute, "Library Leadership: You Are How You Communicate"; LLAMA institute, "Mission Possible: Practical Project Management"; LSSIRT institute, "Success in the Workplace"; ACRL Institute, "Bring it Home! Creating Custom Search Plug-ins for Your Library"; ACRL Institute, "Do You Q? Looking at Your Users in a New Way"; ACRL Institute, "Nobody Told Me I'd Have to Teach! Strategies for the Accidental Librarian."

Mar. 8&ndash;14:

### Teen Tech Week

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw09/home.cfm>]

Mar. 12&ndash;15:

### ACRL National Conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/seattle/seattle.cfm>], Seattle, Washington. "Pushing the Edge: Explore, Engage, Extend."

Apr. 2&ndash;4:

### PLA Spring Symposium

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/plaspringsymposium/index.cfm>], Nashville, Tennessee.

Apr. 12&ndash;18:

### National Library Week

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/hqops/pio/natlibraryweek/nlw.cfm>].

Apr. 30:

### El Día de los Niños/El Día de los Libros

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/initiatives/diadelosninos/index.cfm>].

May 7&ndash;8:

### LITA Camp

[<http://www.lita.org/ala/mgrps/divs/lita/litaevents/litacamp/index.cfm>], Dublin, Ohio.

May 11&ndash;12:

National Library Legislative Day.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/washevents/nlld/nlld2009.cfm>]

July 9&ndash;15:

ALA Annual Conference,

[<http://ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>] Chicago.

Oct. 1&ndash;4, 2009: LITA National Forum

[<http://www.lita.org/ala/mgrps/divs/lita/litaevents/forum2009/proposals.cfm> ], Salt Lake City, Utah. &ldquo;Open and Mobile.&rdquo; Submit proposals by February 20.

Oct. 18&ndash;24, 2009: Teen Read Week [<http://www.ala.org/teenread>].

&ldquo;Read Beyond Reality @ your library.&rdquo;

Nov. 5&ndash;8, 2009: AASL National Conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/conferencesandevents/national/charlotte2009.cfm>], Charlotte, North Carolina. &ldquo;Rev Up Learning @ your library.&rdquo; Submit proposals for concurrent sessions by December 1, and proposals for Exploratorium sessions by March 30, 2009.

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

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American Libraries Direct

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George M. Eberhart,

Editor:

[geberhart@ala.org](mailto:geberhart@ala.org) [<mailto:geberhart@ala.org>]

Greg Landgraf,

Associate Editor:

[glandgraf@ala.org](mailto:glandgraf@ala.org) [<mailto:glandgraf@ala.org>]

Leonard Kniffel,

Editor-in-Chief,

American Libraries: [lkniffel@ala.org](mailto:lkniffel@ala.org) [<mailto:lkniffel@ala.org>]

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# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | November 12, 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

### [Branch closings and budget cuts threaten libraries nationwide](#)

City governments across the United States prepared in early November to slash public library budgets in the wake of revenue shortfalls and dire economic news. In a grim November 6 speech in which he called for sweeping job cuts and service reductions in many city departments, Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter (right) announced the permanent closing of 11 out of 54 library branches and the elimination of Sunday hours at the three regional branches. "Make no mistake," Nutter said. "This will be a mid-year revision of epic proportions." The first of several public rallies to [protest](#) the closings took place November 10; watch the [video](#) (2:06)....



American Libraries Online, Nov. 7; *Philadelphia Daily News*, Nov. 11; KYW-TV, Nov. 10

### [Voters buck bleak economic outlook to fund libraries](#)

Fears of an impending recession did not deter voters in many parts of the country from approving ballot initiatives to expand, renovate, or restore library services in their communities. And in several towns where apparently desperate officials asked the electorate to add money to general-fund coffers by zeroing out library support, residents' answer was a resounding "no." Library boosters in Gilroy, California, celebrated the narrow win of a \$37-million bond to build a new facility to replace the 42-year-old, seismically unstable building that serves a town whose population has grown five-fold since it was erected....



American Libraries Online, Nov. 11

### [New federal law requires schools to teach web safety](#)

Signed into law October 10 by President Bush, the Broadband Data Improvement Act requires schools receiving federal e-rate discounts on telecommunications services and internet access



### [ALA Midwinter Meeting.](#)

Denver, January 23–28. Going to Denver? Let others know by putting a [button](#) on your website or blog.



to educate their students "about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking sites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response." The legislation effectively supplants the Deleting Online Predators Act, introduced in 2006 and passing the House but stalled in the Senate....

American Libraries Online, Nov. 11

## ALA News

### [ALA Publishing launches Guide to Reference online](#)

ALA Publishing has launched the new online edition of *Guide to Reference*. Offering more than 16,000 essential print and web reference resources, *Guide to Reference* provides guidance in the form of expert introductory essays and annotations for entries. It also offers tips for LIS reference-course exercises and reference department activities such as collection development and reference-desk training. [Sign up](#) for a free trial subscription....



Guide to Reference

### [Libraries gear up for National Gaming Day @ your library](#)

Hundreds of libraries across the country will join ALA for the first-ever [National Gaming Day @ your library](#) November 15. Public, school, and academic libraries will participate in two national events. The first is an attempt to establish a record for the most number of people playing the board game Pictureka! on the same day at the library. Gamers will also participate in a national library video game tournament via the Web. Watch a [video interview](#) (6:06) with ALA Literacy Officer Dale Lipschultz....



### [ALA SLymposium draws 80 avatars](#)

The ALA Fall 2008 Second Life Symposium—called the ALA SLymposium for short—on November 8 stood firm with as many as 80 avatars on its last-minute relocation to Cybrary City, an island next door on the Second Life Information Archipelago that could better accommodate such numbers. Steven Harris [writes](#): "The technically interesting thing to me was how a constant stream of text chatter was going on while the speakers were making their comments in audio." Tina Coleman from ALA [discussed](#) the role of library associations in virtual worlds....



Virtual Presence, Nov. 12; Collections 2.0, Nov. 9; SLA in Second Life, Nov. 10



Kevin Henkes's beautifully written and illustrated picture book, *Old Bear*, is featured in a new poster and bookmarks that remind us reading is always in season. **NEW! From ALA Graphics.**

### In this issue November 2008



Effective Training

After-School  
Success Stories

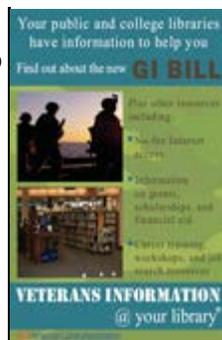
Time to Retool

Hennen's Public  
Library Ratings

## [Veterans' information from ALA](#)

ALA is reaching out to veterans and their families to help them understand new educational benefits available under the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008. At libraries across the country, ALA is spearheading Veterans Information @ your library activities to explain a confusing array of [benefits](#) that become available next year. Efforts kick off during the week of Veteran's Day, November 11, and are expected to grow in the weeks and months to come....

District Dispatch, Nov. 10

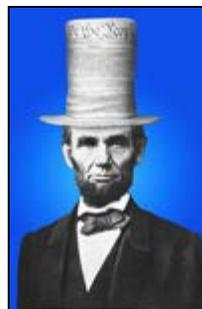


## [New ALA Connections Salon topic](#)

The next installment in the series of President Jim Rettig's ALA Connections Salons will be a discussion with Emily Sheketoff, associate executive director of the Washington Office, and Vic Klatt, ALA political consultant and former staff director of the House Education and Labor Committee. The discussion, entitled "Political Connections: The Long Road Ahead," will take place 2–3 p.m. Eastern Time, November 21. The salon will take place in [OPAL](#)....

## [Traveling exhibit explores Lincoln and the Constitution](#)

The ALA Public Programs Office will join the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia in presenting a new traveling exhibit, "Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War." One copy of the exhibition will travel to public, academic, and special libraries from mid-2009 through 2011. The traveling exhibition, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, offers a fresh and innovative perspective on Abraham Lincoln that focuses on his struggle to meet the political and constitutional challenges of the Civil War. Libraries must apply through [Grants.gov](#) by January 30....



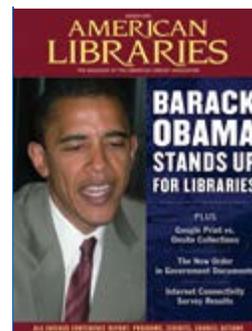
## [Poster sessions at Annual Conference](#)

Poster sessions will be held at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, July 11–13, at McCormick Place West. The deadline for proposals is January 31. The [web form](#) is now available. If you have questions about the status of your submission, or need to change information on a submission, contact [Candace Benefiel](#)....

# AL Focus

## [Gaming, Learning, and Libraries Symposium](#)

The 2008 ALA *TechSource* Gaming, Learning, and Libraries Symposium, held



Read an HTML version of an adaptation of Sen. [Barack Obama's keynote address](#) at the opening general session of ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, June 23–29, 2005.

## Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST

### [Dean of Library.](#)

University of South Florida, St. Petersburg. USFSP seeks a dynamic leader with a deep understanding of the role of libraries in the modern academy and a clear and compelling vision for the future of academic libraries. The successful candidate will have major opportunities to shape the future of the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library and its associated support services such as distance learning and instructional technology....

@ [More jobs...](#)

November 2–4 in Oak Brook, Illinois, demonstrated many of the benefits gaming has for libraries, including improved literacy, improved civic engagement, inclusiveness, and even fundraising. Interviewees in this video (4:06) include Lawrence Kutner (right), Seann Dikkers, Lindsey Wesson, Amanda Lenhart, Rick Bolton, Larry Lewis Jr., and Eli Neiburger....



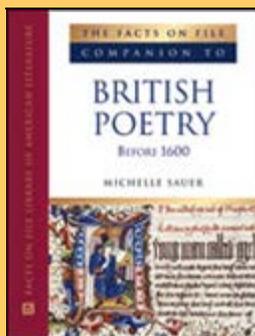
As hundreds of libraries join ALA in the celebration of **National Gaming Day on November 15**, ALA President Jim Rettig will join families at the Dr. Clarence V. Cuffee Library (above) in Chesapeake, Virginia, for a day filled with opportunities to read, learn, and play.

## Booklist ONLINE

### Featured review: Reference

Sauer, Michelle M. (editor). *The Facts on File Companion to British Poetry before 1600*. July 2008. 514p. Facts on File, hardcover (978-0-8160-6360-4).

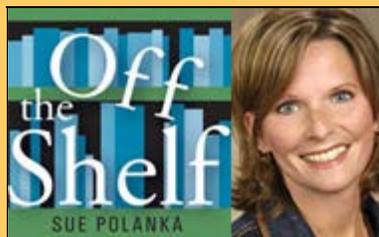
The first volume in a four-volume set on British poetry includes English, Scottish, Welsh, and Irish poetry before 1600. For this volume, editor Sauer has chosen the poems and poets who are most often included in the major anthologies of literature and the most used high-school textbooks. This means students will find analysis of *Beowulf*, *The Canterbury Tales*, *The Faerie Queene*, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, and Shakespeare's sonnets in one place. The 600 A–Z entries cover poets, poems, themes, terms, and historical events. Appendixes contain a glossary of literary terms and a bibliography. All articles are signed and include *see also* references and lists of further readings in journals and books. Entries range in length from a few paragraphs to 43 pages for *Shakespeare's sonnets*. The entries on poems give an overview of the text, a discussion of the style, the historical context, and the most common interpretations of the poem....



### E-book distributors for school and public libraries

Sue Polanka writes: "No matter which distributor or aggregator is chosen by a library, there are many similarities and differences.

Similarities include what I feel are the benefits of e-book distributors and aggregators: a single search platform, international coverage, centralized selection and acquisitions for e-books, one licensing agreement, and price negotiation. However, the public and school library e-book distribution markets have several features that make them unique. First is



### Digital Library of the Week



The [New York Public Library Digital Gallery](#) provides free and open access to over 640,000 images digitized from NYPL's vast collections, including illuminated manuscripts, historical maps, vintage posters, rare prints, and photographs. A recently redesigned web interface offers more customizable options, fewer popup windows, and a completely CSS-driven page layout that will guarantee flexibility in future versions in displaying the site's content on a variety of devices like PDAs and mobile phones. New images are highlighted

content. Second is the business model. And third is Digital Rights Management coding. I interviewed Michael Johnson, chief operating officer, Follett Digital Resources, and David Burleigh, director of marketing, OverDrive; what follows is based on the information they provided.”...

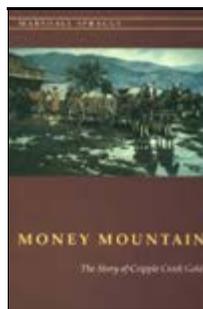
@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....

## Denver Update

### [Colorado authors, books, and media](#)

Come to the Midwinter Meeting in Denver fully prepared to discuss the Centennial State knowledgeably by reading about or viewing its heritage. Colorado authors include Sandra Dallas, Diane Mott Davidson, John Dunning, Kent Haruf, Robert Greer, and quite a few writers of [speculative fiction](#). Now might be a good time to revisit Stephen King's *The Shining* or discover Marshall Sprague's *Money Mountain: The Story of Cripple Creek Gold* for the first time. And don't forget *South Park*, *Things to Do in Denver When You're Dead*, and *Centennial*....

Midwinter 2009 wiki



### [10 tips for photographing a conference](#)

Tris Hussey writes: "There are two things that are pretty common at almost every conference I attend: laptops and cameras. However, the quality of pictures captured and posted from a given conference vary wildly. Very wildly. To help you out I've compiled my top 10 tips for better conference pictures (and a few other words of wisdom too)." Tip No. 9: Zoom less, walk more....

Digital Photography School

## Division News

### [Civil rights heroine to keynote ALSC program](#)

Only 52 years ago, 15-year old Melba Pattillo Beals faced down furious segregationists, the Arkansas National Guard, and the governor of Arkansas to integrate Little Rock Central High School. Now, a best-selling author, university professor, and Congressional Gold Medal of Honor recipient, Beals will join ALSC at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago to discuss her fight for civil rights in the United States. The ALSC Charlemae Rollins President's Program featuring Beals is part of the Auditorium Speaker Series and will take place July 13....



### [Explore family roots at RUSA's Midwinter Genealogy Institute](#)

Whatever happened to Uncle Seamus who left home to work on the railroads in the 1860s? Which families made the arduous journey along El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro to settle New Mexico? Who are my Arikara ancestors? Attendees at the RUSA History Section's ["Behind the Genealogy Reference Desk,"](#) a one-day institute on

weekly as Digital Gallery Picks. Choices in the item view are now arranged according to the things you might want to do: find related images, browse related sources, see more metadata, or interact with an image. Image metadata (in the Dublin Core format) is now embedded in each item page. There is also support for the Cooliris browser extension that allows the user to view any image search in the Digital Gallery as an immersive slideshow. In addition, the NYPL site features a video series showcasing [Treasures of the New York Public Library](#), in which curators and librarians share their passion for the NYPL special collections.

**Do you know** of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#) Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the [Love Libraries](#) site.

### Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

**"In the library, Mrs. Pederson has the windows open. . . . She smells like the floor wax the janitor uses. Every day she wears a white blouse. The rest of her clothes are gray—the skirt, the jacket she buttons in the heat. Her gray hair is pulled back, pinned. In the heat, no one visits her. During working**

January 24 at the Denver Public Library, could find some answers....

### [YALSA's Young Adult Literature Symposium](#)

More than 600 librarians, educators, and authors came to Nashville, Tennessee, November 7–9 to celebrate teen reading. YALSA has posted a series of videos featuring presenters and participants at their Young Adult Literature Symposium in Nashville.



Dramacon author Svetlana Chmakova (right) and Yen Press Publishing Director Kurt Hassler served on a preconference [panel on manga](#). Liz Burns talks about a program she presented on [fanfic and fandom](#). Pam Spencer Holley talks about [nonfiction for teens](#). And several librarians talk about their experiences during the [first day](#) of the symposium....

YALSA Blog, Nov. 8–9

### [Tweeting YALSA's YA Lit Symposium](#)

Wendy Stephens writes: "If Ranganathan's law about every reader having his book is true, perhaps the 2.0 corollary is that every content creator has his application. I think I have found mine in Twitter. I didn't get Twitter for a while. It seemed mostly about specifying exactly at which Starbucks you would be spending the afternoon. But I liked the way that institutional users like YALSA and SLJ were using it to alert followers to blogs updates. I decided to gear up for the AASL National Conference in Charlotte by practicing tweeting from YALSA's symposium in Nashville over the weekend."...

AASL Blog, Nov. 10

### [ALCTS electronic forums](#)

ALCTS is presenting a series of three-day moderated electronic discussion forums to provide opportunities for librarians to discuss matters of interest through the ALCTS e-forum discussion list. [Registration](#) is necessary to participate. "Collecting Free Web Resources: Selection, Archiving, Metadata Access" moderated by Kate Harcourt, Melanie Wacker, and Alex Thurman, will run November 18–20....

## Round Table News

### [International papers and poster sessions](#)

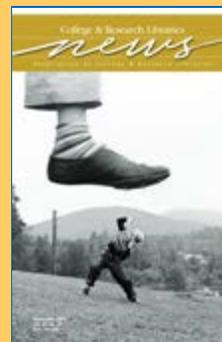
The International Relations Round Table invites proposals for presentations to be made at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, July 9–15, 2009. Presentations will be delivered at the International Papers session scheduled for July 11. The International Papers Program provides librarians with an opportunity to exchange information about library services, collections, and projects throughout the world. The paper proposal deadline is December 5. Proposals are also needed for [international poster sessions](#) scheduled for July 12 (the deadline for these is January 31)....

## Awards

### [Nominations open for international librarianship](#)

**hours, she gossips on the party line. If I talk too loud, she says, 'Quiet!'"**

—An immigrant boy's recollections of a Wisconsin public library in 1952, in the Anthony Bukoski short story "A Guide to American Trees," in the collection *North of the Port* (Southern Methodist University Press, 2008).



**Molly Kleinman** provides an overview of the Creative Commons copyright licenses and describes the Creative Commons workshops offered by the University of Michigan library in "[The Beauty of 'Some Rights Reserved,'](#)" in the November issue of *College & Research Libraries News*. And listen to a [podcast interview](#) with the author.

### Ask the ALA Librarian



**Q. In the past I remember using a**

## [award](#)

ALA is accepting nominations for the 2009 John Ames Humphry/OCLC/Forest Press Award for International Librarianship. The award is given to an individual who has made significant contributions to international librarianship. It consists of a prize of \$1,000 and a certificate presented at the ALA Annual Conference. The deadline for nominations is January 1....

## [Nominations sought for international travel grant](#)

ALA is accepting nominations for the 2009 Bogle Pratt International Travel Fund, sponsored by the Bogle Memorial Fund and the Pratt Institute School of Information and Library Science. An award of \$1,000 is given to an ALA member to attend his or her first international conference. The nominee must have been an ALA member for one full year. The deadline for nominations is January 1....

## [Wisconsin Library Hall of Fame](#)

On November 6, the first 10 individuals were inducted into the Wisconsin Library Hall of Fame at the Wisconsin Library Association conference in Middleton. The award was created by the board of the WLA Foundation at its July 16 meeting. Although the first inductees are all deceased, living individuals will be considered for induction starting in 2009. The 2008 inductees have left a rich personal and professional legacy to Wisconsin and include four founders of the WLA and two presidents of ALA....

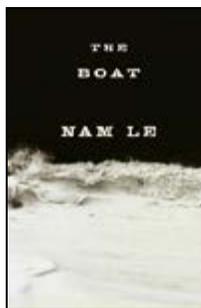
Wisconsin Library Heritage Center



## [Nam Le wins Dylan Thomas Prize](#)

A Vietnamese refugee who escaped to Australia by boat at the age of three months with his parents has won the prestigious Dylan Thomas Prize for his debut collection of short stories, *The Boat*. The £60,000 (\$92,500 U.S.) prize, sponsored by the University of Wales, is one of the highest-paying literary awards in the world. Nam Le, who was raised in Melbourne, is the second winner of the award, which is designed to encourage creative talent in writers under the age of 30 whose work has been published in the English language....

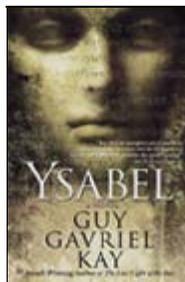
*The Australian*, Nov. 11



## [2008 World Fantasy Awards](#)

Awards for the best fantasy novel, novella, short story, anthology, collection, and artist were presented at the World Fantasy Convention in Calgary, Alberta, October 30–November 2. Winner in the best novel category was Guy Gavriel Kay's *Ysabel* (Viking Canada/Penguin Roc, 2008), while Elizabeth Hand's *Illyria* (PS Publishing, 2007) won in the best novella category....

World Fantasy Convention



## [2009 Joint AIC and Heritage Preservation Award](#)

The American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works and Heritage Preservation are seeking nominations for their 2009 Joint Award for Outstanding Commitment to the Preservation and Care of Collections. The award is presented annually to an organization in North America that has been exemplary in the priority it has given to conservation concerns and in the commitment it has

*page on the ALA website that offered a wide variety of reading lists for children and adults, but when I went to search for it, I couldn't find it. The page that I did find had a lot of broken links. Can you help me?*

A. The page that you are thinking of is the ALA Library Recommended Reading web page. This page has been replaced with [Library Fact Sheet #23: Recommended Reading](#). This fact sheet contains links to recent book lists in the news, books for children, young adults/teens, and adults. There are also links to lists for choosing reference books such as atlases and dictionaries, and for finding "read-alikes" for such topics as Harry Potter and Gossip Girl. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

[Do you have a cool teen program](#) that cost your library less than \$100? Tell YALSA about it **by November 20** and you can have it included in a forthcoming publication, *Cool Teen Programs for under \$100*. Submit descriptions via email to [YALSA](#).

shown to the preservation and care of its cultural property. The deadline for nominations is December 15....

Heritage Preservation

## [Sweden's Library Bus of the Year](#)

Peter Thuvander and Martin Hedenström of the design group Muungano have won the Swedish



Library Bus of the Year award for creating a bookmobile for the town of Kiruna, Sweden's northernmost city. The award is sponsored by the Swedish Library Association. Because of the lack of sunlight during most of the year in the area it serves, the bus is well-lit when dark to attract users. It offers books, multimedia, computer games, and internet access....

*Dezeen*, Nov. 1

## Seen Online

### [San Diego branch closings draw howls of protests](#)

San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders's proposal to shutter 17 libraries and recreation facilities to reduce a \$43-million deficit has prompted hundreds of calls and emails. On November 10, about 40 people held a rally outside the City Heights branch to protest the cuts. City Council plans an all-day hearing November 12 to discuss the mayor's plan....

*San Diego (Calif.) Union-Tribune*, Nov. 11

### [Trenton resolves branch crisis](#)

Neighborhood branch libraries in Trenton, New Jersey, have been granted a reprieve allowing them to remain open at least through the end of next year, library officials announced November 10. The branches will stay in operation partly by shifting staff from the main library and limiting hours there, thanks to an agreement with State Librarian Norma E. Blake, library director Kimberly M. Bray said....

*Trenton (N.J.) Times*, Nov. 11

### [School library staff time scarce in Lafayette](#)

The library doors at Evangeline Elementary School in Lafayette, Louisiana, are open to students all day—if the librarian doesn't have a class at the tables or if there's a clerk available. But a policy revision has drastically cut back clerk time. At larger elementary schools, full-time library clerks were split into half-time positions and smaller elementary schools lost half-time staffing in libraries....

*Baton Rouge (La.) Advocate*, Nov. 7

### [Colleges might help Worcester Public Library](#)

For more than 25 years, Worcester (Mass.) City Hall and local colleges—Assumption, Atlantic Union, Clark, and others—have found little common ground during discussions about tax-exempt nonprofits making civic contributions in lieu of paying taxes to the city for the municipal services they receive. But some common ground may have been reached November 10 after some councilors suggested approaching the colleges about pitching in to help subsidize the city's operation of the Worcester Public Library....



*Worcester (Mass.) Telegram and Gazette*, Nov. 11

## Calendar

**Jan. 28–31:**

[Ontario Library Association](#), Super Conference, Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

**Feb. 9–12:**

[Electronic Resources and Libraries](#), Los Angeles.

**Feb. 13:**

[Online Northwest](#), Oregon State University, Corvallis.

**Feb. 17–21:**

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

**Mar. 28–29:**

[Reading the World XI](#), University of San Francisco.

**Apr. 8–11:**

[Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association](#), Annual Conference, New Orleans.

**Apr. 15–18:**

[Museums and the Web](#), Indianapolis.

**Apr. 18–19:**

[Beatrix Potter Conference](#), Arne Nixon Center, California State University, Fresno.

**Apr. 19–21:**

[Missouri Association of School Librarians](#), Spring Conference, Tan-Tar-A, Osage Beach. "Passport to Treasures @ your library."

## [Fortress of comic-tude](#)

As the comic art bibliographer at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Randy Scott is responsible for growing and maintaining the largest library comic book collection in the world. With about 240,000 comics and books about comics, the collection is larger than that of the Library of Congress. If Scott could have his way, he would have a \$5,000 monthly budget. However, like most publicly funded entities these days, he doesn't quite have his dream budget. Scott has just more than \$1,000 a month to work with....

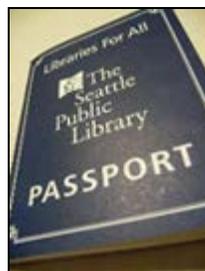
*East Lansing (Mich.) State News*, Nov. 4



## [Seattle's library hikers](#)

They'd rather be hiking in the mountains, but 17 members of Seattle Mountaineers decided to celebrate the completion of the city's library campaign by walking to each library and getting their new [library passports](#) (right) stamped. The group began the series of hikes October 9 when it hiked to all five libraries in West Seattle, a distance of 9.2 miles. Kathy Biever, who works for the Seattle Public Library, said she hopes to complete the 27-library hike December 4, starting at the Montlake branch and ending at downtown Seattle's flagship facility....

*Seattle Times*, Nov. 8; Seattle Public Library, Oct. 20



## [Houston's video games attract teen visitors](#)

After a \$17-million renovation, Houston Public Library reopened its central branch in May. The new facility features a library "Gadget Petting Zoo," technology classes for all ages, and Nintendo Wii and Sony PlayStation game consoles. Michael Van Campen, HPL's chief of central services, insists technology isn't diminishing the library's priority on books. In fact, Van Campen said the opposite is true: Increased foot traffic due to technology will actually lead to more interest in books....

*Government Technology*, Oct. 22



## [Oral histories capture Illinois veterans' voices](#)

Arthur Betts's voice may be weak, but his story is powerful: A black soldier serving in a segregated Army, fighting for freedoms he didn't fully enjoy back in America. Now his story has been preserved, along with those of other Illinois veterans and their families, by the [Veterans Remember](#) oral history project at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois. Interviews and transcripts are available on the library's website....

Associated Press, Nov. 10



## [The librarian and the Elf](#)

Janet Bailey, technical services librarian at the Abilene (Tex.) Public Library, touts the wonders of [Elf](#), a web-based and email tool for library users to keep track of library borrowings: "Once upon a time

**Apr. 26–29:**  
[Academic Library Advancement and Development Network](#), Annual Conference, Williamsburg, Virginia.

**Apr. 29–May 1:**  
[Loleta Fyan Small and Rural Libraries Conference](#), Grand Traverse Resort, Traverse City, Michigan.

**May 15–20:**  
[Medical Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii.

**May 22–23:**  
[Ethics of Information Organization](#), University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

**May 28–30:**  
[Canadian Association for Information Science](#), Annual Conference, Ottawa.

**June 10–12:**  
[New York State Library Assistants' Association](#), Annual Conference, Sage College, Troy.

**June 14–17:**  
[Special Libraries Association](#), Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.

**June 23–24:**  
[Second International m-Libraries Conference](#), University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

@ [More...](#)

there was a librarian who could not seem to return her books and DVDs on time. She had overdue issues. Soon all of their cards were blocked with late fees. This made her family sad, for they really liked to read, listen to 'Hank the Cowdog,' and watch DVDs."...

*Abilene (Tex.) Reporter-News, Nov. 5*

### [Toronto branch uncovers 1920s murals](#)

Books aren't the only things that tell stories inside the newly renovated Dufferin/St. Clair branch of the Toronto Public Library. Nestled inside the building are a series of vibrant, multicolored wall paintings. For decades they were hidden gems, buried under coats of wall paint. But a recent \$2.5-million renovation uncovered the murals, which were painted by noted artist George Agnew Reid (1860–1947) and two of his students between 1925 and 1932....

*Toronto Star, Nov. 11*

### [Temporary Cedar Rapids library to open in January](#)

The Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Public Library expects to open in January what it calls the "Bridge Library" in a former Osco Drug Store in Westdale Mall on the southwest side of the city. OPN Architects designed the Bridge Library for free and is working with the library board on plans for a permanent facility to replace the main branch that was damaged by floods in June. *Prairie Home Companion* host Garrison Keillor and area businesses have [donated funds](#) for the library's recovery efforts....

*Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Gazette, Nov. 7*

## Tech Talk

### [Reference Extract to offer results with credibility](#)

Researchers and developers from OCLC and the information schools of Syracuse University and the University of Washington will participate in a new international effort to explore the creation of a more credible web search experience based on input from librarians around the globe. Called [Reference Extract](#), the engine will allow users to enter a search term and receive results weighted toward sites most often used by librarians at institutions such as the Library of Congress, the University of Washington, the State Library of Maryland, and more than 2,000 other libraries worldwide....

OCLC, Nov. 7

### Reference EXTRACT

### [How to convert websites to PDF documents](#)

Neil Randall writes: "Working with web pages can be difficult for two reasons. First, they change. Second, you can't always guarantee a solid internet connection during a live presentation. With this in mind, Adobe has added a full-featured capture utility to its new [Acrobat Pro 9](#). This web-conversion tool expands upon the capabilities of the feature that installed, in previous Acrobat versions, as a toolbar in your browser. Now, instead of capturing only one web page (the page currently displayed in the browser) as a PDF, you can convert all the pages on a site to the link-depth of your choice."...

*PC Magazine, Nov. 11*



### [Talk face-to-face within Gmail](#)

## Contact Us

American Libraries  
Direct



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

George M. Eberhart,  
Editor:  
[geberhart@ala.org](mailto:geberhart@ala.org)

Greg Landgraf,  
Associate Editor:  
[glandgraf@ala.org](mailto:glandgraf@ala.org)

Leonard Kniffel,  
Editor-in-Chief,  
*American Libraries*:  
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ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

As webcams have become popular, more and more of us are realizing that video is the next best thing to an in-person conversation. On November 11, Google introduced Gmail [voice and video chat](#), which lets you have free voice and video conversations within Gmail. Click on the new "Video & more" menu in a Gmail chat window and select "Start video chat" or "Start voice chat."...

Official Google Blog, Nov. 11; YouTube, Nov. 7



## [How to drive traffic to your website](#)

Aaron Schmidt and Sarah Houghton-Jan write: "Are you ready to abandon your web promotion efforts because your website doesn't get much traffic? Don't. This article will give you options, some quick and some more involved, to make your site findable, to drive traffic to it, and to let more people know about your library. You're most likely not going to take over the Web, but you *can* make your pages easier to find, and free links are the key."...

Marketing Library Services 22, no. 6 (Nov./Dec.)

## [Planning for Success cookbook](#)

The MaintainIT Project's latest cookbook is *Joy of Computing—Planning for Success*, a guide for the overworked librarian. Comprehensive in scope, this free online resource ([PDF file](#)) brings together current ideas and best practices for planning, building, and managing your library's computer technology. Librarians have contributed their knowledge on topics ranging from security solutions and strategic maintenance practices to community building experiences involving Web 2.0 tools and vital partnerships....

MaintainIT Project



# Publishing

## [Mrs. P's storytelling site aims to amuse, enchant](#)

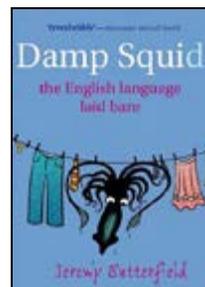
After nearly two years in development, [Mrs. P](#), a free children's entertainment and educational website celebrating books and reading, officially launched November 10. In a nod to *Cinderella*, the site debuted at the stroke of midnight, featuring 15 classic fairy tales read by Mrs. P from her "Magic Library." The interactive site features actress Kathy Kinney, who played Mimi on *The Drew Carey Show*, as a globe-trotting, redheaded Irishwoman who brings classic children's stories to life with her own brand of quirky humor....

MrsP.com, Nov. 10



## [Top 10 most annoying phrases](#)

John Scott Lewinski writes: "Not all University of Oxford researchers are uptight and humorless, 'irregardless' of what you might think. In fact, a bunch of them compiled a list of the Top 10 Most Irritating Expressions in the English language—just because we needed one. The list appears in a new book, *Damp Squid: The English Language Laid Bare*, by Jeremy Butterfield." In addition to the 10 listed,



commenters have supplied many others....

The Underwire, Nov. 7



## Actions & Answers

### [Panel issues classroom fair use guide](#)

When professors want to incorporate clips from television shows or other popular-culture works into their lectures and are unsure about what they can legally use, some are basing their decisions on “urban folklore about copyright,” says Peter A. Jaszi, law professor at American University. A new *Code of Best Practices in Fair Use for Media Literacy Education* ([PDF file](#)) by the university’s [Center for Social Media](#) offers free legal advice to clarify such issues—and its authors say that the fair use provisions of copyright law are more permissive than many professors may think....

*Chronicle of Higher Education*, Nov. 11



### [Why I copyright](#)

Cory Doctorow writes: “Why does all this copyright reform stuff matter, anyway? What’s at stake? Everything. There’s a word for all the stuff we do with creative works—all the conversing, retelling, singing, acting out, drawing, and thinking: We call it *culture*. Culture’s old. It’s older than copyright. The existence of culture is *why copyright is valuable*. The reason copyright exists is because culture creates a market for creative works. If there was no market for creative works, there’d be no reason to care about copyright. Content isn’t king: Culture is.”...

Locus Online, Nov. 6



### [An analysis of the Google settlement](#)

James Grimmelman, an assistant law professor at New York Law School, reviewed the [proposed settlement](#) in the Google Book Search case, along with its 13 appendixes, and came up with some guiding principles for the court as it considers whether to approve the settlement, and for the public to help in thinking about its effects. Basically, he says the settlement is a good thing as it stands, but there are a few tweaks that could make it better....

The Laboratorium, Nov. 8

### [Reference librarians in the age of Google](#)

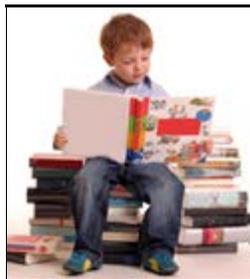
At a symposium hosted last year by Columbia University’s library system, Steven Bell, a librarian from Temple University, took a controversial stand. Before an audience made up almost entirely of reference librarians, Bell argued for the abolition of the reference desk by the year 2012. The old model of a desk staffed by highly trained reference librarians is well on its way to becoming outdated, perhaps even extinct. In its place, he and others envision a world where librarians are available 24/7 to help patrons search the vast digital stacks of the internet, as well as physical shelves full of old newspapers and incunabula....

*Duke Magazine* 94, no. 5 (Sept./Oct.)

### [The kids have it](#) (PDF file)

Robbie Bravman Marks writes: "During the decade spanning 1998 and 2007, circulation of public library children's materials and participation in public library programs for children increased significantly both in Colorado and in the United States. While Colorado statistics for these measures grew in fits and starts over the 10-year timeframe, the national numbers show relatively steady growth from one year to the next. This report provides a detailed look at the Colorado and U.S. data, as well as its correlation to the population growth rate of each locale."...

*Fast Facts*, no. 265 (Nov. 6)



### [More Connecting to Collections Bookshelves](#)

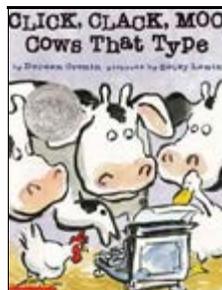
Based on the enthusiastic response from information professionals throughout the country, the Institute of Museum and Library Services will offer a third and final round of competition to distribute an additional 1,000 copies of the *IMLS Connecting to Collections Bookshelf*. Online [applications](#) can be submitted to the American Association for State and Local History between January 5 and March 9, 2009....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Nov. 12

### [Click, Clack, Moo in the White House Library?](#)

Debra Lau Whelan writes: "Chances are you won't see *Click, Clack, Moo* (Simon & Schuster, 2000), *The Tale of Despereaux* (Candlewick, 2003), and *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* (Abrams, 2007) in the White House Library. But if students at Milton Terrace South Elementary School in Ballston Spa, New York, have their way, these and other children's books will be on the library's shelves by the time President-elect Barack Obama and his family move in."...

*School Library Journal*, Nov. 10



### [10 ways to make press releases more SEO friendly](#)

Sarah Evans writes: "What can you do to set your press release apart from the pack and allow your target audience to find you?"

Implement the use of Search Engine Optimization, or SEO. While the use of SEO leads to increased visibility and ultimately more views of press releases, it is imperative to remember that you write first and foremost for your audience—the most important traffic of all."...

Mashable, Nov. 4

### [Don't friend me!](#)

David Lee King writes: "I'm noticing that when a library decides to start a Flickr account, a Twitter feed, or create a Facebook page, they naturally want to start 'making friends.' So what do they do? They friend me. Or you. Or they friend other libraries. This is bad. Why? Who are you trying to connect with? Me? I don't live in your neighborhood. Another library on the other side of the world? They're not going to use your services."...

David Lee King, Nov. 7

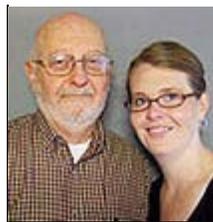


### [National Day of Listening, November](#)

## [28](#)

StoryCorps has declared November 28 the first annual National Day of Listening in order to encourage, instruct, and inspire Americans to record conversations with loved ones during the holidays. The organization has created free literature, including a do-it-yourself guide, to help people archive their interviews at home. National Public Radio and the Library of Congress American Folklife Center are partners on the project....

StoryCorps



## [The most wonderful time of the year?](#)

Neil Hollands writes: "What's a book group to do in December? Half your members won't have time to read a book, and if you add to their task loads, many will ditch the group altogether, taking one of the other, less-demanding holiday invitations they've received. You can just pack up the group for a month and come back in January, but there's something sad about that. If your book group members are also friends like mine are, it's an important part of the season to spend an evening with them. Here are 10 ideas for how to handle that awkward holiday meeting."...

Book Group Buzz, Nov. 8

## [Libraries go green @ Emerald City](#)

Maxito Ricardo writes: "To help libraries and library-related organizations go green, the Alliance Library System in Illinois, the Mancos Public Library in southwestern Colorado, TAP Information Services, and other libraries and library-related organizations have partnered to create the Emerald City initiative. Emerald City is both a location in the three-dimensional virtual world called Second Life and a [website](#) where libraries can access resources and informational programs about going green. The Emerald City project is just getting started. More volunteers are needed."...

RezLibris, no. 1 (Nov.)



## [Ransom Center to webcast Flair Symposium](#)

The Harry Ransom Center, a humanities research library and museum at the University of Texas at Austin, will [webcast](#) the Fleur Cowles Flair Symposium, "Creating a Usable Past: Writers, Archives and Institutions," November 13–15. [Speakers](#) include authors Lee Blessing, Tim O'Brien, Denis Johnson, and Amy Tan; NEA chairman Dana Gioia; Bodleian Library Associate Director Richard Ovenden; Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library Director Frank Turner; Emory's Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library Director Stephen Ennis; and Ransom Center Director Thomas F. Staley....



## [Find your inner Dewey Decimal class number](#)

Spacefem writes: "This quiz will convert your name to a class listed in the Dewey Decimal Classification system. That's right. There's no reason you can't be classified, albeit randomly, just like a library book. Libraries are freaking awesome and we all need to read more, so there. Somewhere between 000 (Generalities) and 999 (Extraterrestrial worlds), you have a place."...

Spacefem.com

## [Ancient Rome lives again in Google Earth](#)

The glory that was Rome is to rise again. Visitors will once more be able to visit the Colosseum and the Forum of Rome as they were in 320 A.D., this time in a [Google Earth](#) layer. The project has been developed by Google in collaboration with the University of Virginia's [Rome Reborn Project](#) and Past Perfect Productions. The computer graphics are based on a physical model—the [Plastico di Roma Antica](#), which was created by archaeologists and model-makers between 1933 and 1974 and is housed in the Museum of Roman Civilization in Rome....



*The Times (U.K.), Nov. 12; Google Earth; Rome Reborn 2.0; ArchArt*

## [Lt. Bookman lectures Seinfeld](#)

An overdue-book detective from the New York Public Library, Lieutenant Bookman (played by Philip Baker Hall), gives Seinfeld a hard time about a title he's allegedly had overdue since 1971, Henry Miller's *Tropic of Cancer*. "Maybe we can live without libraries, people like you and me, maybe. Sure, we're too old to change the world. But what about that kid sitting down to open a book right now in a branch of the local library, and finding drawings of pee-pees and wee-wees, and *The Cat in the Hat*, and *The Five Chinese Brothers*? Doesn't he deserve better?" The episode originally aired October 16, 1991....



You Tube

AL Direct, November 12, 2008

Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail (or seeing it in full)? Click here [[<%= util.viewHtmlLink %>](#)].

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | November 12, 2008

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

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

## U.S. & World News

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### Branch closings and budget cuts threaten libraries nationwide

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/November2008/branchesthreatened.cfm>]

City governments across the United States prepared in early November to slash public library budgets in the wake of revenue shortfalls and dire economic news. In a grim November 6 speech in which he called for sweeping job cuts and service reductions in many city departments, Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter (right) announced the permanent closing of 11 out of 54 library branches and the elimination of Sunday hours at the three regional branches. "Make no mistake," Nutter said. "This will be a mid-year revision of epic proportions." The first of several public rallies to protest

[[http://www.philly.com/philly/news/local/20081111\\_Plans\\_for\\_library\\_closures\\_spark\\_Fishtown\\_protest.html](http://www.philly.com/philly/news/local/20081111_Plans_for_library_closures_spark_Fishtown_protest.html)] the closings took place November 10; watch the video

[<http://www.blinkx.com/video/residents-fight-to-save-fishtown-library/JRC4nN5UEmO4a2lmzORH5g>] (2:06)....

American Libraries Online, Nov. 7; Philadelphia Daily News, Nov. 11; KYW-TV, Nov. 10

Voters buck bleak economic outlook to fund libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/November2008/2008referenda.cfm>]

Fears of an impending recession did not deter voters in many parts of the country from approving ballot initiatives to expand, renovate, or restore library services in their communities. And in several towns where apparently desperate officials asked the electorate to add money to general-fund coffers by zeroing out library support, residents' answer was a resounding "no." Library boosters in Gilroy, California, celebrated the narrow win of a \$37-million bond to build a new facility to replace the 42-year-old, seismically unstable building that serves a town whose population has grown five-fold since it was erected....

American Libraries Online, Nov. 11

New federal law requires schools to teach web safety

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/November2008/broadbandactpasses.cfm>]

Signed into law October 10 by President Bush, the Broadband Data Improvement Act requires schools receiving federal e-rate discounts on telecommunications services and internet access to educate their students about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking sites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response. The legislation effectively supplants the Deleting Online Predators Act, introduced in 2006 and passing the House but stalled in the Senate....

American Libraries Online, Nov. 11

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[<http://www.nationscourts.com/#Harry%20Potter%20&%20the%20Order%20of%20the%20Court>]

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ALA News

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online

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/PublishingRefGuide.cfm>]

ALA Publishing has launched the new online edition of Guide to Reference.

Offering more than 16,000 essential print and web reference resources, Guide to Reference provides guidance in the form of expert introductory essays and annotations for entries. It also offers tips for LIS reference-course exercises and reference department activities such as collection development and reference-desk training. Sign up

[<http://www.guidetoreference.org/HomePage.aspx>] for a free trial

subscription....

Libraries gear up for National Gaming Day @ your library

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/NGDPR.cfm>]

Hundreds of libraries across the country will join ALA for the first-ever National Gaming Day @ your library [<http://www.ala.org/ngd08>] November 15. Public, school, and academic libraries will participate in two national events. The first is an attempt to establish a record for the most number of people playing the board game Pictureka! on the same day at the library. Gamers will also participate in a national library video game tournament via the Web. Watch a video interview [<http://www.pio.ala.org/visibility/?p=174>] (6:06) with ALA Literacy Officer Dale Lipschultz....

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/alastaff/3019775247/in/set-72157608969271944/>]  
ALA SLymposium draws 80 avatars

[<http://www.virtual.ala.org/virtualpresence/?p=163>]

The ALA Fall 2008 Second Life Symposium—called the ALA SLymposium for short—on November 8 stood firm with as many as 80 avatars on its last-minute relocation to Cybrary City, an island next door on the Second Life Information Archipelago that could better accommodate such numbers. Steven Harris writes

[<http://collections2point0.wordpress.com/2008/11/09/sl-riffing/>]: “The technically interesting thing to me was how a constant stream of text chatter was going on while the speakers were making their comments in audio.” Tina Coleman from ALA discussed

[[http://sla-divisions.typepad.com/sla\\_in\\_second\\_life/2008/11/notes-from-the.html](http://sla-divisions.typepad.com/sla_in_second_life/2008/11/notes-from-the.html)] the role of library associations in virtual worlds....

Virtual Presence, Nov. 12; Collections 2.0, Nov. 9; SLA in Second Life, Nov. 10

Veterans’ information from ALA

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=1015>]

ALA is reaching out to veterans and their families to help them understand new educational benefits available under the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008. At libraries across the country, ALA is spearheading Veterans Information @ your library activities to explain a confusing array of benefits

[[http://www.wo.ala.org/veteransinfo/index.php?title=Main\\_Page](http://www.wo.ala.org/veteransinfo/index.php?title=Main_Page)] that

become available next year. Efforts kick off during the week of Veteran’s Day, November 11, and are expected to grow in the weeks and months to come....

District Dispatch, Nov. 10

New ALA Connections Salon topic

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/RettigWOsalon.cfm>]

The next installment in the series of President Jim Rettig’s ALA Connections Salons will be a discussion with Emily Sheketoff, associate executive director of the Washington Office, and Vic Klatt, ALA political consultant and former staff director of the House Education and Labor Committee. The discussion, entitled “Political Connections: The Long Road Ahead,” will take place 2–3 p.m. Eastern Time,

November 21. The salon will take place in OPAL  
[<http://www.conference321.com/masteradmin/room.asp?id=rs423c62c43df0>]....

Traveling exhibit explores Lincoln and the Constitution  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/PPOlincoln.cfm>]

The ALA Public Programs Office will join the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia in presenting a new traveling exhibit, "Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War." One copy of the exhibition will travel to public, academic, and special libraries from mid-2009 through 2011. The traveling exhibition, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, offers a fresh and innovative perspective on Abraham Lincoln that focuses on his struggle to meet the political and constitutional challenges of the Civil War. Libraries must apply through Grants.gov [<http://grants.gov/>] by January 30....

Poster sessions at Annual Conference [<http://www.lib.jmu.edu/org/ala/>]  
Poster sessions will be held at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, July 11–13, at McCormick Place West. The deadline for proposals is January 31. The web form [<http://www.lib.jmu.edu/org/ala/form.asp>] is now available. If you have questions about the status of your submission, or need to change information on a submission, contact Candace Benefiel [<mailto:CBENEFIE@lib-gw.tamu.edu>]....

## AL Focus

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Gaming, Learning, and Libraries Symposium  
[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/gaming-learning-and-libraries-symposium-2008>]

The 2008 ALA TechSource Gaming, Learning, and Libraries Symposium, held November 2–4 in Oak Brook, Illinois, demonstrated many of the benefits gaming has for libraries, including improved literacy, improved civic engagement, inclusiveness, and even fundraising. Interviewees in this video (4:06) include Lawrence Kutner (right), Seann Dikkers, Lindsey Wesson, Amanda Lenhart, Rick Bolton, Larry Lewis Jr., and Eli Neiburger....

Featured review: Reference  
[[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=2904454](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2904454)]  
Sauer, Michelle M. (editor). *The Facts on File Companion to British Poetry before 1600*. July 2008. 514p. Facts on File, hardcover (978-0-8160-6360-4).

The first volume in a four-volume set on British poetry includes English, Scottish, Welsh, and Irish poetry before 1600. For this volume, editor Sauer has chosen the poems and poets who are most often included in the major anthologies of literature and the most used high-school textbooks. This means students will find analysis of *Beowulf*, *The Canterbury Tales*, *The Faerie Queene*, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, and Shakespeare's sonnets in one place. The 600 A–Z entries cover

poets, poems, themes, terms, and historical events. Appendixes contain a glossary of literary terms and a bibliography. All articles are signed and include see also references and lists of further readings in journals and books. Entries range in length from a few paragraphs to 43 pages for Shakespeare's sonnets. The entries on poems give an overview of the text, a discussion of the style, the historical context, and the most common interpretations of the poem....

E-book distributors for school and public libraries

[[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=3070294](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3070294)]

Sue Polanka writes: "No matter which distributor or aggregator is chosen by a library, there are many similarities and differences. Similarities include what I feel are the benefits of e-book distributors and aggregators: a single search platform, international coverage, centralized selection and acquisitions for e-books, one licensing agreement, and price negotiation. However, the public and school library e-book distribution markets have several features that make them unique. First is content. Second is the business model. And third is Digital Rights Management coding. I interviewed Michael Johnson, chief operating officer, Follett Digital Resources, and David Burleigh, director of marketing, OverDrive; what follows is based on the information they provided."...

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

Denver Update

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Colorado authors, books, and media

[[http://wikis.ala.org/midwinter2009/index.php/Colorado\\_In\\_the\\_Media](http://wikis.ala.org/midwinter2009/index.php/Colorado_In_the_Media)]

Come to the Midwinter Meeting in Denver fully prepared to discuss the Centennial State knowledgeably by reading about or viewing its heritage. Colorado authors include Sandra Dallas, Diane Mott Davidson, John Dunning, Kent Haruf, Robert Greer, and quite a few writers of speculative fiction. [<http://www.sf-colorado.com/authors/>] Now might be a good time to revisit Stephen King's *The Shining* or discover Marshall Sprague's *Money Mountain: The Story of Cripple Creek Gold* for the first time. And don't forget *South Park*, *Things to Do in Denver When You're Dead*, and *Centennial*....

Midwinter 2009 wiki

10 tips for photographing a conference

[<http://digital-photography-school.com/blog/how-to-photograph-a-conference-10-tips/>]

Tris Hussey writes: "There are two things that are pretty common at almost every conference I attend: laptops and cameras. However, the quality of pictures captured and posted from a given conference vary wildly. Very wildly. To help you out I've compiled my top 10 tips for better conference pictures (and a few other words of wisdom too)."

Tip No. 9: Zoom less, walk more....

Civil rights heroine to keynote ALSC program

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/ALSCpresprogram.cfm>]

Only 52 years ago, 15-year old Melba Pattillo Beals faced down furious segregationists, the Arkansas National Guard, and the governor of Arkansas to integrate Little Rock Central High School. Now, a best-selling author, university professor, and Congressional Gold Medal of Honor recipient, Beals will join ALSC at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago to discuss her fight for civil rights in the United States. The ALSC Charlemae Rollins President's Program featuring Beals is part of the Auditorium Speaker Series and will take place July 13....

Explore family roots at RUSA's Midwinter Genealogy Institute

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/RUSAhistory.cfm>]

Whatever happened to Uncle Seamus who left home to work on the railroads in the 1860s? Which families made the arduous journey along El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro to settle New Mexico? Who are my Arikara ancestors? Attendees at the RUSA History Section's "Behind the Genealogy Reference Desk,"

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/events/genealogypreconf/>] a one-day institute on January 24 at the Denver Public Library, could find some answers....

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2008/11/08/ya-lit-symposium-graphic-novel-preconference/>] YALSA's Young Adult Literature Symposium

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/YALSAsymposiumwrap.cfm>]

More than 600 librarians, educators, and authors came to Nashville, Tennessee, November 7–9 to celebrate teen reading. YALSA has posted a series of videos featuring presenters and participants at their Young Adult Literature Symposium in Nashville. Dramacon author Svetlana Chmakova (right) and Yen Press Publishing Director Kurt Hassler served on a preconference panel on manga.

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2008/11/08/ya-lit-symposium-graphic-novel-preconference/>] Liz Burns talks about a program she presented on fanfic and fandom.

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2008/11/09/fanfic-fandom-the-printz-and-the-ya-lit-symposium/>] Pam Spencer Holley talks about nonfiction for teens.

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2008/11/08/never-enough-nonfiction/>] And several librarians talk about their experiences during the first day

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2008/11/09/librarians-talk-about-the-ya-lit-symposium/>] of the symposium....

YALSA Blog, Nov. 8–9

Tweeting YALSA's YA Lit Symposium

[<http://www.aasl.ala.org/aasblog/2008/11/10/tweeting-yalsas-lit-symposium/>]

]

Wendy Stephens writes: "If Ranganathan's law about every reader having his book is true, perhaps the 2.0 corollary is that every content creator has his application. I think I have found mine in Twitter. I didn't get Twitter for a while. It seemed mostly about specifying exactly at which Starbucks you would be spending the afternoon. But I liked the way that institutional users like YALSA and SLJ were using it to alert followers to blogs updates. I decided to gear up for the AASL National Conference in Charlotte by practicing tweeting from YALSA's symposium in Nashville over the weekend."...  
AASL Blog, Nov. 10

#### ALCTS electronic forums

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/ALCTSeforum.cfm>]

ALCTS is presenting a series of three-day moderated electronic discussion forums to provide opportunities for librarians to discuss matters of interest through the ALCTS e-forum discussion list. Registration

[<http://lists.ala.org/sympa/info/alcts-eforum>] is necessary to participate. "Collecting Free Web Resources: Selection, Archiving, Metadata Access" moderated by Kate Harcourt, Melanie Wacker, and Alex Thurman, will run November 18–20....

#### Round Table News

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#### International papers and poster sessions

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/iro/iroactivities/papersession.cfm>]

The International Relations Round Table invites proposals for presentations to be made at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, July 9–15, 2009. Presentations will be delivered at the International Papers session scheduled for July 11. The International Papers Program provides librarians with an opportunity to exchange information about library services, collections, and projects throughout the world. The paper proposal deadline is December 5. Proposals are also needed for international poster sessions

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/iro/iroactivities/postersession.cfm>] scheduled for July 12 (the deadline for these is January 31)....

#### Awards

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#### Nominations open for international librarianship award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/IROhumphry.cfm>]

ALA is accepting nominations for the 2009 John Ames Humphry/ OCLC/Forest Press Award for International Librarianship. The award is given to an individual who has made significant contributions to international librarianship. It consists of a prize of \$1,000 and a certificate presented at the ALA Annual Conference. The deadline for nominations is January 1....

Nominations sought for international travel grant

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/IRObogle.cfm>]

ALA is accepting nominations for the 2009 Bogle Pratt International Travel Fund, sponsored by the Bogle Memorial Fund and the Pratt Institute School of Information and Library Science. An award of \$1,000 is given to an ALA member to attend his or her first international conference. The nominee must have been an ALA member for one full year. The deadline for nominations is January 1....

Wisconsin Library Hall of Fame

[<http://heritage.wisconsinlibraries.org/hall-of-fame.html>]

On November 6, the first 10 individuals were inducted into the Wisconsin Library Hall of Fame at the Wisconsin Library Association conference in Middleton. The award was created by the board of the WLA Foundation at its July 16 meeting. Although the first inductees are all deceased, living individuals will be considered for induction starting in 2009. The 2008 inductees have left a rich personal and professional legacy to Wisconsin and include four founders of the WLA and two presidents of ALA....

Wisconsin Library Heritage Center

Nam Le wins Dylan Thomas Prize

[<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,,24634818-16947,00.html>]

A Vietnamese refugee who escaped to Australia by boat at the age of three months with his parents has won the prestigious Dylan Thomas Prize for his debut collection of short stories, *The Boat*. The £60,000 (\$92,500 U.S.) prize, sponsored by the University of Wales, is one of the highest-paying literary awards in the world. Nam Le, who was raised in Melbourne, is the second winner of the award, which is designed to encourage creative talent in writers under the age of 30 whose work has been published in the English language....

The Australian, Nov. 11

2008 World Fantasy Awards [<http://www.worldfantasy.org/awards/>]

Awards for the best fantasy novel, novella, short story, anthology, collection, and artist were presented at the World Fantasy Convention in Calgary, Alberta, October 30–November 2. Winner in the best novel category was Guy Gavriel Kay's *Ysabel* (Viking Canada/Penguin Roc, 2008), while Elizabeth Hand's *Illyria* (PS Publishing, 2007) won in the best novella category....

World Fantasy Convention

2009 Joint AIC and Heritage Preservation Award

[<http://www.heritagepreservation.org/awards/aic.htm>]

The American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works and Heritage Preservation are seeking nominations for their 2009 Joint Award for Outstanding Commitment to the Preservation and Care of Collections. The award is presented annually to an organization in North America that has been exemplary in the priority it has given to conservation concerns and in the commitment it has shown to the preservation and care of its cultural property. The deadline for nominations is December 15....

## Heritage Preservation

### Sweden's Library Bus of the Year

[<http://www.dezeen.com/2008/11/01/library-bus-by-muongano/>]

Peter Thuvander and Martin Hedenström of the design group Muungano have won the Swedish Library Bus of the Year award for creating a bookmobile for the town of Kiruna, Sweden's northernmost city. The award is sponsored by the Swedish Library Association. Because of the lack of sunlight during most of the year in the area it serves, the bus is well-lit when dark to attract users. It offers books, multimedia, computer games, and internet access....

Dezeen, Nov. 1

Seen Online

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### San Diego branch closings draw howls of protests

[<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20081111-9999-1m11cuts.html>]

San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders's proposal to shutter 17 libraries and recreation facilities to reduce a \$43-million deficit has prompted hundreds of calls and emails. On November 10, about 40 people held a rally outside the City Heights branch to protest the cuts. City Council plans an all-day hearing November 12 to discuss the mayor's plan....

San Diego (Calif.) Union-Tribune, Nov. 11

### Trenton resolves branch crisis

[<http://www.nj.com/news/times/index.ssf?/base/news-5/1226379991155670.xml&coll=5>]

Neighborhood branch libraries in Trenton, New Jersey, have been granted a reprieve allowing them to remain open at least through the end of next year, library officials announced November 10. The branches will stay in operation partly by shifting staff from the main library and limiting hours there, thanks to an agreement with State Librarian Norma E. Blake, library director Kimberly M. Bray said....

Trenton (N.J.) Times, Nov. 11

### School library staff time scarce in Lafayette

[<http://www.theadvocate.com/news/34070599.html>]

The library doors at Evangeline Elementary School in Lafayette, Louisiana, are open to students all day—if the librarian doesn't have a class at the tables or if there's a clerk available. But a policy revision has drastically cut back clerk time. At larger elementary schools, full-time library clerks were split into half-time positions and smaller elementary schools lost half-time staffing in libraries....

Baton Rouge (La.) Advocate, Nov. 7

### Colleges might help Worcester Public Library

[<http://www.telegram.com/article/20081111/NEWS/811110642/1116>]

For more than 25 years, Worcester (Mass.) City Hall and local colleges—Assumption, Atlantic Union, Clark, and others—have found little common ground during discussions about tax-exempt nonprofits making civic contributions in lieu of paying taxes to the city for the municipal

services they receive. But some common ground may have been reached November 10 after some councilors suggested approaching the colleges about pitching in to help subsidize the city's operation of the Worcester Public Library....

Worcester (Mass.) Telegram and Gazette, Nov. 11

[[http://spc.lib.msu.edu/html/materials/collections/comicart\\_coll.jsp](http://spc.lib.msu.edu/html/materials/collections/comicart_coll.jsp)]Fortress of comic-tude

[[http://www.statenews.com/index.php/article/2008/11/fortress\\_of\\_comic-tude](http://www.statenews.com/index.php/article/2008/11/fortress_of_comic-tude)]

As the comic art bibliographer at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Randy Scott is responsible for growing and maintaining the largest library comic book collection in the world. With about 240,000 comics and books about comics, the collection is larger than that of the Library of Congress. If Scott could have his way, he would have a \$5,000 monthly budget. However, like most publicly funded entities these days, he doesn't quite have his dream budget. Scott has just more than \$1,000 a month to work with....

East Lansing (Mich.) State News, Nov. 4

Seattle's library hikers

[[http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2008365916\\_librarypassport\\_s08m.html](http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2008365916_librarypassport_s08m.html)]

They'd rather be hiking in the mountains, but 17 members of Seattle Mountaineers decided to celebrate the completion of the city's library campaign by walking to each library and getting their new library passports

[[http://www.spl.org/default.asp?pageID=about\\_news\\_detail&cid=1224541897830](http://www.spl.org/default.asp?pageID=about_news_detail&cid=1224541897830)]

(right) stamped. The group began the series of hikes October 9 when it hiked to all five libraries in West Seattle, a distance of 9.2 miles.

Kathy Biever, who works for the Seattle Public Library, said she hopes to complete the 27-library hike December 4, starting at the Montlake branch and ending at downtown Seattle's flagship facility....

Seattle Times, Nov. 8; Seattle Public Library, Oct. 20

[<http://flickr.com/photos/houstonlibrary/2585704988/>]Houston's video games attract teen visitors

[<http://www.govtech.com/gt/articles/423565>]

After a \$17-million renovation, Houston Public Library reopened its central branch in May. The new facility features a library "Gadget Petting Zoo," technology classes for all ages, and Nintendo Wii and Sony PlayStation game consoles. Michael Van Campen, HPL's chief of central services, insists technology isn't diminishing the library's priority on books. In fact, Van Campen said the opposite is true: Increased foot traffic due to technology will actually lead to more interest in books....

Government Technology, Oct. 22

[[http://www.alplm.org/oral\\_history/veterans\\_remember/world\\_war\\_II/Betts\\_Art\\_hur.html](http://www.alplm.org/oral_history/veterans_remember/world_war_II/Betts_Art_hur.html)]Oral histories capture Illinois veterans' voices

[<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-il-veterans-illinois,0,5434003.story>]

Arthur Betts's voice may be weak, but his story is powerful: A black soldier serving in a segregated Army, fighting for freedoms he didn't fully enjoy back in America. Now his story has been preserved, along with those of other Illinois veterans and their families, by the Veterans

## Remember

[[http://www.alplm.org/oral\\_history/veterans\\_remember/veterans\\_remember.html](http://www.alplm.org/oral_history/veterans_remember/veterans_remember.html)]  
] oral history project at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois. Interviews and transcripts are available on the library's website....  
Associated Press, Nov. 10

## The librarian and the Elf

[<http://www.reporternews.com/news/2008/nov/05/librarian-and-elf-grim-fairy-tale/>]  
Janet Bailey, technical services librarian at the Abilene (Tex.) Public Library, touts the wonders of Elf, [<http://www.libraryelf.com/Libraries.aspx>] a web-based and email tool for library users to keep track of library borrowings: "Once upon a time there was a librarian who could not seem to return her books and DVDs on time. She had overdue issues. Soon all of their cards were blocked with late fees. This made her family sad, for they really liked to read, listen to 'Hank the Cowdog,' and watch DVDs."...  
Abilene (Tex.) Reporter-News, Nov. 5

## Toronto branch uncovers 1920s murals

[<http://www.thestar.com/News/GTA/article/534447>]  
Books aren't the only things that tell stories inside the newly renovated Dufferin/St. Clair branch of the Toronto Public Library. Nestled inside the building are a series of vibrant, multicolored wall paintings. For decades they were hidden gems, buried under coats of wall paint. But a recent \$2.5-million renovation uncovered the murals, which were painted by noted artist George Agnew Reid (1860–1947) and two of his students between 1925 and 1932....  
Toronto Star, Nov. 11

## Temporary Cedar Rapids library to open in January

[<http://www.gazetteonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20081107/NEWS/711079960>]  
The Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Public Library expects to open in January what it calls the "Bridge Library" in a former Osco Drug Store in Westdale Mall on the southwest side of the city. OPN Architects designed the Bridge Library for free and is working with the library board on plans for a permanent facility to replace the main branch that was damaged by floods in June. Prairie Home Companion host Garrison Keillor and area businesses have donated funds  
[<http://www.gazetteonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20081107/NEWS/711079952>] for the library's recovery efforts....  
Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Gazette, Nov. 7

## Tech Talk

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## Reference Extract to offer results with credibility

[<http://www.oclc.org/us/en/news/releases/200842.htm>]  
Researchers and developers from OCLC and the information schools of Syracuse University and the University of Washington will participate in a new international effort to explore the creation of a more credible web

search experience based on input from librarians around the globe. Called Reference Extract, [<http://referencextract.org/>] the engine will allow users to enter a search term and receive results weighted toward sites most often used by librarians at institutions such as the Library of Congress, the University of Washington, the State Library of Maryland, and more than 2,000 other libraries worldwide....  
OCLC, Nov. 7

#### How to convert websites to PDF documents

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2334413,00.asp>]

Neil Randall writes: "Working with web pages can be difficult for two reasons. First, they change. Second, you can't always guarantee a solid internet connection during a live presentation. With this in mind, Adobe has added a full-featured capture utility to its new Acrobat Pro 9. [<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2330943,00.asp>] This web-conversion tool expands upon the capabilities of the feature that installed, in previous Acrobat versions, as a toolbar in your browser. Now, instead of capturing only one web page (the page currently displayed in the browser) as a PDF, you can convert all the pages on a site to the link-depth of your choice."...  
PC Magazine, Nov. 11

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JFGJRfoK9xQ>]Talk face-to-face within Gmail [<http://googleblog.blogspot.com/2008/11/talk-face-to-face-right-from-within.html>]

As webcams have become popular, more and more of us are realizing that video is the next best thing to an in-person conversation. On November 11, Google introduced Gmail voice and video chat, [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JFGJRfoK9xQ>] which lets you have free voice and video conversations within Gmail. Click on the new "Video & more" menu in a Gmail chat window and select "Start video chat" or "Start voice chat."...  
Official Google Blog, Nov. 11; YouTube, Nov. 7

#### How to drive traffic to your website

[[http://www.infotoday.com/mls/nov08/Schmidt\\_Houghton-Jan.shtml](http://www.infotoday.com/mls/nov08/Schmidt_Houghton-Jan.shtml)]

Aaron Schmidt and Sarah Houghton-Jan write: "Are you ready to abandon your web promotion efforts because your website doesn't get much traffic? Don't. This article will give you options, some quick and some more involved, to make your site findable, to drive traffic to it, and to let more people know about your library. You're most likely not going to take over the Web, but you can make your pages easier to find, and free links are the key."...  
Marketing Library Services 22, no. 6 (Nov./Dec.)

#### Planning for Success cookbook

[<http://www.maintainitproject.org/cookbooks/planning-for-success>]

The MaintainIT Project's latest cookbook is Joy of Computing&mdash;Planning for Success, a guide for the overworked librarian. Comprehensive in scope, this free online resource (PDF file [<http://www.maintainitproject.org/files/Planning%20for%20Success%20Cookbook.pdf>]) brings together current ideas and best practices for planning, building, and managing your library's computer technology. Librarians have contributed their knowledge on topics ranging from

security solutions and strategic maintenance practices to community building experiences involving Web 2.0 tools and vital partnerships....  
MaintainIT Project

## Publishing

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Mrs. P's storytelling site aims to amuse, enchant  
[[http://www.press.mrsp.com/press\\_release.asp](http://www.press.mrsp.com/press_release.asp)]  
After nearly two years in development, Mrs. P, [<http://www.MrsP.com>] a free children's entertainment and educational website celebrating books and reading, officially launched November 10. In a nod to Cinderella, the site debuted at the stroke of midnight, featuring 15 classic fairy tales read by Mrs. P from her "Magic Library." The interactive site features actress Kathy Kinney, who played Mimi on The Drew Carey Show, as a globe-trotting, redheaded Irishwoman who brings classic children's stories to life with her own brand of quirky humor....  
MrsP.com, Nov. 10

Top 10 most annoying phrases  
[<http://blog.wired.com/underwire/2008/11/oxford-research.html>]  
John Scott Lewinski writes: "Not all University of Oxford researchers are uptight and humorless, 'irregardless' of what you might think. In fact, a bunch of them compiled a list of the Top 10 Most Irritating Expressions in the English language—just because we needed one. The list appears in a new book, Damp Squid: The English Language Laid Bare, by Jeremy Butterfield." In addition to the 10 listed, commenters have supplied many others....  
The Underwire, Nov. 7

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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## Actions & Answers

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Panel issues classroom fair use guide  
[<http://chronicle.com/free/2008/11/7151n.htm>]  
When professors want to incorporate clips from television shows or other popular-culture works into their lectures and are unsure about what they can legally use, some are basing their decisions on "urban folklore about copyright," says Peter A. Jaszi, law professor at American University. A new Code of Best Practices in Fair Use for Media Literacy Education (PDF file  
[[http://www.centerforsocialmedia.org/files/pdf/Media\\_literacy\\_txt.pdf](http://www.centerforsocialmedia.org/files/pdf/Media_literacy_txt.pdf)])  
by the university's Center for Social Media  
[[http://www.centerforsocialmedia.org/resources/publications/code\\_for\\_media\\_](http://www.centerforsocialmedia.org/resources/publications/code_for_media_)

literacy\_education/] offers free legal advice to clarify such issues—and its authors say that the fair use provisions of copyright law are more permissive than many professors may think.... Chronicle of Higher Education, Nov. 11

#### Why I copyfight

[<http://www.locusmag.com/Features/2008/11/cory-doctorow-why-i-copyfight.html>]

Cory Doctorow writes: “Why does all this copyright reform stuff matter, anyway? What’s at stake? Everything. There’s a word for all the stuff we do with creative works—all the conversing, retelling, singing, acting out, drawing, and thinking: We call it culture. Culture’s old. It’s older than copyright. The existence of culture is why copyright is valuable. The reason copyright exists is because culture creates a market for creative works. If there was no market for creative works, there’d be no reason to care about copyright. Content isn’t king: Culture is.”...

Locus Online, Nov. 6

#### An analysis of the Google settlement

[[http://laboratorium.net/archive/2008/11/08/principles\\_and\\_recommendations\\_for\\_the\\_google\\_book](http://laboratorium.net/archive/2008/11/08/principles_and_recommendations_for_the_google_book)]

James Grimmelmann, an assistant law professor at New York Law School, reviewed the proposed settlement

[<http://books.google.com/booksrightsholders/agreement-contents.html>] in the Google Book Search case, along with its 13 appendixes, and came up with some guiding principles for the court as it considers whether to approve the settlement, and for the public to help in thinking about its effects. Basically, he says the settlement is a good thing as it stands, but there are a few tweaks that could make it better....

The Laboratorium, Nov. 8

#### Reference librarians in the age of Google

[<http://www.dukemagazine.duke.edu/dukemag/issues/091008/brave1.html>]

At a symposium hosted last year by Columbia University’s library system, Steven Bell, a librarian from Temple University, took a controversial stand. Before an audience made up almost entirely of reference librarians, Bell argued for the abolition of the reference desk by the year 2012. The old model of a desk staffed by highly trained reference librarians is well on its way to becoming outdated, perhaps even extinct. In its place, he and others envision a world where librarians are available 24/7 to help patrons search the vast digital stacks of the internet, as well as physical shelves full of old newspapers and incunabula....

Duke Magazine 94, no. 5 (Sept./Oct.)

#### The kids have it

[[http://www.irs.org/documents/fastfacts/265\\_child\\_svc.pdf](http://www.irs.org/documents/fastfacts/265_child_svc.pdf)] (PDF file)

Robbie Bravman Marks writes: “During the decade spanning 1998 and 2007, circulation of public library children’s materials and participation in public library programs for children increased significantly both in Colorado and in the United States. While Colorado statistics for these measures grew in fits and starts over the 10-year timeframe, the national numbers show relatively steady growth from one year to the next. This report provides a detailed look at the Colorado

and U.S. data, as well as its correlation to the population growth rate of each locale.”...

Fast Facts, no. 265 (Nov. 6)

### Connecting to Collections Bookshelves

[<http://www.ims.gov/news/2008/111208.shtm>]

Based on the enthusiastic response from information professionals throughout the country, the Institute of Museum and Library Services will offer a third and final round of competition to distribute an additional 1,000 copies of the IMLS Connecting to Collections Bookshelf. Online applications [<http://www.aaslh.org/Bookshelf/>] can be submitted to the American Association for State and Local History between January 5 and March 9, 2009....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Nov. 12

### in the White House Library?

[<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6612712.html>]

Debra Lau Whelan writes: “Chances are you won’t see Click, Clack, Moo (Simon & Schuster, 2000), The Tale of Despereaux (Candlewick, 2003), and Diary of a Wimpy Kid (Abrams, 2007) in the White House Library. But if students at Milton Terrace South Elementary School in Ballston Spa, New York, have their way, these and other children’s books will be on the library’s shelves by the time President-elect Barack Obama and his family move in.”...

School Library Journal, Nov. 10

### 10 ways to make press releases more SEO friendly

[<http://mashable.com/2008/11/04/how-to-make-press-releases-seo-friendly/>]

Sarah Evans writes: “What can you do to set your press release apart from the pack and allow your target audience to find you? Implement the use of Search Engine Optimization, or SEO. While the use of SEO leads to increased visibility and ultimately more views of press releases, it is imperative to remember that you write first and foremost for your audience—the most important traffic of all.”...

Mashable, Nov. 4

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/davidking/3010507780/>]

Don’t friend me! [<http://www.davidleeking.com/2008/11/07/dont-friend-me/>]

David Lee King writes: “I’m noticing that when a library decides to start a Flickr account, a Twitter feed, or create a Facebook page, they naturally want to start ‘making friends.’ So what do they do? They friend me. Or you. Or they friend other libraries. This is bad. Why? Who are you trying to connect with? Me? I don’t live in your neighborhood. Another library on the other side of the world? They’re not going to use your services.”...

David Lee King, Nov. 7

### National Day of Listening, November 28

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

StoryCorps has declared November 28 the first annual National Day of Listening in order to encourage, instruct, and inspire Americans to record conversations with loved ones during the holidays. The organization has created free literature, including a do-it-yourself guide, to help people archive their interviews at home. National Public

Radio and the Library of Congress American Folklife Center are partners on the project....

StoryCorps

The most wonderful time of the year?

[<http://bookgroupbuzz.booklistonline.com/2008/11/08/the-most-wonderful-time-of-the-year/>]

Neil Hollands writes: “What’s a book group to do in December? Half your members won’t have time to read a book, and if you add to their task loads, many will ditch the group altogether, taking one of the other, less-demanding holiday invitations they’ve received. You can just pack up the group for a month and come back in January, but there’s something sad about that. If your book group members are also friends like mine are, it’s an important part of the season to spend an evening with them. Here are 10 ideas for how to handle that awkward holiday meeting.”...

Book Group Buzz, Nov. 8

Libraries go green @ Emerald City

[<http://www.rezlibris.com/librarianship/184-satori>]

Maxito Ricardo writes: “To help libraries and library-related organizations go green, the Alliance Library System in Illinois, the Mancos Public Library in southwestern Colorado, TAP Information Services, and other libraries and library-related organizations have partnered to create the Emerald City initiative. Emerald City is both a location in the three-dimensional virtual world called Second Life and a website [<http://www.planetlibrary.info/emeraldcity.htm>] where libraries can access resources and informational programs about going green. The Emerald City project is just getting started. More volunteers are needed.”...

RezLibris, no. 1 (Nov.)

Ransom Center to webcast Flair Symposium

[[http://www.utexas.edu/news/2008/11/06/flair\\_webcast/](http://www.utexas.edu/news/2008/11/06/flair_webcast/)]

The Harry Ransom Center, a humanities research library and museum at the University of Texas at Austin, will webcast

[<http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/multimedia/webcast/>] the Fleur Cowles Flair Symposium, “Creating a Usable Past: Writers, Archives and Institutions,” November 13–15. Speakers [<http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/flair/schedule/>] include authors Lee Blessing, Tim O’Brien, Denis Johnson, and Amy Tan; NEA chairman Dana Gioia; Bodleian Library Associate Director Richard Ovenden; Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library Director Frank Turner; Emory’s Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library Director Stephen Ennis; and Ransom Center Director Thomas F. Staley....

University of Texas at Austin, Nov. 6

Find your inner Dewey Decimal class number

[<http://spacefem.com/quizzes/dewey/>]

Spacefem writes: “This quiz will convert your name to a class listed in the Dewey Decimal Classification system. That’s right. There’s no reason you can’t be classified, albeit randomly, just like a library book.

Libraries are freaking awesome and we all need to read more, so there. Somewhere between 000 (Generalities) and 999 (Extraterrestrial worlds), you have a place.”...

Spacefem.com

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MqMXIRwQniA>]Ancient Rome lives again in Google Earth

[[http://technology.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/tech\\_and\\_web/article5137095.ece](http://technology.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/tech_and_web/article5137095.ece)]

The glory that was Rome is to rise again. Visitors will once more be able to visit the Colosseum and the Forum of Rome as they were in 320 A.D., this time in a Google Earth [<http://earth.google.com/rome/>] layer. The project has been developed by Google in collaboration with the University of Virginia's Rome Reborn Project [<http://www.romereborn.virginia.edu/>] and Past Perfect Productions. The computer graphics are based on a physical model—the Plastico di Roma Antica, [<http://www.archart.it/archart/italia/lazio/Roma/Roma%20-%20plastico%20Roma%20antica/index.html>] which was created by archaeologists and model-makers between 1933 and 1974 and is housed in the Museum of Roman Civilization in Rome....

The Times (U.K.), Nov. 12; Google Earth; Rome Reborn 2.0; ArchArt

[[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_zePQavforA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_zePQavforA)]Lt. Bookman lectures Seinfeld

[[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_zePQavforA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_zePQavforA)]

An overdue-book detective from the New York Public Library, Lieutenant Bookman (played by Philip Baker Hall), gives Seinfeld a hard time about a title he's allegedly had overdue since 1971, Henry Miller's Tropic of Cancer. "Maybe we can live without libraries, people like you and me, maybe. Sure, we're too old to change the world. But what about that kid sitting down to open a book right now in a branch of the local library, and finding drawings of pee-pees and wee-wees, and The Cat in the Hat, and The Five Chinese Brothers? Doesn't he deserve better?" The episode originally aired October 16, 1991....

You Tube

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To unsubscribe from this newsletter: click here [[<%= edition.unsubscribeLink %>](#)]

[<http://gaming.ala.org/resources/index.php?title=Ngd2008>]

[<http://www.wizards.com/default.asp?x=dc/wpn/libraries>]

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/home.cfm>]

ALA Midwinter Meeting,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2009/faq.cfm>]

Denver, January 23–28. Going to Denver? Let others know by putting a button

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/home.cfm>] on your website or blog.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/home.cfm>]

[[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?\\_sn=catalog&\\_pn=product\\_detail&\\_op=2662](http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog&_pn=product_detail&_op=2662)]

Kevin Henkes's beautifully written and illustrated picture book, *Old Bear* [[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?\\_sn=catalog&\\_pn=product\\_detail&\\_op=2662](http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog&_pn=product_detail&_op=2662)],

[[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?\\_sn=catalog&\\_pn=product\\_detail&\\_op=2662](http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog&_pn=product_detail&_op=2662)] is featured in a new poster and bookmarks that remind us reading is always in season. NEW! From ALA Graphics.

In this issue  
November 2008

[<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala/document/display.jsp?docID=10249458&page=1>]

Effective Training

After-School Success Stories

Time to Retool

Hennen's Public Library Ratings

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/resources/selectedarticles/obama05.cfm>]

Read an HTML version of an adaptation of Sen. Barack Obama's keynote address

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/resources/selectedarticles/obama05.cfm>]  
at the opening general session of ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, June 23–29, 2005.

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

Dean of Library,  
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=12193>]University of South Florida, St. Petersburg. USFSP seeks a dynamic leader with a deep understanding of the role of libraries in the modern academy and a clear and compelling vision for the future of academic libraries. The successful candidate will have major opportunities to shape the future of the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library and its associated support services such as distance learning and instructional technology....

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

As hundreds of libraries join ALA in the celebration of National Gaming Day [<http://gaming.ala.org/resources/index.php?title=Ngd2008>] on November 15, ALA President Jim Rettig will join families at the Dr. Clarence V. Cuffee Library (above) in Chesapeake, Virginia, for a day filled with opportunities to read, learn, and play.

## Digital Library of the Week

[<http://www.nypl.org/news/treasures/index.cfm?vidid=7>]

### The New York Public Library Digital Gallery

[<http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/index.cfm>] provides free and open access to over 640,000 images digitized from NYPL's vast collections, including illuminated manuscripts, historical maps, vintage posters, rare prints, and photographs. A recently redesigned web interface offers more customizable options, fewer popup windows, and a completely CSS-driven page layout that will guarantee flexibility in future versions in displaying the site's content on a variety of devices like PDAs and mobile phones. New images are highlighted weekly as Digital Gallery Picks. Choices in the item view are now arranged according to the things you might want to do: find related images, browse related sources, see more metadata, or interact with an image. Image metadata (in the Dublin Core format) is now embedded in each item page. There is also support for the CoolIris browser extension that allows the user to view any image search in the Digital Gallery as an immersive slideshow. In addition, the NYPL site features a video series showcasing Treasures of the New York Public Library, [<http://www.nypl.org/news/treasures/index.cfm>] in which curators and librarians share their passion for the NYPL special collections.

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>] Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the I Love Libraries [<http://www.ilovelibraries.ala.org/diglibweekly/>] site.

## Public Perception

### How the World

#### Sees Us

"In the library, Mrs. Pederson has the windows open. . . . She smells like the floor wax the janitor uses. Every day she wears a white blouse. The rest of her clothes are gray—the skirt, the jacket she buttons in the heat. Her gray hair is pulled back, pinned. In the heat, no one visits her. During working hours, she gossips on the party line. If I talk too loud, she says, &lsquo;Quiet!&rsquo;"

?An immigrant boy's recollections of a Wisconsin public library in 1952, in the Anthony Bukoski short story &ldquo;A Guide to American

Trees,&rdquo; in the collection North of the Port (Southern Methodist University Press, 2008).

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/crlnews/2008/nov/November.cfm>]

Molly Kleinman provides an overview of the Creative Commons copyright licenses and describes the Creative Commons workshops offered by the University of Michigan library in &#8220;The Beauty of &#8216;Some Rights Reserved,&#8221;

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/crlnews/2008/nov/beautyofsrr.cfm>] in the November issue of College & Research Libraries News.

And listen to a podcast interview

[<http://www.acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider/2008/11/06/acrl-podcast-the-beauty-of-some-rights-reserved/>] with the author.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. In the past I remember using a page on the ALA website that offered a wide variety of reading lists for children and adults, but when I went to search for it, I couldn't find it. The page that I did find had a lot of broken links. Can you help me?

A. The page that you are thinking of is the ALA Library Recommended Reading web page. This page has been replaced with Library Fact Sheet #23: Recommended Reading.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/hqops/library/libraryfactsheet/alalibraryfactsheet23.cfm>] This fact sheet contains links to recent book lists in the news, books for children, young adults/teens, and adults. There are also links to lists for choosing reference books such as atlases and dictionaries, and for finding "read-alikes" for such topics as Harry Potter and Gossip Girl. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Recommended\\_Reading\\_Lists](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Recommended_Reading_Lists)]

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

Do you have a cool teen program

[[http://docs.google.com/View?docid=ddzfdmcs\\_12d8r5jnc4](http://docs.google.com/View?docid=ddzfdmcs_12d8r5jnc4)] that cost your library less than \$100? Tell YALSA about it by November 20 and you can have it included in a forthcoming publication, Cool Teen Programs for under \$100. Submit descriptions via email to YALSA

[mailto:coolteenprograms@gmail.com].

## Calendar

Jan. 28&ndash;31:

Ontario Library Association,  
[[http://www.accessola.com/ola/bins/content\\_page.asp?cid=5](http://www.accessola.com/ola/bins/content_page.asp?cid=5)] Super  
Conference, Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

Feb. 9&ndash;12:

Electronic Resources and Libraries  
[<http://www.electroniclibrarian.org/ocs/index.php/erl/index>], Los Angeles.

Feb. 13:

Online Northwest [<http://www.ous.edu/onlinenw/>], Oregon State University,  
Corvallis.

Feb. 17&ndash;21:

Music Library Association, [<http://www.mla2009.org/Conference.html>]  
Annual Meeting, Chicago.

Mar. 28&ndash;29:

Reading the World XI  
[[http://www.soe.usfca.edu/institutes/reading\\_world/index.html](http://www.soe.usfca.edu/institutes/reading_world/index.html)],  
University of San Francisco.

Apr. 8&ndash;11:

Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association,  
[<http://pcaaca.org/conference/national.php>] Annual Conference, New  
Orleans.

Apr. 15&ndash;18:

Museums and the Web [<http://www.archimuse.com/mw2009/>], Indianapolis.

Apr. 18&ndash;19:

Beatrix Potter Conference [<http://www.arnenixoncenter.org/events.html>],  
Arne Nixon Center, California State University, Fresno.

Apr. 19&ndash;21:

Missouri Association of School Librarians,  
[<http://www.maslonline.org/calendar/spring/SC2009.php>] Spring Conference,  
Tan-Tar-A, Osage Beach. &ldquo;Passport to Treasures @ your  
library.&rdquo;

Apr. 26&ndash;29:

Academic Library Advancement and Development Network,  
[<http://www.library.arizona.edu/aladn/>] Annual Conference, Williamsburg,  
Virginia.

Apr. 29&ndash;

May 1:

Loleta Fyan Small and Rural Libraries Conference  
[<http://rlc2009.ning.com/>], Grand Traverse Resort, Traverse City,  
Michigan.

May 15&ndash;20:  
Medical Library Association, [<http://www.mlanet.org/am/am2009/>] Annual  
Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii.

May 22&ndash;23:  
Ethics of Information Organization  
[[http://michaelzimmer.org/2008/11/04/cfp-the-ethics-of-information-organiza-  
tion/](http://michaelzimmer.org/2008/11/04/cfp-the-ethics-of-information-organization/)], University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

May 28&ndash;30:  
Canadian Association for Information Science, [<http://www.cais-acsi.ca/>]  
Annual Conference, Ottawa.

June 10&ndash;12:  
New York State Library Assistants&#8217; Association,  
[<http://www.nyslaa.org/conference.html>] Annual Conference, Sage College,  
Troy.

June 14&ndash;17:  
Special Libraries Association,  
[<http://www.sla.org/content/Events/conference/ac2009/index.cfm>] Annual  
Conference, Washington, D.C.

June 23&ndash;24:  
Second International m-Libraries Conference  
[<http://library.open.ac.uk/mLibraries/>], University of British Columbia,  
Vancouver.

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

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American Libraries Direct

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personal members of the American Library Association [<http://www.ala.org>]  
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George M. Eberhart,  
Editor:  
[geberhart@ala.org](mailto:geberhart@ala.org) [<mailto:geberhart@ala.org>]

Greg Landgraf,  
Associate Editor:  
[glandgraf@ala.org](mailto:glandgraf@ala.org) [<mailto:glandgraf@ala.org>]

Leonard Kniffel,  
Editor-in-Chief,  
American Libraries: [lkniffel@ala.org](mailto:lkniffel@ala.org) [<mailto:lkniffel@ala.org>]

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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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# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | November 19, 2008

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 State of the Art Faceted Search Easy-to-configure site profiles  
 Industry-first fuzzy search



## U.S. & World News

### [Meryl Streep set to play librarian in Dewey film](#)

Oscar-winning actress Meryl Streep is reportedly slated to star in the big-screen adaptation of *Dewey: The Small-Town Library Cat Who Touched the World*. Streep would portray Spencer (Iowa) Public Library Director Vicki Myron, who wrote the bestseller, along with Bret Witter, about the kitten that was adopted by the library staff after being abandoned in the book drop. The news came as *Dewey* topped the *New York Times* bestseller list for the second week in a row....

American Libraries Online, Nov. 14



### [Washington dad foils plan for school "librateria"](#)

A parent has convinced officials of the Federal Way (Wash.) Public Schools that students who will attend a yet-to-be-built school could benefit from a dedicated space for a media center that is separate from the lunchroom. PTA member Dave Bomgardner coined the word "librateria" to describe the rejected joint-use proposal for the new Lakota Middle School. Bomgardner and other concerned parents have introduced the issue at a Lakota open house, testified before the school board, and persuaded officials to delay approving the architectural plans for two weeks....

American Libraries Online, Nov. 19



[ALA Midwinter Meeting.](#)  
 Denver, January 23–28.



This year's [Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture](#) will feature Jim Sheeler (above), whose stories about U.S. soldiers killed in the Iraq War and their families were compiled in his *Final Salute: A Story of Unfinished Lives* (Penguin, 2008). The lecture will take place January 24, 1:30–3:30 p.m.

## ALA News

### [Feeling challenged?](#)

The Office for Intellectual Freedom is compiling its yearly list of most frequently challenged books. Although many challenges are never reported in the newspapers, OIF still strives to be as comprehensive

as possible in its records. To report a challenge to be included in the 2008–2009 compilation, fill out the [challenge form](#) or email the information to [Angela Maycock](#) by December 31....

OIF Blog, Nov. 17

### [Proposals sought for Grassroots Programs](#)

Do you have a great idea for an Annual Conference program but don't belong to a committee or other group that can plan and produce a program? As part of ALA President Jim Rettig's "Creating Connections" initiatives, you are invited to submit a proposal for a program to take place at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference, July 9–15, in Chicago. Additional information and a submission form can be found [online](#)....

### [Traditional Cultural Expression conference](#)

Leonard Kniffel writes: "It doesn't take long before a dinner-table conversation about 'traditional cultural expression' gets into some really heavy stuff. That's what happened November 12, when I sat at the table in Washington, D.C., with Wend Wendland (right), head of the Traditional Creativity, Cultural Expressions, and Cultural Heritage Section of the World Intellectual Property Organization, who'd come all the way from Geneva, Switzerland, to deliver the keynote address at a small invitational conference sponsored by ALA's Office for Information Technology Policy. Before you could say 'copyright,' we'd leaped from folk art to questions about who owns the rights to ancient human remains and to a definition of 'genetic resources.'"...

AL Inside Scoop, Nov. 13–16



### [Publicity tips from a veteran journalist](#)

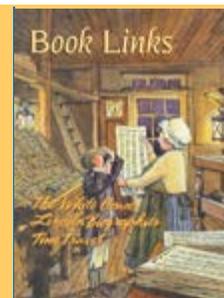
Veteran journalist Chris Kertesz offers tips on how to develop a state of your library report. He writes: "Libraries and librarians can draw on and localize an ALA resource—the annual *State of America's Libraries* report—to inform their constituencies about developments relevant to their local libraries and reinforce your position as an important source of information for the media."...

Visibility @ your library, Nov. 7, 18



### [Midwinter Forum on support staff certification](#)

The ALA–Allied Professional Association is offering Midwinter Meeting attendees an opportunity on January 23 to provide feedback on the development of a national, voluntary certification program for library support staff. Funded by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the [Library Support Staff Certification Program](#) is a partnership between ALA and the Western Council of State Libraries....



The [November issue of Book Links](#) focuses on social studies. Features include "Can We Talk? Making Social Studies Topics Relevant," by Lizabeth L. Deskins and Christina H. Dorr; "Exploring the Past through Time Travel," by Gwennyth Swain; and "[Our White House.](#)" by Angela Leeper. **NEW! From ALA Publishing.**

### **In this issue** November 2008



**Effective Training**

**After-School Success Stories**

**Time to Retool**

**Hennen's Public Library Ratings**

## Collection development and management

ALA Editions has released a second edition of *Fundamentals of Collection Development and Management*. In this fully updated revision, expert instructor and librarian Peggy Johnson addresses the art of controlling and updating your library's collection. Each chapter offers complete coverage of one aspect of collection development. Johnson also integrates electronic resources throughout the book....



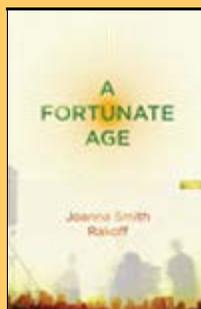
Sign up for [Certified Public Library Administrator](#) courses, scheduled through October 2009.

## Booklist ONLINE

### Featured review: Adult books

Rakoff, Joanna Smith. *A Fortunate Age*. Apr. 2009. 416p. Scribner, hardcover (978-1-4165-9077-4).

Like the classic novel it so obviously pays homage to, Mary McCarthy's *The Group*, Rakoff's mesmerizing debut opens with a wedding and closes with a funeral. In between, the novel provides a pitch-perfect portrait of the generation that came of age in the 1990s as four ambitious Oberlin graduates arrive in New York City full of hopes and dreams. They include native New Yorker Sadie, a book editor who is the most emotionally stable member of the group; Emily, a talented actress who can't catch a break; Lil, a brainy doctoral student given to intense bouts of insecurity; and Beth, still in love with her musician boyfriend from college....



### Top 10 first novels

Brad Hooper writes: "The first novelists listed here, whose works were selected as the best first novels reviewed in *Booklist* over the past year, will undoubtedly become *second* novelists. In other words, these novels show talent above and beyond the usual first time out."...



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

## Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST

### National Education Association Project Archivist

Gelman Library, George Washington University, Washington, D.C. The Special Collections Research Center is searching for an experienced archivist to process and describe the records of the National Education Association (NEA), ca. 1857–ca. 2006. The collection documents the history and functions of this organization and is approximately 1400 linear feet, including some audio and visual materials. The incumbent will be responsible for analysis of the collections, provision of intellectual control including finding aids in EAD format, and all processing activities according to national standards for treatment of special and archival materials. Incumbent will work closely with NEA and GW staff and will supervise a part-time assistant....

## Denver Update

### Tattered Cover Book Store

Denver's Tattered Cover Book Store is one of the largest independent bookstores in the

United States. In 2000, the store resisted on First Amendment grounds a police search warrant for records related to purchases made by a customer suspected of manufacturing crystal meth. OIF Executive Director Judith Krug testified in the case and the Freedom to Read Foundation joined an [amicus brief](#) arguing in favor of customer rights to privacy. The Colorado Supreme Court ruled in favor of the Tattered Cover in 2002. The store is located near the Convention Center at 1628 16th Street....

Tattered Cover Book Store; Freedom to Read Foundation



@ More jobs...

## Division News

### [ACRL launches first interest group](#)

ACRL has created a Residency Interest Group, the first interest group approved by its board of directors. The RIG supports the creation, implementation, management, and promotion of library residency programs. It accomplishes this by providing a central location for information about program availability; the creation of core competencies, evaluation, and assessment standards; and the overall advancement of the quality of resident education....

### [Serving diverse teens](#)

Learn how to best serve today's teens, the most diverse generation in American history, by attending Reaching Today's Diverse Teens, a pre-Midwinter Meeting Institute offered by YALSA. This full-day institute will take place 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m., January 23, and includes lunch....

### [YALSA Tech Playground and mixer](#)

Want to learn how to integrate traditional library activities like booktalking, teen programs, and marketing with a technological twist? Then come to the [Tech Playground](#), hosted by YALSA at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver, January 23. Attendees can sample fun technologies for teen library services while earning raffle tickets to win a Flip Video camera....

### [YALSA seeks blog manager](#)

YALSA is looking for a new member manager for its [YALSA Blog](#). The member manager must be a current member of the division. Applications are due December 31. The member manager will be responsible for the content and look of the blog and will work closely to recruit and oversee designated bloggers. For further information, contact [Beth Yoke](#)....

### [LITA names two Emerging Leaders](#)

The LITA board of directors has selected Holly Tomren and Lisa Thomas to participate in the ALA 2009 Emerging Leaders Program. They will receive a \$1,000 stipend to help offset the costs of attending the 2009 Midwinter Meeting and the 2009 Annual Conference. Tomren is electronic resources and metadata cataloger at the University of California, Irvine; Thomas is digital collections librarian at Yale University....

## Digital Library of the Week



### [Life magazine's Photo Archive](#)

consisting of more than 10 million images, is [now available](#) on a new hosted image service from Google. Some 97% of the photographs have never been seen by the public. The collection contains some of the most iconic images of the 20th century, including works from photojournalists Alfred Eisenstaedt, Margaret Bourke-White, Gordon Parks, and W. Eugene Smith. The images can be found when conducting a Google or Google Image search. Users can also search through the *Life* collection directly. All keywords are translated into 16 different languages. *Life's* complete Photo Archive is available on Google free for personal and research purposes, but copyright and ownership of all images remains with Time Inc. The Photo Archive also includes the Zapruder film of the Kennedy assassination; the Mansell Collection from London; Dahlstrom

## [PLA National Conference program proposals](#)

The deadline to submit a program proposal for the PLA 13th National Conference, scheduled for March 23–27, 2010, in Portland, Oregon, is quickly approaching. Program proposals may be submitted until November 30 through an [online form](#)....

## [Become a LLAMA mentor](#)

The 10-month LLAMA mentoring program is designed to encourage and nurture leaders and to develop and promote outstanding management practices. Mentees in the program benefit from mentor experience in areas such as career planning, job assistance, shaping careers, and succession planning. Mentors provide training and guidance for mentees and share leadership skills and practices.

[Applications](#) will be accepted through December 1....

Leads from LLAMA, Nov. 12

# Awards

## [UIUC waives tuition for Spectrum Scholars](#)

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign GSLIS will waive tuition for all of its 2008 ALA Spectrum Scholarship winners. The five scholars attending the university for the 2008–2009 school year—Harriet Elizabeth Green, Deana L. Greenfield, Hanna Lee, Laksamee Putnam, and Roy Saldaña Jr.—represent the largest number of Spectrum Scholars to attend the University of Illinois....

## [University of Oklahoma supports a Spectrum Scholar](#)

The University of Oklahoma School of Library and Information Studies will provide \$5,000 in matching scholarship funds to George Gottschalk, a 2008 ALA Spectrum Scholarship winner. Gottschalk is pursuing a master's degree in library and information science at Oklahoma....

## [RUSA Gale Cengage Learning Student Travel grant](#)

The RUSA Business Reference and Services Section seeks applicants for the 2009 BRASS Gale Cengage Learning Student Travel Award. Students enrolled in an ALA-accredited library school program are encouraged to apply ([PDF file](#)) for this travel grant—\$1,000 to cover travel expenses to the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, July 9–15....

## [National Leadership Grant guidelines available](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is accepting grant applications for the agency's 2009 National Leadership Grant program. Applications, guidelines, and examples of successful proposals can be found on the agency's [website](#). The deadline for submitting applications is February 1. Libraries interested in submitting proposals can apply to one of two funding categories: Projects or Planning Grants....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Nov. 14

## [Curtis wins Zarrow Award](#)

Newbery Medal-winning author Christopher Paul Curtis is the winner of the Tulsa Library Trust's 2009 Anne V. Zarrow Award for Young Readers' Literature. Bursting on the literary scene with his first children's book in 1995, *The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963*,

glass plates of New York and environs from the 1880s; Hugo Jaeger images from Nazi-era Germany, 1937–1944; DMI red-carpet celebrity shots; Pix Inc. personalities; and the entire works left to the collection from *Life* photographers Alfred Eisenstaedt, Gjon Milli, and Nina Leen.

**Do you know** of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it](#). Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the [Love Libraries](#) site.

## Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

**"Reading is discovering that our roots encompass the world. It also means stepping outside of ourselves and reaching the Other. Reading allows us to find our truth and share it with all of humanity. We need to live to read and read to live."**

—Governor General of Canada Michaëlle Jean, in announcing the 2008 Governor General Literary Awards, Nov. 18.

[ALA awards and grants](#). Many awards and grants offered by ALA and its divisions have a deadline in **December**. Check out the awards and grants pages of the ALA website to see if there are any that you'd like to apply for or

Curtis received praise for combining factual and fictional events of an African-American family and the racism they encounter during a road trip from Flint, Michigan, to Alabama....

*Tulsa (Okla.) World*, Nov. 16

### [The Flying Troutmans wins Writers' Trust Fiction Prize](#)

Miriam Toews's *The Flying Troutmans*, touted early on as a possible candidate for several major Canadian book prizes, ended up earning a single nomination. But the popular Winnipeg author's bestselling novel made good on that one nod, claiming the \$25,000 Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize in Toronto November 16. The novel is a contemporary road yarn about a woman who leads her niece and nephew on a search for their estranged father....

*Toronto Star*, Nov. 17

### [2008 Governor General Literary Awards](#)

The Canada Council for the Arts announced the Governor General's Literary Awards November 18. The awards are given in the categories of fiction, poetry, drama, nonfiction, children's literature (text and illustration), and translation, in English and in French. The fiction winners were Nino Ricci's *The Origin of Species* (Doubleday Canada) and Marie-Claire Blais's *Naissance de Rebecca à l'ère des tourments* (Les Éditions du Boréal)....

Canada Council for the Arts, Nov. 18

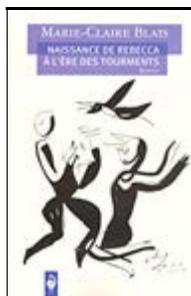
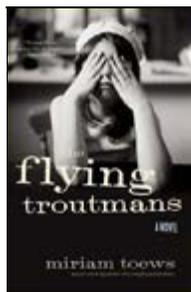
### [Roald Dahl Funny Prize winners](#)

Booktrust announced the inaugural Roald Dahl Funny Prize winners in London November 13: Ursula Jones's *The Witch's Children Go to School* (Orchard, 2008) and Andy Stanton's *Mr. Gum and the Dancing Bear* (Egmont, 2008). The prize is split into two categories: books for children ages 6 and younger, and books for children ages 7–14. Each winner receives £2,500. The purpose of the Funny Prize is to honor Roald Dahl by focusing on humor in children's books and to encourage family togetherness through reading funny books aloud....

Booktrust, Nov. 13

### [\\$60,000 history competition for high school students](#)

ABC-CLIO has launched "History Uncovered," a research competition for secondary school students. The reference publisher will award more than \$60,000 in cash and prizes in this opportunity for teams of students, social studies teachers, and school library media specialists to participate in a meaningful competitive endeavor that emphasizes research skills along with historical and critical thinking. Teams should visit the competition [website](#) to register....



nominate someone for.

## Ask the ALA Librarian



**Q.** *I was recently asked by a visitor from Ireland about coming to work in a library in the U.S. He wanted to know if his degree in Library Science would be acceptable here. I didn't know what to tell him. Do you have a resource for this?*

**A.** Yes, ALA has some resources to help answer this question. [International credentials](#) can be evaluated by various agencies here in the United States. Contact information for several larger non-profit firms can be found on the [ALA Foreign Credentials Evaluation Assistance](#) page. ALA also has two groups that may be of help for the [international library worker](#). From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

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

ABC-CLIO, Nov. 14

## [SAA's Waldo Gifford Leland Award](#)

The Society of American Archivists is accepting nominations for its Waldo Gifford Leland Award, an annual recognition for a monograph, finding aid, or documentary publication of superior excellence and usefulness in the field of archival history, theory, or practice. Periodical articles are ineligible. Nominations ([PDF file](#)) are due by February 28....

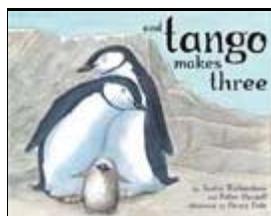
Society of American Archivists

## Seen Online

### [Penguin book called "risky"](#)

Officials at the East Elementary School in Ankeny, Iowa, where in late February Cindy and James Dacus's kindergarten-age child discovered *And Tango Makes Three*, have denied the couple's request to remove the book or move it to a parents-only section. The Dacuses' appeal to the school board is expected to be acted on in December. Cindy Dacus told school board members November 3 that the book by Peter Parnell and Justin Richardson, about two male penguins hatching and parenting a baby chick, tries to normalize homosexuality to children too young to understand the "risky lifestyle." Elsewhere, the Chico (Calif.) Unified School District [decided to keep](#) the book on its shelves....

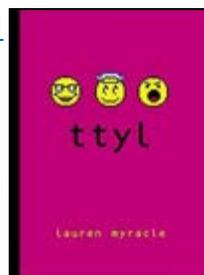
*Des Moines (Iowa) Register*, Nov. 17; *Chico (Calif.) Enterprise-Record*, Nov. 13



### [TTYL removed from Texas middle school](#)

A teen novel that stirred controversy when the parent of a Round Rock, Texas, student complained that it is obscene was removed from the district's middle school libraries November 18. Round Rock Superintendent Jesus Chavez sent a letter to Wes and Sherry Jennings saying he had determined that while Lauren Myracle's *TTYL* "may be appropriate for some students, it is not appropriate for all of our students in the middle school and should not be made generally available."...

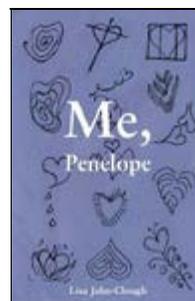
*Austin (Tex.) American-Statesman*, Nov. 18



### [Me, Penelope causes a stir](#)

David Myers brought the book *Me, Penelope*, by Lisa Jahn-Clough, to school board members November 10 and read a sexually explicit passage involving a 16-year-old girl. His daughter, a student at Tavares (Fla.) Middle School, checked the book out after getting permission from the librarian. Myers said the book was part of a collection students have to ask permission from the school librarian to check out. Board members were stunned by the revelation....

*Leesburg (Fla.) Daily Commercial*, Nov. 12



### [New York library supporters protest state cuts](#)

About 450 librarians and library supporters rallied against budget cuts at the New York State Capitol in Albany November 18. Gov. David Paterson has proposed \$20 million in



## Calendar

**Dec. 12:**

[ACRL Rare Books and Manuscripts Section](#),

Workshop on Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Books), Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, New Haven, Connecticut. Register by November 24.

**Feb. 9-12:**

[Electronic Resources and Libraries](#),

UCLA Covell Commons, Los Angeles. Ideas, trends, and technologies related to electronic resources and digital services.

**Feb. 13:**

[Online Northwest](#), Oregon State University, Corvallis.

**Feb. 14:**

[An Introduction to Document and Photograph Preservation](#),

National Archives and Records Administration-Great Lakes Region, Chicago.

**Feb. 20:**

cuts to libraries, which the New York Library Association says will reduce library aid for the state's 73 library systems to a level not seen since 1993. State aid to libraries was flat between 1998 and 2006. Paterson called lawmakers into an emergency session to make mid-year budget cuts, but legislators did not take any action....

*White Plains (N.Y.) Journal News*, Nov. 18; New York Library Association



### [Philadelphia details rationale for branch closings](#)

After 11 days of mounting outcry over its budget cuts, Mayor Nutter's office November 17 tried to assuage critics with more detailed explanations for its decision to target 11 library branches for closing. Siobhan Reardon, president and director of the Free Library of Philadelphia, told city council that it was her idea to shrink the library system to provide better service at existing libraries with fewer resources. Amy Dougherty, director of the Friends of the Free Library, [called on](#) Mayor Nutter to grant the library three to six months to develop a credible long-term solution. Meanwhile, library supporters staged [protests](#) (1:15)....

*Philadelphia Inquirer*, Nov. 18; *Philadelphia Daily News*, Nov. 17; KWTY-TV, Nov. 17



### [New Hampshire library seeks benefactor](#)

The new library in Gilmanton, New Hampshire, has thousands of books, a handsome circulation desk, and plenty of chairs for quiet lounging. Now it needs a final, crucial component: a budget so it can open. A dogged group of volunteers raised enough money over a decade to build and furnish the library, an [18th-century barn](#) that they took down, moved across the state in pieces, and reassembled (above). But so far, they have avoided asking for a local tax increase to cover the library's annual operating budget....

*New York Times*, Nov. 17; Gilmanton (N.H.) Year-Round Library Association



### [Wildfire destroys California monastery and its library](#)

The raging wildfire that destroyed more than 100 plush homes in the hills above Santa Barbara, Calif., on November 14 also claimed a hilltop oasis for thousands over the years, the Episcopalian Mount Calvary Monastery and Retreat House. The sprawling, Spanish-style complex had been filled with quiet reading rooms and endless shelves of books on myriad topics. All that remains are a couple of walls under a collapsed roof and the large metal cross in the courtyard. "The place was a treasure trove of antiques and rare books," said Peter Rood, rector of Holy Nativity Episcopal Church in Westchester, California....

*USA Today*, Nov. 15



### [Lawyers for Libraries Training Institute](#)

Westin Los Angeles Airport.

### **Feb. 24–26:**

[Educause](#), Southwest Regional Conference, Marriott Plaza San Antonio, Texas. "Balancing Acts: Making IT Work for Everyone."

### **Mar. 28–29:**

[Reading the World XI](#), University of San Francisco.

### **Apr. 8–11:**

[Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association](#), Annual Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana.

### **Apr. 15–18:**

[Museums and the Web](#), Indianapolis, Indiana.

### **Apr. 18–19:**

[Beatrix Potter Conference](#), Arne Nixon Center, California State University, Fresno.

### **Apr. 29–**

### **May 1:**

[Loleta Fyan Small and Rural Libraries Conference](#), Grand Traverse Resort, Traverse City, Michigan.

### **May 9:**

[Using Court Records to Find Local and Family History](#), National Archives and

## [Harvard professor takes on RIAA](#)

The music industry's courtroom campaign against people who share songs online is coming under counterattack. Harvard Law School Professor [Charles Nesson](#) has launched a constitutional assault against a federal copyright law at the heart of the Recording Industry Association of America's aggressive strategy, which has wrung payments from thousands of song-swappers since 2003. Nesson has come to the [defense](#) of a Boston University graduate student targeted in one of the RIAA lawsuits and hopes to challenge the basis for the litigation....

Associated Press, Nov. 14; ZDNet, Oct. 29; *Boston Globe*, Nov. 18



## [Library helped Obama's job search](#)

As a reminder that local libraries offer extensive job-search resources, here's how Barack Obama found his community-organizing job in Chicago after he graduated from Columbia University. In 2005, he told *American Libraries* magazine: "I probably would not be in Chicago were it not for the Manhattan public library, because I was looking for an organizing job and was having great trouble finding a job as a community organizer in New York."...

*New York Daily News*, Nov. 9

## [Sex offender found living in UIUC undergrad library](#)

A convicted sex offender was found to be sheltering himself at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's Undergraduate Library. Police Lt. Roy Acree said Eric J. Kaminski, 21, was discovered in the library around 2:30 a.m. on November 13. Library security believes Kaminski, who was convicted of a sex crime in Michigan, had been living in the library behind movable bookshelves in the northeast corner of the building....

*Champaign (Ill.) News-Gazette*, Nov. 14

## [Librarian's widow settles lawsuit](#)

The New Jersey State Board of Education has agreed to pay \$32,500 to settle a lawsuit brought by the widow of a former librarian at Clifton Avenue Grade School in Lakewood, whom she said died partly because of harassment from his coworkers and superiors. Cheryl A. Watson claimed that teacher and librarian Roz Renner and other school officials discriminated against her late husband, George Watson Jr., because of his race and disabilities....

*Asbury Park (N.J.) Press*, Nov. 18

## [1861 letter donated to Spartanburg County library](#)

A nearly 150-year-old letter predicting the start of the Civil War—written by former mayor John A. Henneman, who was later fatally shot while in office—is an important piece of history that the Spartanburg County (S.C.) Public Library never even knew existed, let alone expected to receive in the mail. Ed Daugherty, a former history teacher living in Missouri, had sent the [letter](#) (postmarked February 25, 1861), explaining that he would like to donate a historical document to the library if the library was interested....

*Spartanburg (S.C.) Herald-Journal*, Nov. 17



## [Rare Champlain map sells for \\$250,000](#)

A rare print of a 396-year-old map of Canada created by French explorer Samuel de Champlain has sold at a Sotheby's auction in

Records  
Administration-Great  
Lakes Region, Chicago.

@ [More...](#)

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George M. Eberhart,  
Editor:  
[geberhart@ala.org](mailto:geberhart@ala.org)

Greg Landgraf,  
Associate Editor:  
[glandgraf@ala.org](mailto:glandgraf@ala.org)

Leonard Kniffel,  
Editor-in-Chief,  
*American Libraries*:  
[lkniffel@ala.org](mailto:lkniffel@ala.org)

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ISSN 1559-369X.

Britain for nearly \$250,000 (\$203,000 U.S.), triple the expected price. It was purchased November 13 by an unidentified collector. It was the first published map to show Montreal, Lake Champlain, and the Great Lakes as a chain of connected waterways....

*Ottawa Citizen*, Nov. 14

## Tech Talk

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### [Five ways social media will change recorded history](#)

Ben Parr writes: "History tends to remember only pivotal moments in time, discarding the day-to-day struggles. Even when the occasional diary survives, it only archives what one person does—it doesn't track his or her interactions with others. But with social media, that information is readily available and archives *how we interact with others over time*. For the first time in human history, the day-to-day interactions between people are being permanently recorded and formatted in easily organizable segments of information."...

Mashable, Nov. 18



### [Microsoft to offer free security suite](#)

Microsoft on November 18 said it is changing its strategy for offering PC antivirus software, with plans to discontinue its subscription-based consumer security suite and instead offer individuals free software to protect their PCs. Code-named Morro, the new offering will be available in the second half of 2009 and will protect against viruses, spyware, rootkits, and Trojans....

CNET News, Nov. 18

### [When technology fails](#)

Half (48%) of tech users need help from others in getting new devices and services to work, and many experience tech outages when there is a glitch with their home internet connection, computer, or cell phone, according to a Pew Internet and American Life study ([PDF file](#)). Coping with these failures is a hassle for many tech users and helps to distance them from technology use....

Pew Internet & American Life, Nov. 16

### [Why Google must die](#)

John C. Dvorak writes: "It's called SEO—search engine optimization—and it's pretty much all anyone working with websites ever talks about nowadays. You may think it consists of ways to trick the search engines, Google in particular, into giving you higher than usual page rankings. But in fact, it centers around the idea that Google sucks so much that companies think they need to use SEO to get the results they deserve."...

*PC Magazine*, Nov. 17

### [Emory and George Mason team up on Zotero project](#)

**zotero**

Emory University Libraries and the Center for History and New Media at George Mason University have entered a cooperative partnership on Zotero, the free, open-source bibliographic manager. A team of librarians, information technologists, and faculty members led by Connie Moon Sehat, Emory Libraries' new director of digital scholarship initiatives, will extend the research capabilities of the software in collaboration with Zotero's main development team....

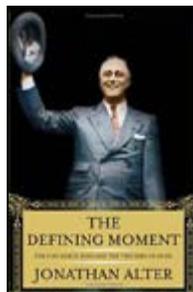
Emory University, Nov. 14

## Publishing

### [For books, is Obama the new Oprah?](#)

Motoko Rich writes: "When President-elect Barack Obama appeared on *60 Minutes* November 16 in his first interview since winning the election, he mentioned having read 'a new book out about FDR's first 100 days' without specifically naming a title or author. That tantalizing reference set off a scramble for the claim to First Reader rights the next day before a spokesman disclosed the president-elect was referring to two books: Jonathan Alter's *The Defining Moment: FDR's Hundred Days and the Triumph of Hope* (Simon & Schuster, 2006), and Jean Edward Smith's *FDR* (Random House, 2007)."...

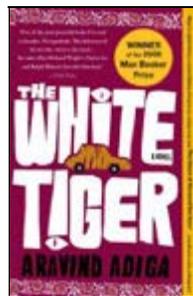
*New York Times*, Nov. 18



### [Novels better at explaining world problems](#)

Fiction—such as Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner* or Aravind Adiga's *The White Tiger*—should be taken just as seriously as fact-based research, according to the team from Manchester University and the London School of Economics. Novels should be required reading because fiction "does not compromise on complexity, politics, or readability in the way that academic literature sometimes does," said Dennis Rodgers from Manchester University's Brooks World Poverty Institute....

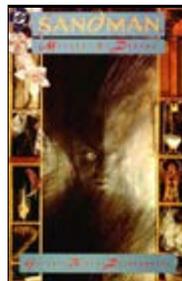
*The Telegraph* (UK), Nov. 6



### [Five ways that Sandman changed the world](#)

Graeme McMillan writes: "This week saw the 20th anniversary of the release of the first issue of *The Sandman*, Neil Gaiman's now-classic fantasy series that rewrote the rules of mainstream comics more than once in its 75-issue run. Without *Sandman*, we may never have seen comics like *Fables*, *Y: The Last Man*, or *The Invisibles*. On the other hand, we probably wouldn't have had to suffer through the CGI *Beowulf* movie, either. To celebrate Morpheus's 20th birthday, we look at five ways in which entertainment is different because of comics' favorite dream god."...

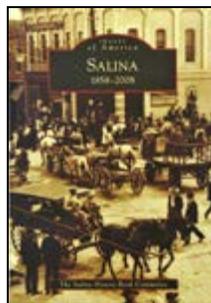
io9, Nov. 15



### [Salina librarians compile local history photo book](#)

It was just before Christmas 2007 when Judy Lilly, the Kansas librarian at the Salina (Kans.) Public Library, was contacted by Arcadia Publishing to put together a pictorial history book of Salina's first 150 years. Adjacent to the library's Campbell Room of Kansas Research sat 12 filing cabinet drawers with tens of thousands of photographs and documents that Lilly had taken years to archive. With the help of a library outreach coordinator, a former museum registrar, and a genealogical researcher, Lilly soon completed *Salina, 1858–2008*....

*Salina (Kans.) Journal*, Nov. 14



## [Enough with the sweet talk](#)

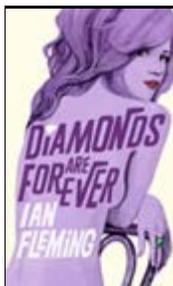
Joe Queenan writes: "The same authors who mope and whine about a negative comment in a book review are only too glad to accept praise that is not warranted, kudos they do not deserve. But how often does an author ever come out and admit that the praise showered on his book was excessive, inappropriate, ill-considered, unseemly, or flat-out wrong? That's the sort of thing that takes real moral fiber, real guts. You know, like admitting that H. L. Mencken wouldn't have been caught dead beaming at your book."...

*New York Times*, Nov. 14

## [Five things I learned about women from James Bond books](#)

Elizabeth Weinbloom writes: "Did you know that James Bond has the power to turn lesbians straight? And that lesbians were only gay in the first place because they have the right to vote? We always knew the Bond movies were trashy exploitation fests, but it turns out they're Gloria Steinem sit-ins compared to Ian Fleming's original books. The books are a treasure trove of wisdom about female sexuality, explaining why women should only sleep around at the office, and why 'No' means 'Take me now.' What important lessons did those politically correct movies leave out? Here's our list."...

io9, Nov. 13



## Actions & Answers

### [Draft of report on online threats to youth](#)

danah boyd writes: "*Online Threats to Youth: Solicitation, Harassment, and Problematic Content* ([PDF file](#)) is a draft of the literature review that Andrew Schrock and I prepared for the Internet Safety Technical Task Force with the help of members of the Research Advisory Board. In January, the Task Force will publish a report documenting its findings. This literature review will be an appendix to that report. We are making an early draft available because we are seeking public [feedback](#)."...

Apophenia, Nov. 16

### [Wii controls won't make you violent](#)

A new study suggests that games that feature motion-controlled violent actions, like the Wii version of *Manhunt 2*, don't affect players any differently than traditional violent games. The [study](#) was conducted by Patrick Markey at Villanova University and examined participants with varying levels of psychoticism, gauging their "hostility and aggressive thoughts" while playing *Manhunt 2* or *Tiger Woods PGA Tour 2008*. *Manhunt 2* had earlier encountered [criticism](#), particularly with claims that young children would be rehearsing violent moves and converting them into real physical violence....

Game | Life, Nov. 17



## [The Google agreement: A pact with the devil?](#)

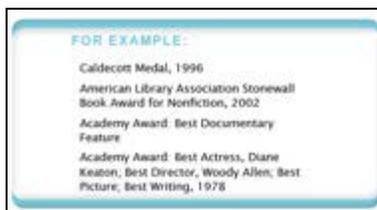
Karen Coyle writes: "The [agreement](#) between Google and the Association of American Publishers is of great significance for libraries. It is also very long, written in legalese, and contains the conclusions of a lengthy negotiation without revealing the nature of the discussion. This historic settlement has the potential to change the landscape on rights, digitization, and libraries. The clincher is that this agreement makes the assumption that if anyone sues Google for copyright infringement, the library will be a party to that suit." Preliminary [court approval](#) was granted November 14 by federal Judge John Sprizzo in Manhattan. Attorney Jonathan Band outlines the settlement's [provisions](#), with special emphasis on those that apply directly to libraries, in *A Guide for the Perplexed* ([PDF file](#))....

Coyle's InFormation, Nov. 18; Associated Press, Nov. 17; District Dispatch, Nov. 13

## [Full draft of RDA available for comment](#)

The full draft of *Resource Description and Access* (RDA) ([PDF files](#)) is now available. Drafts and proposals are not an official part of RDA until they have received final approval from the Joint Steering Committee and have been formally published. The deadline for constituency responses is February 2, to allow time for comments to be compiled for consideration by the JSC at its meeting in March. In the United States, commenters may use an [online form](#). Comments from within the Library of Congress may be submitted to the LC representative to the JSC, [Barbara Tillett](#)....

Joint Steering Committee on the RDA, Nov. 17



## [Maelstrom over metadata](#)

A debate is underway in the academic web, pitting those who defend libraries' core mission of open access against the OCLC membership organization. Early this month, OCLC announced a policy change that would have placed a notice in each record to the effect that it is governed by WorldCat terms contained in an accompanying web address—terms that could presumably change over time. Some bloggers interpreted the change as a power grab. By the time news of the [policy](#), which is to take effect in February, spread across the blogosphere, OCLC posted a new draft softening some of its requirements....

*Inside Higher Ed*, Nov. 14

## [Discovery platforms and MARC records](#)

Laurel Tarulli writes: "Discovery platforms (like [Encore](#) and [AquaBrowser](#)) overlie a library's existing catalog. They read our MARC records and extrapolate that information for use in the discovery tool overlay. Therefore, a discovery tool is only as good as your MARC records. Without full, descriptive records and appropriate subject headings, your tag clouds and refined search parameters are sloppy and inaccurate. Without uniformity, your tag cloud will assist in retrieving some items but not others."...

The Cataloguing Librarian, Nov. 18



## [European online library launches](#)

The British Library in London is among more than 1,000 cultural organizations making contributions to a European online library. The free multimedia

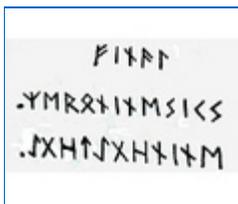


venture, [Europeana](#), will also see input from the European Commission and the Louvre Museum. Internet users will be able to access more than two million books, maps, recordings, photographs, archive documents, paintings, and films. These will be sourced from institutions across the EU's member states....

BBC News, Nov. 19

### [Reference question of the week](#)

Brian Herzog writes: "A patron walks up to the desk, slides me this piece of paper (right), and says, 'I was walking in the woods behind my house and found a plaque with this written on it. Can you tell me what it says?' He then elaborated, saying the plaque was made of stone and the characters were painted onto it and it looked like an ancient language so he went online and found [Omniglot.com](#) and by looking at the alphabets there decided they must be Runic characters and in front of the plaque was a little container which he didn't open but he photographed the whole area."...



Swiss Army Librarian, Nov. 15

### [Drawing the reference-help line](#)

Susanna Smith writes: "Two weeks ago I had a student come in and ask, 'I have this assignment due, can you tell me what I'm supposed to do?' A few days later, I had a student ask me how to do a sociology assignment. I am fine with helping students navigate websites or telling them what reference book they can use. But where is the line to be drawn? How do you handle students who want you to help them with everything, especially those things far outside your purview as a librarian?"...

ACRLLog, Nov. 17

### [UNC at Chapel Hill school gets \\$1.1 million](#)

A University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill alumna who dedicated her life to education has left the UNC School of Information and Library Science more than \$1 million for student scholarships. Jane Iris Crutchfield (right), who died December 10, 2006, at age 92, spent her career as a teacher and school librarian. She taught in the Danville (Va.) Public Schools and later in the Richmond (Va.) Public Schools. The \$1.12-million gift will go to the Susan Grey Akers Scholarship Fund, named for a former school dean....



University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill SILS, Nov. 14

### [LC merges acquisitions and cataloging](#)

As result of a reorganization at the Library of Congress, a book acquired as a copyright deposit, purchase, gift, or exchange will go to one division instead of several for centralized processing. "The new organizational structure—the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate—fully merges acquisitions and cataloging functions, streamlines workflows, and deploys staff to take advantage of their unique language and subject skills," said ABA Director Beacher Wiggins....

Library of Congress, Nov. 13

### [Graphic novel collection grows at WIU](#)

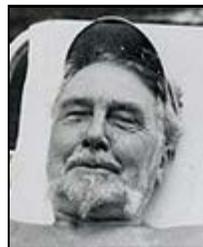
Western Illinois University's Leslie F. Malpass Library has a growing collection of graphic novels, thanks in no small part to the library's bindery manager, Greg Phelps (right), who has donated some 50 from his own collection. "Folks often have the perception that graphic novels are just about the superheroes in comic books, but the form has expanded much further, into a huge storytelling medium," Phelps said. The collection, which currently numbers about 200 titles, is important because graphic novels are taught in several English Department courses....



Western Illinois University, Nov. 10

### [Ransom Center acquires Ezra Pound materials](#)

A major collection of Ezra Pound (right) materials from Marcella Spann Booth, one of Pound's close friends and collaborators late in his life, has been acquired by the Harry Ransom Center at the University of Texas at Austin. The collection fills 14 archival document boxes and includes more than 700 journal-like letters the poet wrote to Spann Booth, documenting his life and career from his hospitalization at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, D.C., to his later years in Italy....



Harry Ransom Center, Nov. 14

### [Science experiments: Reaching out to users](#)

Convincing faculty and students in the sciences of the value of libraries and librarians can be a particularly hard sell as more and more of their primary journal literature becomes available online everywhere. Six science librarians from the University of Washington experimented with both traditional and unconventional ways to engage their users. They tried meeting in the users' spaces, luring them into the library's, and using creative initiatives that included blogs, giveaways, and geocaching....

*Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship*, no. 55 (Fall)

### [Museums inspire @ your library](#)

Museums and libraries have always been places of inspiration. Six years ago This Century Art Gallery approached the Williamsburg (Va.) Regional Library to collaborate on a series of [art appreciation programs](#). Housed in a turn-of-the-century Sears, Roebuck and Co., the gallery didn't have the space to accommodate a large group of art enthusiasts. However, the library, with a 268-seat auditorium, could....



Williamsburg (Va.) Regional Library

### [Massachusetts libraries serve as disaster recovery centers](#)

A pilot safety project is placing libraries in the center of disaster recovery efforts. Southeastern Massachusetts was chosen for the launch of the project—organized by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Southeastern Massachusetts Regional Library System—because of its vulnerability to hurricanes and northeasters. More than 75 libraries

are participating, and the program will eventually expand statewide....

Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, Nov. 7

### [Talis interviews Jenny Levine](#)

2008 Online Information Conference keynote speaker and ALA Internet Development Specialist Jenny Levine explores the ways libraries should be more open to experimentation in this podcast (38:24). Much can be learned from the wider web, she says, and about simplicity and planning for a changing environment....



Panlibus, Nov. 18

### [The amazing power of Facebook](#)

Sarah Ludwig writes: "When I learned that my new Facebook presence was going to be included in the library's monthly e-newsletter, I realized it would be pretty embarrassing for someone to visit my profile and see that I didn't actually have any friends from my community. So I took a plunge. I started friending kids. I included a note: You can do this on Facebook. And it worked! They accepted me. (Well, virtually. In real life it's yet to be determined.)"...

YALSA Blog, Nov. 19

### [It's Geography Awareness Week](#)

November 16–22 is Geography Awareness Week. During Geography Awareness Week, [National Geographic Magazine](#) and other organizations try to raise the awareness of the importance of geography education. [Google for Educators](#) has produced a special page with some exciting geo-tours for Google Earth. Here are some more websites you might want to check out if you want to inspire some kids with neo-geography....



Google Maps Mania, Nov. 18

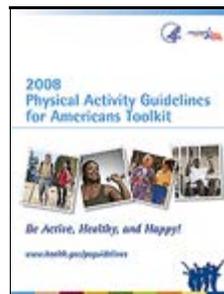
### [WebJunction webinars in December](#)

Interested in learning how to create local history documentaries to share online? Want to understand how libraries can better serve bilingual children? Curious how to create a laptop lab or how to improve your skills as a learning professional? Want to develop strategies to help your library plan for change in the tough economic times ahead? Check out these upcoming webinars from WebJunction....

BlogJunction, Nov. 17

### [Physical activity guidelines](#)

The U.S. Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion has issued its first *Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans* that describes the types and amounts of physical activity that offer substantial health benefits to Americans. Both the 61-page booklet ([PDF file](#)) and a [toolkit](#) are available from the recently redesigned Healthfinder.gov [website](#), which provides information on a wide range of health topics selected from more than 1,600 government and nonprofit organizations. Libraries can [link directly](#) to the site by using its linking icons....



Healthfinder.gov

## [Culture, gender, and human rights](#)

Development strategies that are sensitive to cultural values can reduce harmful practices against women and promote human rights, including gender equality and women's empowerment, affirms a new State of World Population report from the United Nations Population Fund. [Reaching Common Ground: Culture, Gender, and Human Rights](#), released November 12, reports that culture is a central component of successful development of poor countries and must be integrated into development policy and programming....

United Nations Population Fund, Nov. 12

## [How to annoy librarians: A one-act play](#)

Steve Lawson has written a humorous script that discusses the hiring of the anonymous Annoyed Librarian blogger by *Library Journal*, as well as Annoyed's writing of 10 articles (anonymously) in the current issue of the *Journal of Access Services*: "AL: But the great thing is the reaction by librarians. I can just feel the spittle gathering at the corners of their mouths as they write post after post and comment after comment about how this is going to ruin this journal in particular, library journals in general, peer review, and the library profession in general." Apparently, at least one member of the JAS editorial board was [taken by surprise](#)....

See Also..., Nov. 17; The Distant Librarian, Nov. 15



## [The Edge: Topeka's new teen center](#)

On October 30, the Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library hosted the grand opening of its new center dedicated to teen library users. Library staff worked with teen focus groups to identify what was important to them, the décor of the room, programs, and activities. Teens also named the new center "The Edge." This video (1:43) offers a glimpse of the myriad of activities the center provides....

YouTube, Oct. 31



## [Western Illinois goes mascot a mascot at Game Nite](#)

Western Illinois University's Malpass Library in Macomb has already held three Game Nites during the fall semester, with another one slated for December 4. Their Rocky mascot recently got in on some gaming action and found a passion for the Wii Sports' boxing game, where he took on Illinois State University's Reggie Redbird. This video (3:15) was produced, directed, and filmed by Teresa Koltzenburg....

YouTube, Nov. 13



AL Direct, November 19, 2008

Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail (or seeing it in full)? Click here [[%= util.viewHtmlLink %>](#)].

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | November 19, 2008

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[<http://www.sirsiidynix.com/Solutions/Products/portalsearch.php>]

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

## U.S. & World News

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### Meryl Streep set to play librarian in Dewey film

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/November2008/streepheartsdewey.cfm>]

Oscar-winning actress Meryl Streep is reportedly slated to star in the big-screen adaptation of Dewey: The Small-Town Library Cat Who Touched the World. Streep would portray Spencer (Iowa) Public Library Director Vicki Myron, who wrote the bestseller, along with Bret Witter, about the kitten that was adopted by the library staff after being abandoned in the book drop. The news came as Dewey topped the New York Times bestseller list for the second week in a row....

American Libraries Online, Nov. 14

### Washington dad foils plan for school &#8220;librateria&#8221;

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/November2008/libraterianixed.cfm>]

A parent has convinced officials of the Federal Way (Wash.) Public Schools that students who will attend a yet-to-be-built school could

benefit from a dedicated space for a media center that is separate from the lunchroom. PTA member Dave Bomgardner coined the word "librateria" to describe the rejected joint-use proposal for the new Lakota Middle School. Bomgardner and other concerned parents have introduced the issue at a Lakota open house, testified before the school board, and persuaded officials to delay approving the architectural plans for two weeks....

American Libraries Online, Nov. 19

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[<http://www.nationscourts.com/#Harry%20Potter%20&%20the%20Order%20of%20the%20Court>]

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ALA News

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Feeling challenged?

[[http://blogs.ala.org/oif.php?title=oif\\_seeks\\_reports\\_of\\_book\\_challenges\\_in\\_2008&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1](http://blogs.ala.org/oif.php?title=oif_seeks_reports_of_book_challenges_in_2008&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1)]

The Office for Intellectual Freedom is compiling its yearly list of most frequently challenged books. Although many challenges are never reported in the newspapers, OIF still strives to be as comprehensive as possible in its records. To report a challenge to be included in the 2008–2009 compilation, fill out the challenge form

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/oif/challengesupport/reporting/index.cfm>] or email the information to Angela Maycock

[<mailto:amaycock@ala.org>] by December 31....

OIF Blog, Nov. 17

Proposals sought for Grassroots Programs

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/rettiggrassroots.cfm>]

Do you have a great idea for an Annual Conference program but don't belong to a committee or other group that can plan and produce a program?

As part of ALA President Jim Rettig's "Creating Connections" initiatives, you are invited to submit a proposal for a program to take place at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference, July 9–15, in Chicago. Additional information and a submission form can be found online

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/governance/officers/grassroots/grassrootsproposal.cfm>]....

Traditional Cultural Expression conference

[<http://www.al.ala.org/insidescoop/?p=180>]

Leonard Kniffel writes: "It doesn't take long before a dinner-table conversation about 'traditional cultural expression' gets into some really heavy stuff. That's what happened November 12, when I sat at the table in Washington, D.C., with Wend Wendland (right), head of the Traditional Creativity, Cultural Expressions, and Cultural Heritage Section of the World Intellectual Property Organization, who'd come all the way from Geneva, Switzerland, to deliver the keynote address at a

small invitational conference sponsored by ALA's Office for Information Technology Policy. Before you could say 'copyright,' we'd leaped from folk art to questions about who owns the rights to ancient human remains and to a definition of 'genetic resources.'”...

AL Inside Scoop, Nov. 13–16

Publicity tips from a veteran journalist

[<http://www.pio.ala.org/visibility/?p=175>]

Veteran journalist Chris Kertesz offers tips on how to develop a state of your library report. He writes: “Libraries and librarians can draw on and localize an ALA resource—the annual State of America’s Libraries report—to inform their constituencies about developments relevant to their local libraries and reinforce your position as an important source of information for the media.”

Visibility @ your library, Nov. 7, 18

Midwinter Forum on support staff certification

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/alaapaforum.cfm>]

The ALA–Allied Professional Association is offering Midwinter Meeting attendees an opportunity on January 23 to provide feedback on the development of a national, voluntary certification program for library support staff. Funded by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Library Support Staff Certification Program

[<http://www.ala-apa.org/lsscp/>] is a partnership between ALA and the Western Council of State Libraries....

[[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?\\_sn=catalog2&\\_pn=product\\_detail&\\_op=2657](http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2657)]Collection development and management

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/alaeditionsnew.cfm>]

ALA Editions has released a second edition of Fundamentals of Collection Development and Management. In this fully updated revision, expert instructor and librarian Peggy Johnson addresses the art of controlling and updating your library’s collection. Each chapter offers complete coverage of one aspect of collection development. Johnson also integrates electronic resources throughout the book....

Featured review: Adult books

[[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=3036868](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3036868)]

Rakoff, Joanna Smith. *A Fortunate Age*. Apr. 2009. 416p. Scribner, hardcover (978-1-4165-9077-4).

Like the classic novel it so obviously pays homage to, Mary McCarthy’s *The Group*, Rakoff’s mesmerizing debut opens with a wedding and closes with a funeral. In between, the novel provides a pitch-perfect portrait of the generation that came of age in the 1990s as four ambitious Oberlin graduates arrive in New York City full of hopes and dreams. They include native New Yorker Sadie, a book editor who is the most emotionally stable member of the group; Emily, a talented actress who can’t catch a break; Lil, a brainy doctoral student given to intense bouts of insecurity; and Beth, still in love with her

musician boyfriend from college....

#### Top 10 first novels

[[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=3146204](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3146204)]

Brad Hooper writes: "The first novelists listed here, whose works were selected as the best first novels reviewed in Booklist over the past year, will undoubtedly become second novelists. In other words, these novels show talent above and beyond the usual first time out."...

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

#### Denver Update

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##### Tattered Cover Book Store

[<http://www.tatteredcover.com/NASApp/store/IndexJsp>]

Denver's Tattered Cover Book Store is one of the largest independent bookstores in the United States. In 2000, the store resisted on First Amendment grounds a police search warrant for records related to purchases made by a customer suspected of manufacturing crystal meth. OIF Executive Director Judith Krug testified in the case and the Freedom to Read Foundation joined an amicus brief

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/othergroups/freedomtoreadfoundation/ftfrinaction/timeline/20002009/2000to2009.cfm#2000>] arguing in favor of customer rights to privacy. The Colorado Supreme Court ruled in favor of the Tattered Cover in 2002. The store is located near the Convention Center at 1628 16th Street....

Tattered Cover Book Store; Freedom to Read Foundation

#### Division News

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##### ACRL launches first interest group

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/acrlinterest.cfm>]

ACRL has created a Residency Interest Group, the first interest group approved by its board of directors. The RIG supports the creation, implementation, management, and promotion of library residency programs. It accomplishes this by providing a central location for information about program availability; the creation of core competencies, evaluation, and assessment standards; and the overall advancement of the quality of resident education....

##### Serving diverse teens

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/yalsadiversemw.cfm>]

Learn how to best serve today's teens, the most diverse generation in American history, by attending Reaching Today's Diverse Teens, a pre-Midwinter Meeting Institute offered by YALSA. This full-day institute

will take place 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m., January 23, and includes lunch....

#### YALSA Tech Playground and mixer

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/yalsatechplayground.cfm>]

Want to learn how to integrate traditional library activities like booktalking, teen programs, and marketing with a technological twist?

Then come to the Tech Playground,

[[http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/YALSA\\_Mixer\\_%26\\_Tech\\_Playground](http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/YALSA_Mixer_%26_Tech_Playground)]

hosted by YALSA at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver, January 23.

Attendees can sample fun technologies for teen library services while earning raffle tickets to win a Flip Video camera....

#### YALSA seeks blog manager

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/yalsablogmgr.cfm>]

YALSA is looking for a new member manager for its YALSA Blog.

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/>] The member manager must be a current member of the division. Applications are due December 31. The member manager

will be responsible for the content and look of the blog and will work

closely to recruit and oversee designated bloggers. For further

information, contact Beth Yoke [<mailto:byoke@ala.org>]....

#### LITA names two Emerging Leaders

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/litaemergingnamed.cfm>]

The LITA board of directors has selected Holly Tomren and Lisa Thomas to participate in the ALA 2009 Emerging Leaders Program. They will receive a

\$1,000 stipend to help offset the costs of attending the 2009 Midwinter

Meeting and the 2009 Annual Conference. Tomren is electronic resources

and metadata cataloger at the University of California, Irvine; Thomas is

digital collections librarian at Yale University....

#### PLA National Conference program proposals

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/pla2009proposals.cfm>]

The deadline to submit a program proposal for the PLA 13th National

Conference, scheduled for March 23–27, 2010, in Portland, Oregon, is

quickly approaching. Program proposals may be submitted until November 30

through an online form

[[http://www.placonference.org//call\\_for\\_proposals.cfm](http://www.placonference.org//call_for_proposals.cfm)]....

#### Become a LLAMA mentor [<http://www.lama.ala.org/llamaleads/?p=245>]

The 10-month LLAMA mentoring program is designed to encourage and nurture leaders and to develop and promote outstanding management practices.

Mentees in the program benefit from mentor experience in areas such as

career planning, job assistance, shaping careers, and succession

planning. Mentors provide training and guidance for mentees and share

leadership skills and practices. Applications

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/llama/lamacommittees/divisioncomms/LAMA\\_Mentoring\\_Committee/LAMA\\_Mentoring\\_for\\_Leadership\\_Program.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/llama/lamacommittees/divisioncomms/LAMA_Mentoring_Committee/LAMA_Mentoring_for_Leadership_Program.cfm)] will be

accepted through December 1....

Leads from LLAMA, Nov. 12

## Awards

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### UIUC waives tuition for Spectrum Scholars

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/OFDillinois.cfm>]

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign GSLIS will waive tuition for all of its 2008 ALA Spectrum Scholarship winners. The five scholars attending the university for the 2008–2009 school year—Harriet Elizabeth Green, Deana L. Greenfield, Hanna Lee, Laksamee Putnam, and Roy Saldaña Jr.—represent the largest number of Spectrum Scholars to attend the University of Illinois....

### University of Oklahoma supports a Spectrum Scholar

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/ofdoklahoma.cfm>]

The University of Oklahoma School of Library and Information Studies will provide \$5,000 in matching scholarship funds to George Gottschalk, a 2008 ALA Spectrum Scholarship winner. Gottschalk is pursuing a master's degree in library and information science at Oklahoma....

### RUSA Gale Cengage Learning Student Travel grant

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/rusabrass.cfm>]

The RUSA Business Reference and Services Section seeks applicants for the 2009 BRASS Gale Cengage Learning Student Travel Award. Students enrolled in an ALA-accredited library school program are encouraged to apply (PDF file

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/awards/studenttravel/galecengagestudenttr.pdf>]) for this travel grant—\$1,000 to cover travel expenses to the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, July 9–15....

### National Leadership Grant guidelines available

[<http://www.ims.gov/news/2008/111408.shtm>]

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is accepting grant applications for the agency's 2009 National Leadership Grant program. Applications, guidelines, and examples of successful proposals can be found on the agency's website

[<http://www.ims.gov/applicants/grants/nationalLeadership.shtm>]. The deadline for submitting applications is February 1. Libraries interested in submitting proposals can apply to one of two funding categories: Projects or Planning Grants....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Nov. 14

### Curtis wins Zarrow Award

[[http://www.tulsaworld.com/entertainment/spot/article.aspx?articleID=20081116\\_272\\_G4\\_Christ485836](http://www.tulsaworld.com/entertainment/spot/article.aspx?articleID=20081116_272_G4_Christ485836)]

Newbery Medal-winning author Christopher Paul Curtis is the winner of the Tulsa Library Trust's 2009 Anne V. Zarrow Award for Young Readers' Literature. Bursting on the literary scene with his first children's book in 1995, *The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963*, Curtis received praise for combining factual and fictional events of an African-American family

and the racism they encounter during a road trip from Flint, Michigan, to Alabama....

Tulsa (Okla.) World, Nov. 16

wins Writers' Trust Fiction Prize

[<http://www.thestar.com/entertainment/article/538579>]

Miriam Toews's *The Flying Troutmans*, touted early on as a possible candidate for several major Canadian book prizes, ended up earning a single nomination. But the popular Winnipeg author's bestselling novel made good on that one nod, claiming the \$25,000 Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize in Toronto November 16. The novel is a contemporary road yarn about a woman who leads her niece and nephew on a search for their estranged father....

Toronto Star, Nov. 17

2008 Governor General Literary Awards

[<http://www.canadacouncil.ca/news/releases/2008/ep128714281236840064.htm>]

The Canada Council for the Arts announced the Governor General's Literary Awards November 18. The awards are given in the categories of fiction, poetry, drama, nonfiction, children's literature (text and illustration), and translation, in English and in French. The fiction winners were Nino Ricci's *The Origin of Species* (Doubleday Canada) and Marie-Claire Blais's *Naissance de Rebecca à l'ère des tourments* (Les Éditions du Boréal)....

Canada Council for the Arts, Nov. 18

Roald Dahl Funny Prize winners

[<http://www.booktrust.org.uk/Prizes-and-awards/Roald-Dahl-Funny-Prize>]

Booktrust announced the inaugural Roald Dahl Funny Prize winners in London November 13: Ursula Jones's *The Witch's Children Go to School* (Orchard, 2008) and Andy Stanton's *Mr. Gum and the Dancing Bear* (Egmont, 2008). The prize is split into two categories: books for children ages 6 and younger, and books for children ages 7–14. Each winner receives £2,500. The purpose of the Funny Prize is to honor Roald Dahl by focusing on humor in children's books and to encourage family togetherness through reading funny books aloud....

Booktrust, Nov. 13

\$60,000 history competition for high school students

[<http://www.abc-clio.com/publishing/pressview.aspx?contentid=100398>]

ABC-CLIO has launched "History Uncovered," a research competition for secondary school students. The reference publisher will award more than \$60,000 in cash and prizes in this opportunity for teams of students, social studies teachers, and school library media specialists to participate in a meaningful competitive endeavor that emphasizes research skills along with historical and critical thinking. Teams should visit the competition website [<http://www.abc-clio.com/historyuncovered/>] to register....

ABC-CLIO, Nov. 14

Society of American Archivists' Waldo Gifford Leland Award

[<http://www.archivists.org/governance/handbook/section12-leland.asp>]

The Society of American Archivists is accepting nominations for its Waldo Gifford Leland Award, an annual recognition for a monograph, finding aid,

or documentary publication of superior excellence and usefulness in the field of archival history, theory, or practice. Periodical articles are ineligible. Nominations (PDF file [<http://www.archivists.org/recognition/Awardsform.pdf>]) are due by February 28....  
Society of American Archivists

Seen Online

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Penguin book called &#8220;risky&#8221;  
[<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/200811170405/NEWS/811170325>]

Officials at the East Elementary School in Ankeny, Iowa, where in late February Cindy and James Dacus's kindergarten-age child discovered And Tango Makes Three, have denied the couple's request to remove the book or move it to a parents-only section. The Dacuses' appeal to the school board is expected to be acted on in December. Cindy Dacus told school board members November 3 that the book by Peter Parnell and Justin Richardson, about two male penguins hatching and parenting a baby chick, tries to normalize homosexuality to children too young to understand the "risky lifestyle." Elsewhere, the Chico (Calif.) Unified School District decided to keep [[http://www.chicoer.com/lifestyle/schools/ci\\_10970290](http://www.chicoer.com/lifestyle/schools/ci_10970290)] the book on its shelves....

Des Moines (Iowa) Register, Nov. 17; Chico (Calif.) Enterprise-Record, Nov. 13

removed from Texas middle school  
[[http://www.statesman.com/blogs/content/shared-gen/blogs/austin/education/entries/2008/11/18/book\\_removed\\_from\\_round\\_rock\\_m.html](http://www.statesman.com/blogs/content/shared-gen/blogs/austin/education/entries/2008/11/18/book_removed_from_round_rock_m.html)]

A teen novel that stirred controversy when the parent of a Round Rock, Texas, student complained that it is obscene was removed from the district's middle school libraries November 18. Round Rock Superintendent Jesus Chavez sent a letter to Wes and Sherry Jennings saying he had determined that while Lauren Myracle's TTYL "may be appropriate for some students, it is not appropriate for all of our students in the middle school and should not be made generally available."...

Austin (Tex.) American-Statesman, Nov. 18

causes a stir [<http://www.dailycommercial.com/1112book>]  
David Myers brought the book Me, Penelope, by Lisa Jahn-Clough, to school board members November 10 and read a sexually explicit passage involving a 16-year-old girl. His daughter, a student at Tavares (Fla.) Middle School, checked the book out after getting permission from the librarian. Myers said the book was part of a collection students have to ask permission from the school librarian to check out. Board members were stunned by the revelation....

Leesburg (Fla.) Daily Commercial, Nov. 12

[[http://www.nyla.org/index.php?page\\_id=1627](http://www.nyla.org/index.php?page_id=1627)]New York library supporters protest state cuts  
[<http://polhudson.lohudblogs.com/2008/11/18/library-supporters-added-voices>]

-to-protest/]

About 450 librarians and library supporters rallied against budget cuts at the New York State Capitol in Albany November 18. Gov. David Paterson has proposed \$20 million in cuts to libraries, which the New York Library Association says will reduce library aid for the state's 73 library systems to a level not seen since 1993. State aid to libraries was flat between 1998 and 2006. Paterson called lawmakers into an emergency session to make mid-year budget cuts, but legislators did not take any action....

White Plains (N.Y.) Journal News, Nov. 18; New York Library Association

[<http://www.blinkx.com/video/the-fight-for-philadelphia-libraries-continues/6EAuCnDcYCALYfOccBFi4w>]Philadelphia details rationale for branch closings [[http://www.philly.com/inquirer/local/20081118\\_City\\_details\\_cuts\\_in\\_libraries\\_\\_pools\\_\\_fire\\_companies\\_1.html](http://www.philly.com/inquirer/local/20081118_City_details_cuts_in_libraries__pools__fire_companies_1.html)]

After 11 days of mounting outcry over its budget cuts, Mayor Nutter's office November 17 tried to assuage critics with more detailed explanations for its decision to target 11 library branches for closing. Siobhan Reardon, president and director of the Free Library of Philadelphia, told city council that it was her idea to shrink the library system to provide better service at existing libraries with fewer resources. Amy Dougherty, director of the Friends of the Free Library, called on [<http://www.philly.com/philly/blogs/cityhall/34593059.html>] Mayor Nutter to grant the library three to six months to develop a credible long-term solution. Meanwhile, library supporters staged protests [<http://www.blinkx.com/video/the-fight-for-philadelphia-libraries-continues/6EAuCnDcYCALYfOccBFi4w>] (1:15).... Philadelphia Inquirer, Nov. 18; Philadelphia Daily News, Nov. 17; KQWY-TV, Nov. 17

New Hampshire library seeks benefactor

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/18/us/18library.html>]

The new library in Gilmanton, New Hampshire, has thousands of books, a handsome circulation desk, and plenty of chairs for quiet lounging. Now it needs a final, crucial component: a budget so it can open. A dogged group of volunteers raised enough money over a decade to build and furnish the library, an 18th-century barn [<http://www.gyrla.org/index.html>] that they took down, moved across the state in pieces, and reassembled (above). But so far, they have avoided asking for a local tax increase to cover the library's annual operating budget....

New York Times, Nov. 17; Gilmanton (N.H.) Year-Round Library Association

Wildfire destroys California monastery and its library

[[http://www.usatoday.com/weather/wildfires/2008-11-15-wildfire-monestary\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/weather/wildfires/2008-11-15-wildfire-monestary_N.htm)]

The raging wildfire that destroyed more than 100 plush homes in the hills above Santa Barbara, Calif., on November 14 also claimed a hilltop oasis for thousands over the years, the Episcopalian Mount Calvary Monastery and Retreat House. The sprawling, Spanish-style complex had been filled with quiet reading rooms and endless shelves of books on myriad topics. All that remains are a couple of walls under a collapsed roof and the large metal cross in the courtyard. "The place was a treasure trove of antiques and rare books," said Peter Rood, rector of Holy Nativity

Episcopal Church in Westchester, California....  
USA Today, Nov. 15

Harvard professor takes on RIAA

[[http://www.boston.com/business/ticker/2008/11/law\\_professor\\_f.html](http://www.boston.com/business/ticker/2008/11/law_professor_f.html)]

The music industry's courtroom campaign against people who share songs online is coming under counterattack. Harvard Law School Professor Charles Nesson

[[http://www.boston.com/lifestyle/articles/2008/11/18/billion\\_dollar\\_charlie\\_vs\\_the\\_riaa/](http://www.boston.com/lifestyle/articles/2008/11/18/billion_dollar_charlie_vs_the_riaa/)] has launched a constitutional assault against a federal copyright law at the heart of the Recording Industry Association of America's aggressive strategy, which has wrung payments from thousands of song-swappers since 2003. Nesson has come to the defense [<http://government.zdnet.com/?p=4152>] of a Boston University graduate student targeted in one of the RIAA lawsuits and hopes to challenge the basis for the litigation....

Associated Press, Nov. 14; ZDNet, Oct. 29; Boston Globe, Nov. 18

Library helped Obama's job search

[[http://www.nydailynews.com/opinions/2008/11/10/2008-11-10\\_i\\_got\\_my\\_job\\_through\\_.html](http://www.nydailynews.com/opinions/2008/11/10/2008-11-10_i_got_my_job_through_.html)]

As a reminder that local libraries offer extensive job-search resources, here's how Barack Obama found his community-organizing job in Chicago after he graduated from Columbia University. In 2005, he told American Libraries magazine: "I probably would not be in Chicago were it not for the Manhattan public library, because I was looking for an organizing job and was having great trouble finding a job as a community organizer in New York."...

New York Daily News, Nov. 9

Sex offender found living in UIUC undergrad library

[[http://www.news-gazette.com/news/u\\_of\\_i/2008/11/14/sex\\_offender\\_found\\_to\\_be\\_living\\_inside](http://www.news-gazette.com/news/u_of_i/2008/11/14/sex_offender_found_to_be_living_inside)]

A convicted sex offender was found to be sheltering himself at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's Undergraduate Library. Police Lt. Roy Acree said Eric J. Kaminski, 21, was discovered in the library around 2:30 a.m. on November 13. Library security believes Kaminski, who was convicted of a sex crime in Michigan, had been living in the library behind movable bookshelves in the northeast corner of the building....

Champaign (Ill.) News-Gazette, Nov. 14

Librarian's widow settles lawsuit

[<http://www.app.com/article/20081118/NEWS02/811180374/1070/NEWS02>]

The New Jersey State Board of Education has agreed to pay \$32,500 to settle a lawsuit brought by the widow of a former librarian at Clifton Avenue Grade School in Lakewood, whom she said died partly because of harassment from his coworkers and superiors. Cheryl A. Watson claimed that teacher and librarian Roz Renner and other school officials discriminated against her late husband, George Watson Jr., because of his race and disabilities....

Asbury Park (N.J.) Press, Nov. 18

[<http://www.infodepot.org/zDigColl/Henneman.asp>]1861 letter donated to

Spartanburg County library

[<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20081117/ARTICLES/811171036>]

A nearly 150-year-old letter predicting the start of the Civil War—written by former mayor John A. Henneman, who was later fatally shot while in office—is an important piece of history that the Spartanburg County (S.C.) Public Library never even knew existed, let alone expected to receive in the mail. Ed Daugherty, a former history teacher living in Missouri, had sent the letter

[<http://www.infodepot.org/zDigColl/Henneman.asp>] (postmarked February 25, 1861), explaining that he would like to donate a historical document to the library if the library was interested....

Spartanburg (S.C.) Herald-Journal, Nov. 17

Rare Champlain map sells for \$250,000

[<http://www.canada.com/ottawacitizen/news/story.html?id=6e9c54e2-63d0-49b4-89b6-5f26d2caffcd>]

A rare print of a 396-year-old map of Canada created by French explorer Samuel de Champlain has sold at a Sotheby's auction in Britain for nearly \$250,000 (\$203,000 U.S.), triple the expected price. It was purchased November 13 by an unidentified collector. It was the first published map to show Montreal, Lake Champlain, and the Great Lakes as a chain of connected waterways....

Ottawa Citizen, Nov. 14

Tech Talk

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Five ways social media will change recorded history

[<http://mashable.com/2008/11/18/consequences-of-social-media/>]

Ben Parr writes: "History tends to remember only pivotal moments in time, discarding the day-to-day struggles. Even when the occasional diary survives, it only archives what one person does—it doesn't track his or her interactions with others. But with social media, that information is readily available and archives how we interact with others over time. For the first time in human history, the day-to-day interactions between people are being permanently recorded and formatted in easily organizable segments of information."...

Mashable, Nov. 18

Microsoft to offer free security suite

[[http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009\\_3-10101582-83.html](http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009_3-10101582-83.html)]

Microsoft on November 18 said it is changing its strategy for offering PC antivirus software, with plans to discontinue its subscription-based consumer security suite and instead offer individuals free software to protect their PCs. Code-named Morro, the new offering will be available in the second half of 2009 and will protect against viruses, spyware, rootkits, and Trojans....

CNET News, Nov. 18

When technology fails

[[http://www.pewinternet.org/PPF/r/267/report\\_display.asp](http://www.pewinternet.org/PPF/r/267/report_display.asp)]

Half (48%) of tech users need help from others in getting new devices and services to work, and many experience tech outages when there is a glitch

with their home internet connection, computer, or cell phone, according to a Pew Internet and American Life study (PDF file [[http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP\\_Tech\\_Failure.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Tech_Failure.pdf)]). Coping with these failures is a hassle for many tech users and helps to distance them from technology use....

Pew Internet & American Life, Nov. 16

Why Google must die [<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2334870,00.asp>]

John C. Dvorak writes: “It’s called SEO&mdash;search engine optimization&mdash;and it’s pretty much all anyone working with websites ever talks about nowadays. You may think it consists of ways to trick the search engines, Google in particular, into giving you higher than usual page rankings. But in fact, it centers around the idea that Google sucks so much that companies think they need to use SEO to get the results they deserve.”...

PC Magazine, Nov. 17

Emory and George Mason team up on Zotero project

[<http://www.emory.edu/home/news/releases/2008/11/emory-university-libraries-in-zotero-partnership.html>]

Emory University Libraries and the Center for History and New Media at George Mason University have entered a cooperative partnership on Zotero, the free, open-source bibliographic manager. A team of librarians, information technologists, and faculty members led by Connie Moon Sehat, Emory Libraries’ new director of digital scholarship initiatives, will extend the research capabilities of the software in collaboration with Zotero’s main development team....

Emory University, Nov. 14

## Publishing

For books, is Obama the new Oprah?

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/18/books/18book.html>]

Motoko Rich writes: “When President-elect Barack Obama appeared on 60 Minutes November 16 in his first interview since winning the election, he mentioned having read ‘a new book out about FDR&rsquo;s first 100 days’ without specifically naming a title or author. That tantalizing reference set off a scramble for the claim to First Reader rights the next day before a spokesman disclosed the president-elect was referring to two books: Jonathan Alter’s *The Defining Moment: FDR&rsquo;s Hundred Days and the Triumph of Hope* (Simon & Schuster, 2006), and Jean Edward Smith’s *FDR* (Random House, 2007).”...

New York Times, Nov. 18

Novels better at explaining world problems

[<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/3391740/Novels--better-at-explainin-g-worlds-problems-than-reports.html>]

Fiction—such as Khaled Hosseini’s *The Kite Runner* or Aravind Adiga’s *The White Tiger*—should be taken just as seriously as fact-based research, according to the team from Manchester University and the London School of Economics. Novels should be required reading because fiction “does not

compromise on complexity, politics, or readability in the way that academic literature sometimes does,” said Dennis Rodgers from Manchester University’s Brooks World Poverty Institute....

The Telegraph (UK), Nov. 6

changed the world

[<http://io9.com/5086663/5-ways-that-sandman-changed-the-world>]

Graeme McMillan writes: “This week saw the 20th anniversary of the release of the first issue of *The Sandman*, Neil Gaiman’s now-classic fantasy series that rewrote the rules of mainstream comics more than once in its 75-issue run. Without *Sandman*, we may never have seen comics like *Fables*, *Y: The Last Man*, or *The Invisibles*. On the other hand, we probably wouldn’t have had to suffer through the CGI *Beowulf* movie, either. To celebrate Morpheus’s 20th birthday, we look at five ways in which entertainment is different because of comics’ favorite dream god.”...

io9, Nov. 15

Salina librarians compile local history photo book

[<http://www.saljournal.com/news/story/Salina-History-Book-11-14-FOR-MONDAY>]

It was just before Christmas 2007 when Judy Lilly, the Kansas librarian at the Salina (Kans.) Public Library, was contacted by Arcadia Publishing to put together a pictorial history book of Salina’s first 150 years.

Adjacent to the library’s Campbell Room of Kansas Research sat 12 filing cabinet drawers with tens of thousands of photographs and documents that Lilly had taken years to archive. With the help of a library outreach coordinator, a former museum registrar, and a genealogical researcher, Lilly soon completed *Salina, 1858–2008*....

*Salina* (Kans.) Journal, Nov. 14

Enough with the sweet talk

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/16/books/review/Queenan-t.html>]

Joe Queenan writes: “The same authors who mope and whine about a negative comment in a book review are only too glad to accept praise that is not warranted, kudos they do not deserve. But how often does an author ever come out and admit that the praise showered on his book was excessive, inappropriate, ill-considered, unseemly, or flat-out wrong? That’s the sort of thing that takes real moral fiber, real guts. You know, like admitting that H. L. Mencken wouldn’t have been caught dead beaming at your book.”...

New York Times, Nov. 14

Five things I learned about women from James Bond books

[<http://io9.com/5086230/5-things-i-learned-about-women-from-the-james-bond-books>]

Elizabeth Weinbloom writes: “Did you know that James Bond has the power to turn lesbians straight? And that lesbians were only gay in the first place because they have the right to vote? We always knew the Bond movies were trashy exploitation fests, but it turns out they’re Gloria Steinem sit-ins compared to Ian Fleming’s original books. The books are a treasure trove of wisdom about female sexuality, explaining why women should only sleep around at the office, and why ‘No’ means ‘Take me now.’ What important lessons did those politically correct movies leave out? Here’s our list.”...

io9, Nov. 13

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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## Actions & Answers

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Draft of report on online threats to youth

[[http://www.zephorio.org/thoughts/archives/2008/11/16/draft\\_version\\_o.html](http://www.zephorio.org/thoughts/archives/2008/11/16/draft_version_o.html)]

danah boyd writes: “Online Threats to Youth: Solicitation, Harassment, and Problematic Content (PDF file

[<http://zephorio.org/isttf/ISTTF-LitReviewDraft.pdf>]) is a draft of the literature review that Andrew Schrock and I prepared for the Internet Safety Technical Task Force with the help of members of the Research Advisory Board. In January, the Task Force will publish a report documenting its findings. This literature review will be an appendix to that report. We are making an early draft available because we are seeking public feedback. [mailto:danah@danah.org]”...

Apophenia, Nov. 16

Wii controls won't make you violent

[<http://blog.wired.com/games/2008/11/study-concludes.html>]

A new study suggests that games that feature motion-controlled violent actions, like the Wii version of Manhunt 2, don't affect players any differently than traditional violent games. The study

[[http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?\\_ob=ArticleURL&\\_udi=B6VDC-4TRR8SS-1&\\_user=10&\\_rdoc=1&\\_fmt=&\\_orig=search&\\_sort=d&view=c&\\_acct=C000050221&\\_version=1&\\_urlVersion=0&\\_userid=10&md5=513cf1ca5e81c6a084f756f04d8e141e](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6VDC-4TRR8SS-1&_user=10&_rdoc=1&_fmt=&_orig=search&_sort=d&view=c&_acct=C000050221&_version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=10&md5=513cf1ca5e81c6a084f756f04d8e141e)] was

conducted by Patrick Markey at Villanova University and examined participants with varying levels of psychoticism, gauging their “hostility and aggressive thoughts” while playing Manhunt 2 or Tiger Woods PGA Tour 2008. Manhunt 2 had earlier encountered criticism, [<http://blog.wired.com/games/2008/01/manhunt-2-saga.html>] particularly with claims that young children would be rehearsing violent moves and converting them into real physical violence....

Game | Life, Nov. 17

The Google agreement: A pact with the devil?

[<http://kcoyle.blogspot.com/2008/11/google-giveth-and-taketh-away.html>]

Karen Coyle writes: “The agreement

[<http://books.google.com/booksrightsholders/agreement-contents.html>] between Google and the Association of American Publishers is of great significance for libraries. It is also very long, written in legalese, and contains the conclusions of a lengthy negotiation without revealing the nature of the discussion. This historic settlement has the potential to change the landscape on rights, digitization, and libraries. The clincher is that this agreement makes the assumption that if anyone sues Google for copyright infringement, the library will be a party to that suit.” Preliminary court approval

[[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20081118/ap\\_en\\_bu/google\\_books](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20081118/ap_en_bu/google_books)] was granted November 14 by federal Judge John Sprizzo in Manhattan. Attorney Jonathan Band outlines the settlement's provisions, [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=1039>] with special emphasis on those that apply directly to libraries, in A Guide for the Perplexed (PDF file [<http://www.arl.org/bm~doc/google-settlement-13nov08.pdf>]).... Coyle's InFormation, Nov. 18; Associated Press, Nov. 17; District Dispatch, Nov. 13

Full draft of RDA available for comment

[<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/jsc/rdafulldraft.html>]

The full draft of Resource Description and Access (RDA) (PDF files [<http://www.rdaonline.org/constituencyreview/>]) is now available. Drafts and proposals are not an official part of RDA until they have received final approval from the Joint Steering Committee and have been formally published. The deadline for constituency responses is February 2, to allow time for comments to be compiled for consideration by the JSC at its meeting in March. In the United States, commenters may use an online form. [[https://cs.ala.org/alcts/RDA\\_Form/rda\\_form.cfm](https://cs.ala.org/alcts/RDA_Form/rda_form.cfm)] Comments from within the Library of Congress may be submitted to the LC representative to the JSC, Barbara Tillett [<mailto:btill@loc.gov>].... Joint Steering Committee on the RDA, Nov. 17

Maelstrom over metadata

[<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2008/11/14/worldcat>]

A debate is underway in the academic web, pitting those who defend libraries' core mission of open access against the OCLC membership organization. Early this month, OCLC announced a policy change that would have placed a notice in each record to the effect that it is governed by WorldCat terms contained in an accompanying web address—terms that could presumably change over time. Some bloggers interpreted the change as a power grab. By the time news of the policy [[http://marc.coffeecode.net/oclc\\_2008\\_11\\_02/](http://marc.coffeecode.net/oclc_2008_11_02/)], which is to take effect in February, spread across the blogosphere, OCLC posted a new draft softening some of its requirements.... Inside Higher Ed, Nov. 14

Discovery platforms and MARC records

[<http://laureltarulli.wordpress.com/2008/11/18/discovery-platforms-require-excellent-marc-records/>]

Laurel Tarulli writes: "Discovery platforms (like Encore [<http://www.encoreforlibraries.com/main.html>] and AquaBrowser [<http://www.aquabrowser.com/>]) overlies a library's existing catalog. They read our MARC records and extrapolate that information for use in the discovery tool overlay. Therefore, a discovery tool is only as good as your MARC records. Without full, descriptive records and appropriate subject headings, your tag clouds and refined search parameters are sloppy and inaccurate. Without uniformity, your tag cloud will assist in retrieving some items but not others."... The Cataloguing Librarian, Nov. 18

European online library launches

[<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/7738318.stm>]

The British Library in London is among more than 1,000 cultural

organizations making contributions to a European online library. The free multimedia venture, Europeana, [<http://www.europeana.eu/portal/>] will also see input from the European Commission and the Louvre Museum. Internet users will be able to access more than two million books, maps, recordings, photographs, archive documents, paintings, and films. These will be sourced from institutions across the EU's member states....  
BBC News, Nov. 19

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/herzogbr/3029950397/in/photostream>]Reference question of the week  
[<http://www.swissarmylibrarian.net/2008/11/15/reference-question-of-the-week-11908>]

Brian Herzog writes: "A patron walks up to the desk, slides me this piece of paper (right), and says, 'I was walking in the woods behind my house and found a plaque with this written on it. Can you tell me what it says?' He then elaborated, saying the plaque was made of stone and the characters were painted onto it and it looked like an ancient language so he went online and found Omniglot.com [<http://www.omniglot.com>] and by looking at the alphabets there decided they must be Runic characters and in front of the plaque was a little container which he didn't open but he photographed the whole area."...  
Swiss Army Librarian, Nov. 15

Drawing the reference-help line  
[<http://acrlog.org/2008/11/17/with-a-tangled-skein/>]  
Susanna Smith writes: "Two weeks ago I had a student come in and ask, 'I have this assignment due, can you tell me what I'm supposed to do?' A few days later, I had a student ask me how to do a sociology assignment. I am fine with helping students navigate websites or telling them what reference book they can use. But where is the line to be drawn? How do you handle students who want you to help them with everything, especially those things far outside your purview as a librarian?"...  
ACRLog, Nov. 17

UNC at Chapel Hill school gets \$1.1 million  
[[http://sils.unc.edu/news/releases/2008/11\\_crutchfield.htm](http://sils.unc.edu/news/releases/2008/11_crutchfield.htm)]  
A University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill alumna who dedicated her life to education has left the UNC School of Information and Library Science more than \$1 million for student scholarships. Jane Iris Crutchfield (right), who died December 10, 2006, at age 92, spent her career as a teacher and school librarian. She taught in the Danville (Va.) Public Schools and later in the Richmond (Va.) Public Schools. The \$1.12-million gift will go to the Susan Grey Akers Scholarship Fund, named for a former school dean....  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill SILS, Nov. 14

LC merges acquisitions and cataloging  
[<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2008/08-190.html>]  
As result of a reorganization at the Library of Congress, a book acquired as a copyright deposit, purchase, gift, or exchange will go to one division instead of several for centralized processing. "The new organizational structure—the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate—fully merges acquisitions and cataloging functions, streamlines workflows, and deploys staff to take advantage of their

unique language and subject skills,” said ABA Director Beacher Wiggins....  
Library of Congress, Nov. 13

Graphic novel collection grows at WIU

[[http://www.wiu.edu/newsrelease.sphp?release\\_id=6840](http://www.wiu.edu/newsrelease.sphp?release_id=6840)]

Western Illinois University’s Leslie F. Malpass Library has a growing collection of graphic novels, thanks in no small part to the library’s bindery manager, Greg Phelps (right), who has donated some 50 from his own collection. “Folks often have the perception that graphic novels are just about the superheroes in comic books, but the form has expanded much further, into a huge storytelling medium,” Phelps said. The collection, which currently numbers about 200 titles, is important because graphic novels are taught in several English Department courses....

Western Illinois University, Nov. 10

Ransom Center acquires Ezra Pound materials

[<http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/press/releases/2008/pound.html>]

A major collection of Ezra Pound (right) materials from Marcella Spann Booth, one of Pound’s close friends and collaborators late in his life, has been acquired by the Harry Ransom Center at the University of Texas at Austin. The collection fills 14 archival document boxes and includes more than 700 journal-like letters the poet wrote to Spann Booth, documenting his life and career from his hospitalization at St. Elizabeth’s Hospital in Washington, D.C., to his later years in Italy....

Harry Ransom Center, Nov. 14

Science experiments: Reaching out to users

[<http://www.istl.org/08-fall/article1.html>]

Convincing faculty and students in the sciences of the value of libraries and librarians can be a particularly hard sell as more and more of their primary journal literature becomes available online everywhere. Six science librarians from the University of Washington experimented with both traditional and unconventional ways to engage their users. They tried meeting in the users’ spaces, luring them into the library’s, and using creative initiatives that included blogs, giveaways, and geocaching....

Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship, no. 55 (Fall)

Museums inspire @ your library

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/campaignmuseums.cfm>]

Museums and libraries have always been places of inspiration. Six years ago This Century Art Gallery approached the Williamsburg (Va.) Regional Library to collaborate on a series of art appreciation programs.

[<http://eventful.com/williamsburg/events/centuries-art-your-library-nature-leashed-/E0-001-016841231-7>] Housed in a turn-of-the century Sears, Roebuck and Co., the gallery didn’t have the space to accommodate a large group of art enthusiasts. However, the library, with a 268-seat auditorium, could....

Williamsburg (Va.) Regional Library

Massachusetts libraries serve as disaster recovery centers

[<http://mbic.state.ma.us/mbic/news/releases/past-releases/2008/nr081107.php>

]

A pilot safety project is placing libraries in the center of disaster recovery efforts. Southeastern Massachusetts was chosen for the launch of the project—organized by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Southeastern Massachusetts Regional Library System—because of its vulnerability to hurricanes and northeasters. More than 75 libraries are participating, and the program will eventually expand statewide....

Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, Nov. 7

Talis interviews Jenny Levine

[<http://blogs.talis.com/panlibus/archives/2008/11/new-approaches-for-libraries-jenny-levine-in-conversation.php>]

2008 Online Information Conference keynote speaker and ALA Internet Development Specialist Jenny Levine explores the ways libraries should be more open to experimentation in this podcast (38:24). Much can be learned from the wider web, she says, and about simplicity and planning for a changing environment....

Panlibus, Nov. 18

The amazing power of Facebook

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2008/11/19/the-amazing-power-of-facebook/>]

Sarah Ludwig writes: “When I learned that my new Facebook presence was going to be included in the library’s monthly e-newsletter, I realized it would be pretty embarrassing for someone to visit my profile and see that I didn’t actually have any friends from my community. So I took a plunge. I started friending kids. I included a note: You can do this on Facebook. And it worked! They accepted me. (Well, virtually. In real life it’s yet to be determined.)”...

YALSA Blog, Nov. 19

It’s Geography Awareness Week

[<http://googlemapsmania.blogspot.com/2008/11/geography-awareness-week.html>]

November 16–22 is Geography Awareness Week. During Geography Awareness Week, National Geographic Magazine

[<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/geography-action/index.html>] and other organizations try to raise the awareness of the importance of geography education. Google for Educators

[<http://www.google.com/educators/gaw2008.html>] has produced a special page with some exciting geo-tours for Google Earth. Here are some more websites you might want to check out if you want to inspire some kids with neo-geography....

Google Maps Mania, Nov. 18

WebJunction webinars in December

[<http://blog.webjunctionworks.org/index.php/2008/11/17/the-tough-economy-technology-and-learning-covered-in-december-webinars/>]

Interested in learning how to create local history documentaries to share online? Want to understand how libraries can better serve bilingual children? Curious how to create a laptop lab or how to improve your skills as a learning professional? Want to develop strategies to help your library plan for change in the tough economic times ahead? Check out these upcoming webinars from WebJunction....

BlogJunction, Nov. 17

### Physical activity guidelines

[<http://www.health.gov/paguidelines/default.aspx>]

The U.S. Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion has issued its first Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans that describes the types and amounts of physical activity that offer substantial health benefits to Americans. Both the 61-page booklet (PDF file [<http://www.health.gov/paguidelines/pdf/paguide.pdf>]) and a toolkit [<http://www.health.gov/paguidelines/toolkit.aspx>] are available from the recently redesigned Healthfinder.gov website, [<http://www.healthfinder.gov/>] which provides information on a wide range of health topics selected from more than 1,600 government and nonprofit organizations. Libraries can link directly [<http://www.healthfinder.gov/aboutus/linking.aspx>] to the site by using its linking icons....

Healthfinder.gov

### Culture, gender, and human rights

[<http://www.unfpa.org/news/news.cfm?ID=1223>]

Development strategies that are sensitive to cultural values can reduce harmful practices against women and promote human rights, including gender equality and women's empowerment, affirms a new State of World Population report from the United Nations Population Fund. Reaching Common Ground: Culture, Gender, and Human Rights

[<http://www.unfpa.org/swp/>], released November 12, reports that culture is a central component of successful development of poor countries and must be integrated into development policy and programming....

United Nations Population Fund, Nov. 12

### How to annoy librarians: A one-act play

[[http://stevewlawson.name/seealso/archives/2008/11/how\\_to\\_annoy\\_librarians\\_a\\_one-act\\_play.html](http://stevewlawson.name/seealso/archives/2008/11/how_to_annoy_librarians_a_one-act_play.html)]

Steve Lawson has written a humorous script that discusses the hiring of the anonymous Annoyed Librarian blogger by Library Journal, as well as Annoyed's writing of 10 articles (anonymously) in the current issue of the Journal of Access Services

[[http://www.haworthpress.com/store/Toc\\_views.asp?sid=2H3N5NG48JB49KPVCDQR7TSLDH7F1K10&TOCName=J204v05n04\\_TOC&desc=Volume:%205%20Issue:%204](http://www.haworthpress.com/store/Toc_views.asp?sid=2H3N5NG48JB49KPVCDQR7TSLDH7F1K10&TOCName=J204v05n04_TOC&desc=Volume:%205%20Issue:%204)]: "AL:

But the great thing is the reaction by librarians. I can just feel the spittle gathering at the corners of their mouths as they write post after post and comment after comment about how this is going to ruin this journal in particular, library journals in general, peer review, and the library profession in general." Apparently, at least one member of the JAS editorial board was taken by surprise

[<http://distlib.blogs.com/distlib/2008/11/the-annoyed-librarian-goes-for-world-domination.html>]....

See Also..., Nov. 17; The Distant Librarian, Nov. 15

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YhlKklibHrc>]The Edge: Topeka's new teen center [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YhlKklibHrc>]

On October 30, the Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library hosted the grand opening of its new center dedicated to teen library users. Library staff worked with teen focus groups to identify what was important to them, the décor of the room, programs, and activities. Teens

also named the new center “The Edge.” This video (1:43) offers a glimpse of the myriad of activities the center provides....

YouTube, Oct. 31

[[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p0LXuLgR\\_jM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p0LXuLgR_jM)] Western Illinois goes mascot a mascot at Game Nite [[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p0LXuLgR\\_jM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p0LXuLgR_jM)] Western Illinois University’s Malpass Library in Macomb has already held three Game Nites during the fall semester, with another one slated for December 4. Their Rocky mascot recently got in on some gaming action and found a passion for the Wii Sports’ boxing game, where he took on Illinois State University’s Reggie Redbird. This video (3:15) was produced, directed, and filmed by Teresa Koltzenburg....

YouTube, Nov. 13

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/home.cfm>]

ALA Midwinter Meeting,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2009/faq.cfm>]

Denver, January 23–28.

This year’s Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/curley.cfm>] will feature Jim Sheeler (above), whose stories about U.S. soldiers killed in the Iraq War and their families were compiled in his *Final Salute: A Story of Unfinished Lives* (Penguin, 2008). The lecture will take place January 24, 1:30–3:30 p.m.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/hqops/publishing/booklinks/index.cfm>]

The Book Links

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/hqops/publishing/booklinks/currentissue/currentissue.cfm>] focuses on social studies. Features include “Can We Talk? Making Social Studies Topics Relevant,” by Elizabeth L. Deskins and Christina H. Dorr; “Exploring the Past through Time Travel,” by Gwenyth Swain; and “Our White House,” [<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/hqops/publishing/booklinks/resources/whitehouse.cfm>] by Angela Leeper. NEW! From ALA Publishing.

In this issue  
November 2008

[<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala/document/display.jsp?docID=10249458&page=1>]

Effective Training

After-School Success Stories

Time to Retool

Hennen's Public Library Ratings

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/index.cfm>]

Sign up for Certified Public Library Administrator

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/index.cfm>]  
courses, scheduled through October 2009.

Career Leads from

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

National Education Association Project Archivist,

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=12229>] Gelman Library, George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

The Special Collections Research Center is searching for an experienced archivist to process and describe the records of the National Education Association (NEA), ca. 1857–ca. 2006. The collection documents the history and functions of this organization and is approximately 1400 linear feet, including some audio and visual materials. The incumbent will be responsible for analysis of the collections, provision of intellectual control including finding aids in EAD format, and all processing activities according to national standards for treatment of special and archival materials. Incumbent will work closely with NEA and GW staff and will supervise a part-time assistant....

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

Digital Library of the Week

[[http://images.google.com/hosted/life/1?imgurl=84012c6dbb9602ad&q=airship+source:life&ei=GvAiSbrID53aNL31qDg&sig2=TqqBRCaQYOHn0YA67G-7tQ&usg=\\_\\_PkZSfWq00YFcp1qUsbjtgyLhAak=&prev=/images?q=airship+source:life&hl=en&safe=off](http://images.google.com/hosted/life/1?imgurl=84012c6dbb9602ad&q=airship+source:life&ei=GvAiSbrID53aNL31qDg&sig2=TqqBRCaQYOHn0YA67G-7tQ&usg=__PkZSfWq00YFcp1qUsbjtgyLhAak=&prev=/images?q=airship+source:life&hl=en&safe=off)]

magazine's Photo Archive, [<http://images.google.com/hosted/life>]  
consisting of more than 10 million images, is now available

[<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/081118/ny47064.html>] on a new hosted image service from Google. Some 97% of the photographs have never been seen by the public. The collection contains some of the most iconic images of the 20th century, including works from photojournalists Alfred Eisenstaedt, Margaret Bourke-White, Gordon Parks, and W. Eugene Smith. The images can

be found when conducting a Google or Google Image search. Users can also search through the Life collection directly. All keywords are translated into 16 different languages. Life's complete Photo Archive is available on Google free for personal and research purposes, but copyright and ownership of all images remains with Time Inc. The Photo Archive also includes the Zapruder film of the Kennedy assassination; the Mansell Collection from London; Dahlstrom glass plates of New York and environs from the 1880s; Hugo Jaeger images from Nazi-era Germany, 1937–1944; DMI red-carpet celebrity shots; Pix Inc. personalities; and the entire works left to the collection from Life photographers Alfred Eisenstaedt, Gjon Mili, and Nina Leen.

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] Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the I Love Libraries [http://www.ilovelibraries.ala.org/diglibweekly/] site.

## Public Perception How the World Sees Us

“Reading is discovering that our roots encompass the world. It also means stepping outside of ourselves and reaching the Other. Reading allows us to find our truth and share it with all of humanity. We need to live to read and read to live.”

?Governor General of Canada Michaëlle Jean, in announcing the 2008 Governor General Literary Awards, Nov. 18.

ALA awards and grants. [http://ala.org/ala/awardsgrants/index.cfm] Many awards and grants offered by ALA and its divisions have a deadline in December. Check out the awards and grants pages of the ALA website to see if there are any that you'd like to apply for or nominate someone for.

## Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. I was recently asked by a visitor from Ireland about coming to work in a library in the U.S. He wanted to know if his degree in Library Science would be acceptable here. I didn't know what to tell him. Do you have a resource for this?

A. Yes, ALA has some resources to help answer this question.  
International credentials

[[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/International\\_Credentials](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/International_Credentials)]  
can be evaluated by various agencies here in the United States. Contact  
information for several larger non-profit firms can be found on the ALA  
Foreign Credentials Evaluation Assistance  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/hrdr/educprofdev/foreigncredentialsevaluation.cfm>] page. ALA also has two groups that may be of help for  
the international library worker  
[[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/International\\_Library\\_Worker](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/International_Library_Worker)]. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki  
[[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Library\\_Worker\\_with\\_Foreign\\_Credentials](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Library_Worker_with_Foreign_Credentials)].

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

[<http://www.techsource.ala.org/ltr/>]

## Calendar

Dec. 12:

ACRL Rare Books and Manuscripts Section,  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/rbmsdcrmb.cfm>] Workshop on  
Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Books), Beinecke Rare Book and  
Manuscript Library, New Haven, Connecticut. Register by November 24.

Feb. 9&ndash;12:

Electronic Resources and Libraries,  
[<http://www.electroniclibrarian.org/ocs/index.php/erl/>] UCLA Covel  
Commons, Los Angeles. Ideas, trends, and technologies related to  
electronic resources and digital services.

Feb. 13:

Online Northwest [<http://www.ous.edu/onlinenw/>], Oregon State University,  
Corvallis.

Feb. 14:

An Introduction to Document and Photograph Preservation  
[<http://www.archives.gov/great-lakes/public/programs/calendar.html>],  
National Archives and Records Administration-Great Lakes Region, Chicago.

Feb. 20:

Lawyers for Libraries Training Institute,  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/September2008/OIFiflla.cfm>] Westin Los Angeles Airport.

Feb. 24&ndash;26:

Educause, [[http://net.educause.edu/content.asp?SECTION\\_ID=372&bhcp=1](http://net.educause.edu/content.asp?SECTION_ID=372&bhcp=1)]  
Southwest Regional Conference, Marriott Plaza San Antonio, Texas.  
“Balancing Acts: Making IT Work for Everyone.”

Mar. 28&ndash;29:

Reading the World XI

[[http://www.soe.usfca.edu/institutes/reading\\_world/index.html](http://www.soe.usfca.edu/institutes/reading_world/index.html)],  
University of San Francisco.

Apr. 8&ndash;11:  
Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association,  
[<http://pcaaca.org/conference/national.php>] Annual Conference, New  
Orleans, Louisiana.

Apr. 15&ndash;18:  
Museums and the Web, [<http://www.archimuse.com/mw2009/>] Indianapolis,  
Indiana.

Apr. 18&ndash;19:  
Beatrix Potter Conference [<HTTP://www.arnenixoncenter.org/>], Arne Nixon  
Center, California State University, Fresno.

Apr. 29&ndash;  
May 1:  
Loleta Fyan Small and Rural Libraries Conference  
[<http://rlc2009.ning.com/>], Grand Traverse Resort, Traverse City,  
Michigan.

May 9:  
Using Court Records to Find Local and Family History  
[<http://www.archives.gov/great-lakes/public/programs/calendar.html>],  
National Archives and Records Administration-Great Lakes Region, Chicago.

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

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American Libraries Direct

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George M. Eberhart,  
Editor:  
[geberhart@ala.org](mailto:geberhart@ala.org) [<mailto:geberhart@ala.org>]

Greg Landgraf,  
Associate Editor:  
[glandgraf@ala.org](mailto:glandgraf@ala.org) [<mailto:glandgraf@ala.org>]

Leonard Kniffel,  
Editor-in-Chief,  
American Libraries: [lkniffel@ala.org](mailto:lkniffel@ala.org) [<mailto:lkniffel@ala.org>]

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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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# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | November 26, 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

### [Nashville mayor wants city library to enfold media centers](#)

Officials of the Metro Nashville Public Schools seemed taken aback by a November 20 press conference Mayor Karl Dean (on left) held at Nashville Public Library's East branch where he announced that the city library would begin taking over the operation of school libraries systemwide in January 2009. Nashville Public Library Director Donna Nicely (on right) confirmed to *American Libraries* that she and Mayor Dean had been conferring with each other for several months about the prospect of combining public and school library operations. But school officials seem to have been left out of the loop....



American Libraries Online, Nov. 23

### [FBI compiles list of most-coveted library books](#)

Some seven months after charging James Brubaker in the theft of hundreds of books from at least 100 academic and public libraries in the United States and Canada, the FBI has entrusted the Western Washington University librarian who helped crack the case with a list of some 800 titles recovered in the case—600 of which were identifiable as having been taken from specific libraries. Librarian Rob Lopresti said WWU would send a paper copy of the list by U.S. mail to any library that requests it on library stationary....

American Libraries Online, Nov. 21

### [Las Vegas-area school librarians likely safe for now](#)

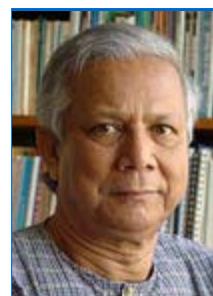
The elimination of 105 middle and high school librarian positions has been proposed as part of the solution to a \$120-million shortfall at Clark County (Nev.) School District, but following two heated public meetings, it appears likely that other areas of school funding will be cut to balance the budget. The district has circulated a list ([PDF file](#)) proposing 23 programs that could get the axe, with the elimination of librarian positions as one of the possibilities....

American Libraries Online, Nov. 21



### [ALA Midwinter Meeting.](#)

Denver, January 23–28.



The Midwinter [ALA President's Program](#) will feature Nobel Peace Prize-winner Dr. Muhammad Yunus, January 25, at 3:30 p.m. in the Four Seasons Ballroom at the Colorado Convention Center. Yunus is the author of *Banker to the Poor: Micro-Lending and the Battle Against World Poverty* (1999) and *Creating a World Without Poverty: Social Business and the Future of Capitalism* (2007).

## ALA News

### [Libraries celebrate National Gaming Day](#)

The growing interest in gaming has generated impressive activity at the nation's libraries. Recently, more than 14,000 people of all ages came together to participate in gaming events at more than 600 libraries around the country on ALA's National Gaming Day @ your library, November 15. ALA President Jim Rettig (right) celebrated National Gaming Day at Cuffee Public Library, Chesapeake, Virginia, where he was found playing *Rock Band* with a variety of young gamers....



### [Illinois librarian helps reach out to Latinos](#)

"I can help you" are words that resonate with librarians and library users alike. Semiramis Morales Grady, interlibrary loan bibliographic assistant at the Metropolitan Library System in Burr Ridge, Illinois, is one of the voices in a radio PSA effort that reaches out to the nation's Latinos. She is part of the team that helped create "en tu biblioteca," ALA's outreach campaign in partnership with Univision Radio. Two PSAs featuring Grady and Univision Radio personality Javier Romero are airing in nine of the country's top Latino markets....



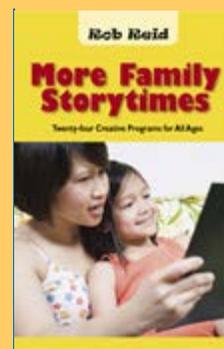
### [40 libraries to host "Visions of the Universe" exhibit](#)

The ALA Public Programs Office has announced that 40 public libraries will host "Visions of the Universe: Four Centuries of Discovery," a traveling exhibition developed in cooperation with the Space Telescope Science Institute Office of Public Outreach and the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory to mark the International Year of Astronomy in 2009. All libraries on the tour will receive \$500 programming support stipends, \$250 collection development stipends, and additional materials to support library programming....



### [ALA joins National Women's History Museum project](#)

ALA has added its name to the list of national organizations supporting the [National Women's History Museum](#) project. The NWHM raises public awareness and access to the historical contributions women have made in the United States and is advocating for the creation of a permanent national museum in Washington D.C....



This new book from best-selling author Rob Reid features stories, fingerplays, songs, and movement activities to enhance the time families spend at the library. Brimming with all new material, [More Family Storytimes](#) offers practical, creative, and active storytime programs that will captivate audiences of all ages with program plans, engaging activities, and relevant themes. **NEW! From ALA Editions.**

### In this issue

November 2008



Effective Training

After-School Success Stories

Time to Retool

Hennen's Public Library Ratings

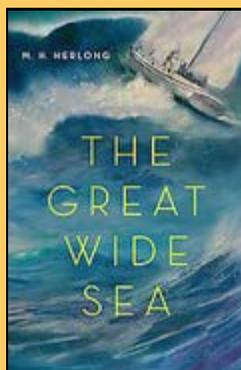
# Booklist

ONLINE

## Featured review: Books for youth

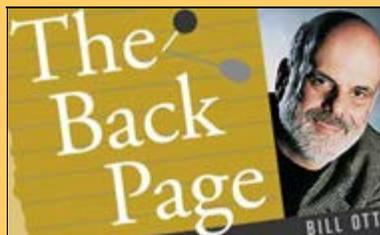
Herlong, M. H. *The Great Wide Sea*. Oct. 2008. 240p. Grades 6–10. Viking, hardcover (978-0-670-06330-7).

Soon after their mother's death, 15-year-old Ben and his two younger brothers are stunned when their father sells their home, buys a sailboat, and announces that they will live on board and cruise the Bahamas for the next year. Wrenched from everything he knows and forced to obey his father-captain's orders, Ben starts out angry and finds no escape. As he says, "We were always together." When their father sets a course for Bermuda and disappears overboard one night, the boys have little time to wonder if he jumped or fell before they're struggling to stay afloat in a fierce Atlantic storm. Lost at sea in a damaged boat, they find their way to an island where they are stranded with little food, little water, and little hope of rescue. Herlong's first book is a great survival story and a fine portrayal of family relationships in a time of crisis....



## Diagramming sentences

Bill Ott writes: "We were talking the other day at our *Booklist* coffee break about Sarah Palin's sentences. Well, maybe *sentences* isn't the right word, though her speech patterns do have beginnings and endings, places you might think to put a period, or so one might conclude from her occasional need to take a breath. But are those wandering convolutions really sentences? As we pondered this conundrum, someone asked, 'Do you think you could diagram a Palin sentence?' We all agreed that this would be a good test, but none of us volunteered to give it a try. Then, shortly after I'd returned to my desk, intrepid Googler Ben Segedin emailed me an [article](#) from *Slate* in which Kitty Burns Florey demonstrated exactly how to diagram a Palin utterance. Somehow, I found this instant access to the information I needed a bit depressing."...

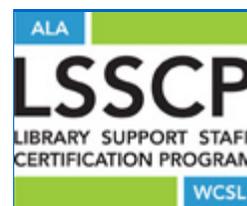


@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....

## Denver Update

### 10 Denver microbreweries

The city claims that more beer is brewed in Denver than in any other city in the United States. Accordingly, there



The [ALA-Allied Professional Association](#) is offering ALA Midwinter Meeting attendees attendees an opportunity to provide feedback on the development of a national [Library Support Staff Certification Program](#). This forum will be held 10:30 to noon, on Saturday, January 24, in Denver.

## Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST

### Head of Media

Services, Preston Library, Virginia Military Institute, Lexington. Responsible for the leadership, management, and support of media services and the development of state-of-the-art applications and solutions for the library's integrated library system and web technologies. The primary duties and responsibilities include the management of instruction in the use of presentation, audio, and video resources; management of training workshops for the use of media software; management of satellite and cable broadcast system; and the development of



are many microbreweries and brewpubs in the area that any self-respecting beer connoisseur simply must visit. Writer Irene Middleman Thomas has bellied up to the bar at all of them, and she shares her favorites in this wrapup....

Denver Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau

### [Student book art](#)

The Abecedarian Gallery will be presenting an exhibition of U.S. student bookworks from January 8 through February 7. The gallery, in Denver's Santa Fe Arts District, presents local and national artists working in contemporary book arts and printmaking and is the only gallery specializing in artists' books in the area....

Abecedarian Gallery



### [The Molly Brown House Museum](#)

In 1970, local citizens joined forces to preserve the long-time home of Molly Brown, the *Titanic's* most famous survivor. They organized as Historic Denver and began a long-term project to preserve Denver's historic places. Today, you can visit the Browns' opulent 1889 home, designed by architect William Lang with electricity, central heat, and indoor plumbing. You'll also find out about Molly Brown's incredible life, from instant mining-town wealth, to labor reform and the stages of New York....

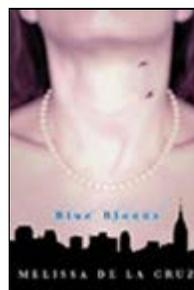
Molly Brown House Museum



## Division News

### [YALSA offers book tie-ins to \*Twilight\* movie](#)

Last weekend, Americans flocked to see *Twilight*, the film adaptation of Stephenie Meyer's young adult novel that raked in \$70 million in box office receipts. For those who can't get enough of Meyer's series, in film or book format, YALSA suggests [similar books](#) and offers [resources for planning](#) teen-focused programs that feature *Twilight* and its sequels....



### [danah boyd, Marco Torres to speak at AASL National Conference](#)

danah boyd, the "high priestess" of networked social media, will keynote the AASL 14th National Conference and Exhibition, "Rev up learning @ your library," November 5-8, 2009, in Charlotte, North Carolina. Her unique and controversial perspectives on how America's youth are engaging in social networking will help school library media specialists understand how students are changing the way they



web technologies to enhance access to the library's collections....

@ [More jobs...](#)

### Digital Library of the Week



The Lunar and Planetary Institute's collection of online [lunar atlases](#) includes a digital version of the *Lunar Orbiter Atlas of the Moon*, first published in 1971 and considered the definitive reference manual to global photographic coverage of the Moon; the 1967 *Consolidated Lunar Atlas* by Gerald P. Kuiper, Ewen A. Whitaker, Robert G. Strom, John W. Fountain, and Stephen M. Larson, a collection of the best photographic images of the Moon; an *Apollo Image Atlas* with some 25,000 photographs from the Apollo 4-17 missions; panoramic surface images from the Apollo missions; photos from the 1964-1965 Ranger 7-9 missions; and various other map series, including geologic, topographic, and topophoto maps.

Do you know of a digital

communicate. Renowned speaker, filmmaker, high school teacher, and author [Marco Torres](#) will be the closing speaker....

## Awards

### [Radice, Martin receive Presidential Citizens Medal](#)

President George W. Bush [conferred](#) the Presidential Citizens Medal on Anne-Imelda Radice, director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and Robert Martin, the former IMLS director who recently retired as LIS professor at Texas Woman's University. Bush made the [surprise announcement](#) at an East Room ceremony November 17 honoring this year's recipients of the National Medals of Arts and the National Humanities Medals. The Presidential Citizens Medal is the second-highest civilian award that the United States can bestow....



Institute of Museum and Library Services, Nov. 18; White House, Nov. 17; *Denton (Tex.) Record-Chronicle*, Nov. 21

### [ASCLA award nominations due December 15](#)

Don't miss out on an opportunity to recognize a colleague for contributions to the library professions represented by ASCLA. The division's five awards encompass three key areas: service to special populations, contribution to state library and multitype library systems, and service to the division. The nomination deadline for all awards is December 15....

### [Nominate someone for a RUSA award](#)

You can thank your colleagues for their outstanding contributions to the library profession this year by nominating them for an award offered by RUSA. The division—representing professionals in reference, collection development, readers advisory, genealogy, resource sharing and many other related fields—is accepting nominations for its 15 awards and two grants until December 15....

### [FSU supports two Spectrum Scholars](#)

The Florida State University College of Information will provide matching funds for tuition to Letitia Bulic and Deidra Garcia, 2008 ALA Spectrum Scholarship winners. Bulic and Garcia are each pursuing a masters' degree in library and information studies at Florida State, which has offered tuition remission to Spectrum recipients since 1999....



### [Intellectual freedom awards deadline extended](#)

The deadline for nominees for the 2009 Intellectual Freedom Round Table Awards has been extended until January 9. The John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award honors intellectual freedom fighters in and outside the library profession who have demonstrated remarkable personal courage in resisting censorship. The ProQuest/SIRS State and Regional Intellectual Freedom Achievement Award is given to the most innovative and effective intellectual freedom project covering a

library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#) Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the [Love Libraries](#) site.

## Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

**"America's libraries are the fruits of a great democracy. They are living evidence of the democratic values we cherish. . . . They exist because we believe that memory and truth are important and so we pass what we know from one generation to the next. They exist because we believe that information and knowledge are not the exclusive domain of a certain type or class of person but rather the province of all who seek to learn."**

—Robert S. Martin, then-director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, in "Equipping Museums and Libraries for the 21st Century," [testimony](#) before the House Subcommittee on Select Education, Feb. 14, 2002.

## Ask the ALA Librarian

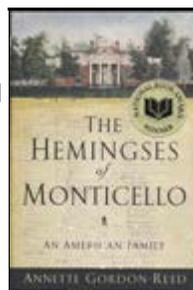
state or region....

OIF Blog, Nov. 25

### [National Book Awards 2008](#)

The [National Book Awards](#) were announced November 19 in New York City. Peter Matthiessen took the award for fiction for *Shadow Country*, nonfiction went to surprise winner Annette Gordon-Reed for *The Hemingses of Monticello*, and Judy Blundell won the children's literature award for *What I Saw and Why I Lied*. Mark Doty won the poetry award for *Fire to Fire*. Each winner will receive \$10,000....

*Los Angeles Times*, Nov. 20



### [Columbia University wins Pimp My Bookcart contest](#)

Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum of *Unshelved* have announced the winners of their 2008 Pimp My Bookcart contest. In first place was "Food for Thought" by Columbia University Library student work-study employees, who transformed a vintage wooden bookcart into Broadway's hottest book stand. "We both love this with a mad passion," they wrote. "It made Bill homesick, and Gene hungry." One fantastic runner-up was the University of California, San Diego's ["Cat in the Hat Reshelving and Cleaning Machine."](#)...

*Unshelved*, Nov. 21



### [Hennepin Friends group receives Minnesota award](#)

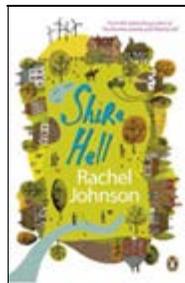
The Friends of the Rogers Library, which brainstormed an innovative program to connect seniors with technology, was awarded the Minnesota Association of Library Friends' Evy Nordley Award November 20 at the MLA annual conference. The group, advocates for the Rogers branch of the Hennepin County Library, partnered with Best Buy for "Senior Tech Day" in May to demonstrate five devices of interest to seniors: MP3 players, digital cameras, cell phones, high definition TVs, and laptop computers....

Hennepin County Library, Nov. 25

### [Rachel Johnson wins Bad Sex in Fiction Award](#)

The air turned blue November 25 as Rachel Johnson beat Alastair Campbell to take this year's Bad Sex in Fiction award. The *Literary Review's* annual award was presented to Johnson for her novel *Shire Hell* (Penguin, 2008) at a ceremony at London's In and Out club. A lifetime achievement award was also given to John Updike after the American author achieved four consecutive nominations for the award....

*The Guardian* (U.K.), Nov. 25



**Q. I recently retired, but due to the economy, I now find myself needing to go back to work. Rather than going back to working in a library, I was wondering about becoming a consultant and using my skills as an information professional. Any advice or pointers you can pass along?**

**A.** The skills you gain as a librarian are versatile, and becoming a library consultant or independent librarian is often the next step for librarians facing retirement. There are several resources available to help librarians move into this new role within the ever-changing information landscape, including Ulla de Stricker's 2007 book, [Is Consulting For You? A Primer for Information Professionals](#) and Rachel Singer Gordon's 2008 book, [What's the Alternative? Career Options for Librarians and Info Pros.](#) From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

@ The [ALA Librarian](#) welcomes your

## Seen Online

### [Hildreth to lead Seattle Public Library](#)

The Seattle Public Library board has selected Susan Hildreth, currently State Librarian of California, to serve as its new library director. Seattle's five-member board made its unanimous decision November 24 after a nationwide search. Hildreth will succeed Deborah L. Jacobs, who left SPL in July to join the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. She is expected to begin her new position in early 2009....

Seattle Public Library, Nov. 24



### [Roxbury gets a restroom](#)

For decades, when you had to go in the Roxbury (Vt.) Free Library, you really had to go—somewhere else, that is. The one-room clapboard building, originally built as a tea room in 1923 and converted to a library in 1934, had no restrooms. Back then a toilet wasn't required, and the structure was grandfathered under Vermont plumbing rules. But work is now near completion on a small addition that includes a 6-by-8-foot restroom with a sink and toilet (which was installed November 21)....

Associated Press, Nov. 21



### [Europeana goes online, gets overwhelmed](#)

A new digital library of Europe's cultural heritage [crashed](#) just hours after it went online and will be out of operation for several weeks, the European Commission said, attributing the failure to as many as 10 million hits an hour.

[Europeana](#), a website of 3.5 million documents and images, opened November 20 with international publicity. But by the next day, those trying to log on were greeted with a message telling them that the service may not be running again until mid-December, while computer capacity is upgraded. [Watch](#) the BBC report (1:55) on the Europeana launch....

New York Times, Nov. 21; European Commission, Nov. 21; BBC News, Nov. 21



### [Ex-director threatens legal action](#)

An attorney representing the former director of the Gulf Beaches Public Library in Madeira Beach, Florida, claims her recent firing by the library board "is in breach of several provisions of her contract." The threat of a lawsuit over Jan Horah's termination November 3 comes as the library board struggles to emerge from a financial crisis and possible closure from lack of operating funds....

Seminole (Fla.) Beach Beacon, Nov. 18

### [Rallies continue against Philadelphia closings](#)

Library supporters gathered outside the Fishtown, Kingsessing, and Eastwick branches of the Free Library of Philadelphia November 22 and 23 to protest Mayor Michael Nutter's proposed closing of 11

questions.



LLAMA is looking for [mentors and mentees](#) for its 10-month mentoring program that will nurture leadership and promote outstanding management practices. [Applications](#) will be accepted through December 15 (deadline extended).

## Calendar

**Jan. 30–**

**Feb. 1:** [International Conference on Technology, Knowledge and Society](#), Huntsville, Alabama.

**Feb. 1–3:** [Net@EDU](#), Annual Meeting, Tempe Mission Palms Hotel, Arizona. "Cyberinfrastructure for E-Research."

**Feb. 8–11:** [4th Annual iconference](#), School of Information and Library Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. "iSociety: Research, Education, Engagement."

**Feb. 13:** [Online Northwest](#), Oregon State University, Corvallis.

**Feb. 13–14:** [American Antiquarian Society](#), Conference, Princeton,



branches. It was Kafkaesque, said library advocate A. J. Thomson, as more than 100 bundled-up Fishtowners marched a mile and a half on a chilly Sunday afternoon to the Kensington branch, suggested as an alternate to Fishtown. Maura Kennedy, a spokeswoman for the mayor, said the city is in [discussions](#) with private organizations about their taking over management of the branches scheduled for closing....

*Philadelphia Daily News*, Nov. 24; *KWY-TV*, Nov. 22; *New York Times*, Nov. 25

### [Library supporters honk in San Diego](#)

Drivers passing the University Community branch of the San Diego (Calif.) Public Library November 22 honked their horns to show support for the protesters of all ages who stood on the sidewalk holding signs declaring their opposition to a plan to close the facility. It was the same scene at six other branch libraries from Ocean Beach to Carmel Mountain Ranch. Mayor Jerry Sanders has proposed closing seven libraries to help reduce a \$43-million deficit....

*San Diego (Calif.) Union-Tribune*, Nov. 23

### [Time online teaches kids important skills](#)

By socializing, tinkering with technology, and intensely delving into media, teens and children on the internet "are picking up basic social and technical skills they need to fully participate in contemporary society," according to a three-year national study ([PDF file](#)) released November 20. The \$3.3-million study, funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, found that youths use online networks to extend friendships, acquire technical skills, learn from each other, explore interests, and develop expertise. This all takes "ongoing maintenance and negotiation."...

*San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News*, Nov. 20

### [Would you pay \\$100,000 for a book?](#)

You'd need a pretty sturdy coffee table to house the New York Public Library's latest acquisition: a 62-pound, velvet-and-marble-bound volume on the life and work of Michelangelo. The handmade book —*Michelangelo: La Dotta Mano*, which took six months to make and is valued at more than \$100,000—was donated by Italian publisher Marilena Ferrari this week and will go on display December 2. About 20 have been sold....

*Chicago Sun-Times*, Nov. 26



### [Iranian scholar mutilated British Library manuscripts](#)

To staff at the British Library, the well-dressed Iranian gentleman was a regular and well-respected visitor to the private reading room where he studied valuable texts. Several times a month, between 1997 and 2003, Farhad Hakimzadeh would examine six books at a time, mostly dating from the 16th and 17th century and relating to European involvement in the Middle East, and quietly pore over their pages. However, he was carefully cutting out those pages with a scalpel or a razor and adding them to his personal collection. The

New Jersey. "Home, School, Play, Work: The Visual and Textual Worlds of Children."

### **Feb. 14–21:**

[Havana International Book Fair Tour](#), Cuba, sponsored by Zunzun Education Services (in Vancouver, B.C.), which says the program is legal and licensable for U.S. professionals whose work is related to this tour's theme.

### **Feb. 24–26:**

[Educause](#), Southwest Regional Conference, Marriott Plaza San Antonio, Texas.

### **Mar. 2–6:**

[Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education](#), 20th International Conference, Charleston, South Carolina.

### **Mar. 9–11:**

[North East Regional Computing Program](#), Annual Conference, Rhode Island Convention Center, Providence. "Creative Intersections, Wise Collaborations, and Sustainable Technology."

### **Mar. 10–12:**

[Consortium for School Networking](#), Annual Conference, Austin, Texas. "Leadership, Policy,

total cost of the damage that he inflicted on books from the British Library could add up to £1 million (\$1.5 million U.S.). Oxford's [Bodleian Library](#) was also a target....

*The Times* (U.K.), Nov. 21; *Chronicle of Higher Education*, Nov. 21

### [Police not sure offender was living in UIUC library](#)

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign police are unsure whether the sex offender arrested at the Undergraduate Library had been living there for a couple days prior to his arrest. Eric Kaminski was arrested early November 13 after security guards notified university police of his suspicious behavior. Undergraduate Library Head Lisa Hinchliffe said Kaminski had not been living in the library. Instead he violated library rules, which prompted the security guards to take further action....

*Daily Illini*, Nov. 18

### [Attic clean-up in Assonet library turns up treasures](#)

When cleaning out the attic of the Guilford H. Hathaway Library in Assonet, Massachusetts, Michael McCue and others found more than just cobwebs. Instead, they found historical treasures from the 19th century to the mid-20th century that they now plan to preserve at the local historical society museum. Among the artifacts were pencil sketches of two early town officials; a handwritten list of local World War II airplane spotters (above); items from the town's various temperance society groups; and an 1897 original layout of the Assonet Burying Ground....

*Fall River (Mass.) Herald News*, Nov. 24



### [D.C. Public Library to close kiosks](#)

The District of Columbia Public Library, struggling to redefine itself and deal with a collection of old, declining buildings, will close all five of its neighborhood kiosks, four of them by the end of this year. The kiosks—plexiglass and metal booths that were built in the 1970s to bring books and after-school homework help to some of the most impoverished neighborhoods—are all located in eastern D.C....

*Washington Post*, Nov. 20

### [Alberta's indigenous colleges get connected](#)

Native American colleges in Alberta have joined the digital age, thanks to an infusion of technology that provides the schools online access to their own library collections. The [First Nations Information Connection](#) is essentially a web-based portal that gives students an easier way to find what they need and links them to a host of research materials around the province, said University of Alberta Chief Librarian Ernie Ingles, who led the project....

*Edmonton (Alberta) Journal*, Nov. 17



## Tech Talk

### [15 tech secrets for the road warrior](#)

Adam Pash writes: "Your work increasingly demands that you be able to get things done

and Innovation in a Collaborative World."

### Mar. 12–14:

[Louisiana Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Baton Rouge. "Together We Make a Difference."

### Mar. 12–15:

[Association of College and Research Libraries](#), 14th National Conference, Seattle. "Pushing the Edge: Explore, Engage, Extend."

### Mar. 13–16:

[Alaska Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Kodiak. "Libraries: Going the Distance."

### Mar. 20:

[North American Serials Interest Group](#), Regional Unconference, Hale Library, Kansas State University, Manhattan. "An Overview of Serials and Electronic Resources in Libraries."

### Mar. 23–25:

[Educause](#), Midwest Regional Conference, InterContinental Chicago Hotel. "Intersections: Emerging, Commonly Accepted, and Best Practices in Higher Education IT."

@ [More...](#)

## Contact Us

American Libraries Direct



no matter where you are, so the bigger your mobile tech toolbox, the better. This time we'll take a closer look at 15 mobile tech tricks and tools that will have you working better, smarter, and faster on the go—including how to use your laptop as a Wi-Fi hotspot."...

PC World, Nov. 21



## [Alternate Reality Games](#)

Jason Griffey writes: "I want to introduce you to a type of game you might not be aware of: the Alternate Reality Game. ARGs are becoming more and more popular, and libraries need to be aware of them and ready to embrace them. An ARG is a game that utilizes the real world as a gameboard and everyday communications mechanisms (cellphone, email, snail mail) as the controls.

Think of an ARG as a form of live-action role-playing game that doesn't necessarily involve a role; it is you, and not a character you are portraying, trying to unravel the mystery or solve the puzzle."...

TechSource Blog, Nov. 21



## [How to buy a laptop](#)

The most highly evolved species of computer, the laptop (aka notebook) computer allows you to work without being tethered to an office. Portability and good performance make laptop PCs an essential part of the daily lives of millions of people, from college students to conference-goers. Even the least expensive of today's laptops are well-equipped for everyday work. This overview covers the available options, specification details, and shopping tips...

PC World, Nov. 24

## [40 resources for making lists](#)

Doriano "Paisano" Carta writes: "We like to keep all kinds of lists; wish lists, checklists, lists of lists. In this roundup we will focus on services specializing in wish lists (things we want) and checklists (things we want to get done). Using these 40 mobile and web-based tools, you can keep track of daily tasks, build your reading list, and organize your holiday gift giving."...

Mashable, Nov. 20



## [A more useful 404](#)

Dean Frickey writes: "Encountering 404 errors is not new. Often, developers provide custom 404 pages to make the experience a little less frustrating. However, for a custom 404 page to be truly useful, it should not only provide relevant information to the user, but should also provide immediate feedback to the developer so that, when possible, the problem can be fixed."...

A List Apart, Nov. 18



## [Why I switched from Firefox to Chrome](#)

Stephen Shankland writes: "Sorry if it sounds like I'm drinking the Google Kool-Aid here, but I switched from Mozilla Firefox to Google Chrome as my default browser for the very



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George M. Eberhart,  
Editor:  
[geberhart@ala.org](mailto:geberhart@ala.org)

Greg Landgraf,  
Associate Editor:  
[glandgraf@ala.org](mailto:glandgraf@ala.org)

Leonard Kniffel,  
Editor-in-Chief,  
American Libraries:  
[kniffel@ala.org](mailto:kniffel@ala.org)

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reason Google's executives said we should: speed. Using Chrome removed a bit of friction from the Web I hadn't realized was there. It felt like discovering I'd been driving with the parking brake on just a bit."...

Webware, Nov. 25

### [RSS and scholarly journal tables of contents](#)

Lisa Rogers writes: "A growing number of scholarly journal publishers provide RSS feeds for their tables of contents. Subscribing to a feed enables someone to not only read the latest TOC, but also to share and reuse the information by publishing it to their blog or adding it as a widget to their website. In theory, anyone can keep fully up to date with all the scholarly journals they want. However, as I have found from my work on the [ticTOCs](#) project, it isn't always that easy."...

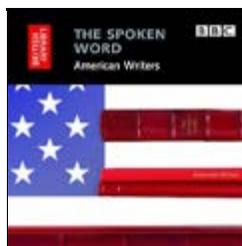
FUMSI, Oct.

## Publishing

### [The Spoken Word: American and British writers](#)

The British Library released two new additions to its popular series of literary spoken-word CDs, featuring many previously unpublished recordings of great British and American writers. Stand-out tracks include the sole surviving recording of Virginia Woolf published in its entirety for the first time, Raymond Chandler interviewed by Ian Fleming, the only audio recording of Arthur Conan Doyle, and John Steinbeck discussing his reasons for writing *The Grapes of Wrath*...

British Library, Oct. 23

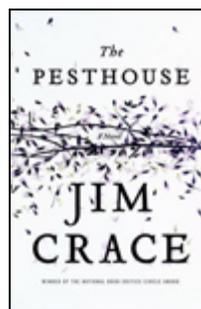


### [The end of the world as we know it](#)

Neil Hollands writes: "One of the reasons why apocalyptic fiction is so compelling is that it pokes a stick into the most basic of questions: What is human nature like at its core? If we strip away the complicated trappings of civilization, how will people behave? Cormac McCarthy's version in *The Road* is about as bleak as it gets—a few lovely moments between a father and son as the candle gutters out—but his approach is just one among dozens.

Comparing and contrasting these versions of the end would make a fascinating study for brave book groups, either in one themed meeting or in a series of shared readings."...

Book Group Buzz, Nov. 21



### [10 movies that are better than the books](#)

Jamie Frater writes: "I am a firm believer in the idea that reading a book is better than watching a film, because it allows your own imagination to make marvelous worlds and characters. Nevertheless, I concede that on a number of occasions, a film director has managed to take a great book and make it an even greater movie. Sometimes it is better for us to watch the creations of someone else's imagination. Here is a list of 10 such movies."...





## Actions & Answers

### [Top 20 things librarians wish patrons knew or did](#)

Danielle Dreger-Babbitt writes: "Librarians work harder than most patrons and nonpatrons realize. I took an informal poll of librarians I know in Boston, Dallas, Detroit, Indianapolis, New York City, and Portland about what they wish library patrons knew or did. The following list is what they came up with. (Note: They're not disgruntled; they just want to be able to provide the best customer service to patrons possible.)" Read parts [2](#), [3](#), and [4](#)....

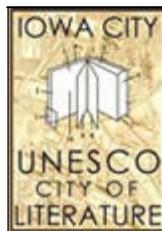
*Seattle Books Examiner*, Nov. 19–21



### [Iowa City named world City of Literature](#)

The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization has designated Iowa City, Iowa, the world's third City of Literature, making it part of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network, along with Edinburgh and Melbourne. The network was designed to promote the social, economic, and cultural development of cities in both the developed and the developing world....

University of Iowa, Nov. 20



### [Design by the Book: Episode](#)

#### 1

For this online-only miniseries, *Design by the Book*, the New York Public Library partnered with the leading design blog Design\*Sponge and invited five New York City–based artists to sift through its collections in search of inspiration. This episode (9:45) introduces the artists, ranging from a glassblower to a letterpress printer, who in future episodes will be creating unique works inspired by items in the NYPL collections. Produced by Amy Azzarito and James Murdock of the New York Public Library Digital Experience Group, in partnership with Grace Bonney of Design\*Sponge....

New York Public Library, Nov. 17



### [Fun—not like those \*other\* librarians](#)

Mary K. Eagle writes: "On the second day I started work at this school, I told one of the first students I met that I was in school to become a school librarian. 'You'd make a fun librarian,' she told me. 'Not like those *boring* ones.' I was pleased, but also a little puzzled—we'd only just met. Earlier today, a teacher at the same school told me in a stage whisper that the way I was sitting at the circulation desk was 'not so professional-looking.' So how do I balance being the Fun Librarian with being a Professional Librarian?"...

YALSA Blog, Nov. 20

## [Set up a Curiosity Center](#)

PBS has created some easy-to-use activities based on the *Curious George* character designed for children's programming. The activities, recently mailed to public libraries on the back of a colorful *Curious George* banner (above), detail how to set up and run hands-on Curiosity Centers where children can explore earth science topics, making their own discoveries about recycling, wind, soil, and sand. Book recommendations are included, as well as simple materials lists, learning goals, and leader notes....

PBS Kids



## [21st Century Skills and English Map](#)

The Partnership for 21st Century Skills has joined up with the National Council of Teachers of English to produce a 21st Century Skills and English Map ([PDF file](#)). The map—which demonstrates how the integration of 21st-century skills into the English curriculum supports teaching and learning and prepares students to become effective and productive citizens in the 21st century—highlights the critical connections between English and 21st-century skills....

Partnership for 21st Century Skills, Nov. 24



## [2007 state library agency report](#)

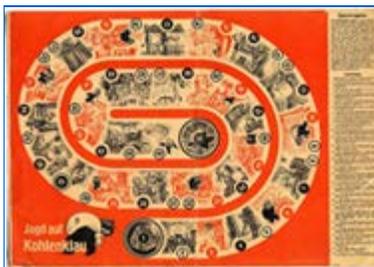
The Institute of Museum and Library Services issued its second library statistics report on state library agencies in the 50 states and the District of Columbia for FY 2007. The report includes a wide array of information on internet access and electronic services, collections, staff, and revenue, such as the number of book and serial volumes held by state library agencies (24.1 million)....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Nov. 26

## [Five centuries of board games](#)

Paul K presents some fascinating illustrations of board games in books and prints published between 1588 and 1940. Included are an etching showing the "new and pleasant game of biribisse" by Giovanni Giacomo de' Rossi (17th century), a dice game called "pluck the owl" possibly published in Parma by Giovanni Battista Panzera in the 18th century, a steamboat game published in Paris by A. Daane between 1810 and 1825, and a very rare propaganda board game called "Hunt the Coal Thief" (above) published by Lepthian-Schiffers in the 1930s that sought to promote economy in the use of raw materials in Germany....

BiblioOdyssey, Nov. 19



## [Geocaching for educators](#)

Kelly Czarnecki writes: "The Geospatial Information and Technology Association has a program called [Location in Education](#) where educators can borrow 10–15 GPS units (like the one pictured here), free of charge except for shipping and handling. People then can use these units to locate treasures that have been hidden around town. Many libraries already have



scavenger hunts, and chances are that teens will pick up pretty easily on using these devices. It's possible to create endless tie-ins with literature and get readers involved in books in a different way."...

YALSA Blog, Nov. 23

### [How librarians are overcoming the language divide](#)

Judith Rosen writes: "As the Hispanic population continues to grow, more and more libraries across the country have begun reaching out to the Spanish speakers in their community. It's not always easy, as those who started earlier have learned. In upstate New York, says Kimberly Iraci, many Hispanic migrant farm workers—some undocumented, others anxious about coming under scrutiny—are wary about being visible in public places. Others lack transportation to get to the closest library, which may be 8–10 miles away."...

*Criticas*, Nov. 1

### [Multilingual library jargon](#)

Understanding library jargon—OPAC, CD-ROM, microfiche, holdings, stacks—can be difficult for anyone who is not a regular user of the library. The difficulty is compounded for English as a Second Language speakers who must process these specialized terms in a language that is not their native one. ACRL's Instruction Section has put together a Multilingual Glossary in two parts: a Language Table ([PDF file](#)), which presents a list of these terms in six languages, and Definitions ([PDF file](#)), which gives explanations in English for each of the terms....

ACRL Instruction Section

English	Chinese	Korean
Circulation	流通服务	대출대
Citation	引用	인용문헌/ 참고문헌

### [Swedish library pictograms](#)

Nate Hill writes: "*New Graphical Symbols for Many More* (RAM Publications, Sept. 2008) is 'a [Swedish] national development and standardization project aimed at making public symbols more uniform and more serviceable in keeping with the concept of Design for All.' What really got me excited was this: One of the symbols that all 124 competitors had to create for the contest was a symbol for a public library. I've posted scans of all of them below for preview and for educational purposes."....

PLA Blog, Nov. 22



### [Giving thanks by listening](#)

Leonard Kniffel writes: "StoryCorps has declared November 28, the day after Thanksgiving, the first annual [National Day of Listening](#). 'This holiday season, ask the people around you about their lives,' StoryCorps is urging. The day after Thanksgiving is the perfect day for us all to grab a few of those technological marvels we have all over the house and sit down with someone we love and ask those questions the answers to which may live in our hearts for as long as we are alive."...

AL Inside Scoop, Nov. 25

### [Turkey history and trivia](#)

The National Turkey Federation operates a website that might help you answer a few last-minute Thanksgiving (or other holiday) reference questions. Some factoids: White meat is generally

preferred in the United States, while other countries choose the dark meat. It's estimated that turkeys have 3,500 feathers at maturity. President Andrew Jackson ranked turkey hash first among his favorite foods. Nearly 88% of Americans surveyed by the National Turkey Federation eat turkey at Thanksgiving. And here are some [cooking tips](#)....

National Turkey Federation



### [Iowa's Carnegie Libraries](#)

The Carnegie Libraries in Iowa Project is preserving the history of Iowa's Carnegie libraries by creating a digital library of images and other documentary and statistical information about them. A partnership among students, staff, and faculty at the University of Iowa SLIS, the University of Iowa Libraries, Iowa librarians, and library supporters, the project recently was expanded with the help of some students in UI's Digital Librarianship Program. They are offering a [2009 calendar](#) that shows all 101 of the Iowa Carnegie public libraries....

Carnegie Libraries in Iowa Project



### [Return of The Librarian: Curse of the Judas Chalice](#)

The world is in danger of being overrun by vampires, and the only person who can prevent it from happening is Flynn Carsen in the third installment of TNT's Librarian series, starring Noah Wyle. *The Librarian: Curse of the Judas Chalice*, costarring Bob Newhart and Jane Curtin, sends the bookish hero to New Orleans. The new feature premieres Sunday, December 7, at 8 p.m. Eastern time....

Turner Network Television



### [Got any World War I books?](#)

The Orange County (Calif.) Public Library released this video PSA for its services in 2007, with the theme "Reading increases the imagination," showing how one reader found some history books more vivid than he could handle....

YouTube



### [No cookies in the library](#)

Much to the chagrin of a temperamental librarian, *Sesame Street's* Cookie Monster can't seem to comprehend that libraries don't have cookies or other edibles: "You got some carrots? How about rutabagas? You got any cantaloupe?" This is a classic late-1970s parody (2:53) of a Monty Python skit. *Sesame Street's* website has an enormous searchable [video archive](#) of segments, skits, and songs that span nearly four decades, and more than 3,000 videos....



Sesame Street

AL Direct, November 26, 2008

Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail (or seeing it in full)? Click here [[%= util.viewHtmlLink %>](#)].

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | November 26, 2008

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## U.S. & World News

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Nashville mayor wants city library to enfold media centers

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/November2008/nashvillelibrarymerger.cfm>]

Officials of the Metro Nashville Public Schools seemed taken aback by a November 20 press conference Mayor Karl Dean (on left) held at Nashville Public Library's East branch where he announced that the city library would begin taking over the operation of school libraries systemwide in January 2009. Nashville Public Library Director Donna Nicely (on right) confirmed to American Libraries that she and Mayor Dean had been conferring with each other for several months about the prospect of combining public and school library operations. But school officials seem to have been left out of the loop....

American Libraries Online, Nov. 23

FBI compiles list of most-coveted library books

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/November2008/covetedbooks.cfm>]

Some seven months after charging James Brubaker in the theft of hundreds of books from at least 100 academic and public libraries in the United States and Canada, the FBI has entrusted the Western Washington University librarian who helped crack the case with a list of some 800 titles recovered in the case—600 of which were identifiable as having been taken from specific libraries. Librarian Rob Lopresti said WWU would send a paper copy of the list by U.S. mail to any library that requests it on library stationary....  
American Libraries Online, Nov. 21

Las Vegas-area school librarians likely safe for now  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2008/November2008/lasvegaslibrarianssafe.cfm>]  
The elimination of 105 middle and high school librarian positions has been proposed as part of the solution to a \$120-million shortfall at Clark County (Nev.) School District, but following two heated public meetings, it appears likely that other areas of school funding will be cut to balance the budget. The district has circulated a list (PDF file [<http://www.ccsd.net/directory/news/attachments/20081120-581786587.pdf>]) proposing 23 programs that could get the axe, with the elimination of librarian positions as one of the possibilities....  
American Libraries Online, Nov. 21

=====  
[<http://www.nationscourts.com/#Harry%20Potter%20&%20the%20Order%20of%20the%20Court>]

=====  
ALA News  
=====

[[http://www.flickr.com/photos/gamer\\_librarian/3038625668/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/gamer_librarian/3038625668/)]Libraries celebrate National Gaming Day  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/ngdcelebrate.cfm>]  
The growing interest in gaming has generated impressive activity at the nation's libraries. Recently, more than 14,000 people of all ages came together to participate in gaming events at more than 600 libraries around the country on ALA's National Gaming Day @ your library, November 15. ALA President Jim Rettig (right) celebrated National Gaming Day at Cuffee Public Library, Chesapeake, Virginia, where he was found playing Rock Band with a variety of young gamers....

Illinois librarian helps reach out to Latinos  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/campaigngrady.cfm>]  
&ldquo;I can help you&rdquo; are words that resonate with librarians and library users alike. Semiramis Morales Grady, interlibrary loan bibliographic assistant at the Metropolitan Library System in Burr Ridge, Illinois, is one of the voices in a radio PSA effort that reaches out to the nation's Latinos. She is part of the team that helped create

“en tu biblioteca,” ALA’s outreach campaign in partnership with Univision Radio. Two PSAs featuring Grady and Univision Radio personality Javier Romero are airing in nine of the country’s top Latino markets....

40 libraries to host “Visions of the Universe”; exhibit  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/ppovisions.cfm>]

The ALA Public Programs Office has announced that 40 public libraries will host “Visions of the Universe: Four Centuries of Discovery,” a traveling exhibition developed in cooperation with the Space Telescope Science Institute Office of Public Outreach and the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory to mark the International Year of Astronomy in 2009. All libraries on the tour will receive \$500 programming support stipends, \$250 collection development stipends, and additional materials to support library programming....

ALA joins National Women’s History Museum project  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/alanwhm.cfm>]

ALA has added its name to the list of national organizations supporting the National Women’s History Museum  
[<http://www.nwhm.org/about/about.htm>] project. The NWHM raises public awareness and access to the historical contributions women have made in the United States and is advocating for the creation of a permanent national museum in Washington D.C....

Featured review: Books for youth  
[[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=2803874](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2803874)]

Herlong, M. H. *The Great Wide Sea*. Oct. 2008. 240p. Grades 6–10. Viking, hardcover (978-0-670-06330-7).

Soon after their mother’s death, 15-year-old Ben and his two younger brothers are stunned when their father sells their home, buys a sailboat, and announces that they will live on board and cruise the Bahamas for the next year. Wrenched from everything he knows and forced to obey his father-captain’s orders, Ben starts out angry and finds no escape. As he says, “We were always together.” When their father sets a course for Bermuda and disappears overboard one night, the boys have little time to wonder if he jumped or fell before they’re struggling to stay afloat in a fierce Atlantic storm. Lost at sea in a damaged boat, they find their way to an island where they are stranded with little food, little water, and little hope of rescue.

Herlong’s first book is a great survival story and a fine portrayal of family relationships in a time of crisis....

Diagramming sentences  
[[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=3171433](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3171433)]

Bill Ott writes: “We were talking the other day at our Booklist coffee break about Sarah Palin’s sentences. Well, maybe sentences isn’t the right word, though her speech patterns do have beginnings and endings, places you might think to put a period, or so one might

conclude from her occasional need to take a breath. But are those wandering convolutions really sentences? As we pondered this conundrum, someone asked, 'Do you think you could diagram a Palin sentence?' We all agreed that this would be a good test, but none of us volunteered to give it a try. Then, shortly after I&rsquo;d returned to my desk, intrepid Googler Ben Segedin emailed me an article [<http://www.slate.com/id/2201158/>] from Slate in which Kitty Burns Florey demonstrated exactly how to diagram a Palin utterance. Somehow, I found this instant access to the information I needed a bit depressing.”...

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

## Denver Update

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[<http://www.breckbrew.com/beer/ourbeers.html>] 10 Denver microbreweries [<http://www.denver.org/what-to-do/tenver/detail?CID=16>]  
The city claims that more beer is brewed in Denver than in any other city in the United States. Accordingly, there are many microbreweries and brewpubs in the area that any self-respecting beer connoisseur simply must visit. Writer Irene Middleman Thomas has bellied up to the bar at all of them, and she shares her favorites in this wrapup....  
Denver Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau

Student book art [<http://www.abecedariangallery.com/>]  
The Abecedarian Gallery will be presenting an exhibition of U.S. student bookworks from January 8 through February 7. The gallery, in Denver's Santa Fe Arts District, presents local and national artists working in contemporary book arts and printmaking and is the only gallery specializing in artists&rsquo; books in the area....  
Abecedarian Gallery

The Molly Brown House Museum [<http://mollybrown.org/>]  
In 1970, local citizens joined forces to preserve the long-time home of Molly Brown, the Titanic&rsquo;s most famous survivor. They organized as Historic Denver and began a long-term project to preserve Denver&rsquo;s historic places. Today, you can visit the Browns&rsquo; opulent 1889 home, designed by architect William Lang with electricity, central heat, and indoor plumbing. You&rsquo;ll also find out about Molly Brown&rsquo;s incredible life, from instant mining-town wealth, to labor reform and the stages of New York....  
Molly Brown House Museum

## Division News

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movie  
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/presreleases2008/november2008/yalsatwilightmovie.cfm>]

Last weekend, Americans flocked to see *Twilight*, the film adaptation of Stephenie Meyer's young adult novel that raked in \$70 million in box office receipts. For those who can't get enough of Meyer's series, in film or book format, YALSA suggests similar books [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/popularpaperback/nominations.cfm#dead>] and offers resources for planning [[http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/Calendar\\_of\\_Teen\\_Programming\\_Ideas#Breaking\\_Dawn\\_Celebrations\\_26\\_Events](http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/Calendar_of_Teen_Programming_Ideas#Breaking_Dawn_Celebrations_26_Events)] teen-focused programs that feature *Twilight* and its sequels....

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/x180/49880384/in/set-1076331/>] danah boyd, Marco Torres to speak at AASL National Conference [<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/aaslboyd.cfm>]  
danah boyd, the "high priestess" of networked social media, will keynote the AASL 14th National Conference and Exhibition, "Rev up learning @ your library," November 5–8, 2009, in Charlotte, North Carolina. Her unique and controversial perspectives on how America's youth are engaging in social networking will help school library media specialists understand how students are changing the way they communicate. Renowned speaker, filmmaker, high school teacher, and author Marco Torres [<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/aasltorres.cfm>] will be the closing speaker....

## Awards

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Radice, Martin receive Presidential Citizens Medal [<http://www.ims.gov/news/2008/111808c.shtm>]  
President George W. Bush conferred [<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2008/11/20081117-2.html>] the Presidential Citizens Medal on Anne-Imelda Radice, director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and Robert Martin, the former IMLS director who recently retired as LIS professor at Texas Woman's University. Bush made the surprise announcement [[http://www.dentonrc.com/sharedcontent/dws/drc/localnews/stories/DRC\\_Robert\\_Martin-Medal\\_1121.1d1df3f8d.html](http://www.dentonrc.com/sharedcontent/dws/drc/localnews/stories/DRC_Robert_Martin-Medal_1121.1d1df3f8d.html)] at an East Room ceremony November 17 honoring this year's recipients of the National Medals of Arts and the National Humanities Medals. The Presidential Citizens Medal is the second-highest civilian award that the United States can bestow....  
Institute of Museum and Library Services, Nov. 18; White House, Nov. 17; Denton (Tex.) Record-Chronicle, Nov. 21

ASCLA award nominations due December 15 [<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/asclaawardsremind.cfm>]  
Don't miss out on an opportunity to recognize a colleague for contributions to the library professions represented by ASCLA. The division's five awards encompass three key areas: service to special populations, contribution to state library and multitype library systems, and service to the division. The nomination deadline for all awards is December 15....

Nominate someone for a RUSA award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/rusaawardsremind.cfm>]

You can thank your colleagues for their outstanding contributions to the library profession this year by nominating them for an award offered by RUSA. The division—representing professionals in reference, collection development, readers advisory, genealogy, resource sharing and many other related fields—is accepting nominations for its 15 awards and two grants until December 15....

FSU supports two Spectrum Scholars

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/ofdfs.cfm>]

The Florida State University College of Information will provide matching funds for tuition to Letitia Bulic and Deidra Garcia, 2008 ALA Spectrum Scholarship winners. Bulic and Garcia are each pursuing a master's degree in library and information studies at Florida State, which has offered tuition remission to Spectrum recipients since 1999....

Intellectual freedom awards deadline extended

[[http://blogs.ala.org/oif.php?title=award\\_deadlines\\_extended&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1](http://blogs.ala.org/oif.php?title=award_deadlines_extended&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1)]

The deadline for nominees for the 2009 Intellectual Freedom Round Table Awards has been extended until January 9. The John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award honors intellectual freedom fighters in and outside the library profession who have demonstrated remarkable personal courage in resisting censorship. The ProQuest/SIRS State and Regional Intellectual Freedom Achievement Award is given to the most innovative and effective intellectual freedom project covering a state or region....

OIF Blog, Nov. 25

National Book Awards 2008

[<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/jacketcopy/2008/11/book-news-2.html>]

The National Book Awards [<http://www.nationalbook.org/nba2008.html>] were announced November 19 in New York City. Peter Matthiessen took the award for fiction for *Shadow Country*, nonfiction went to surprise winner Annette Gordon-Reed for *The Hemingses of Monticello*, and Judy Blundell won the children's literature award for *What I Saw and Why I Lied*. Mark Doty won the poetry award for *Fire to Fire*. Each winner will receive \$10,000....

Los Angeles Times, Nov. 20

[<http://www.unshelved.com/PimpMyBookcart/cart.aspx?cart=372>] Columbia University wins Pimp My Bookcart contest

[<http://www.unshelved.com/PimpMyBookcart/2008/>]

Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum of Unshelved have announced the winners of their 2008 Pimp My Bookcart contest. In first place was "Food for Thought" by Columbia University Library student work-study employees, who transformed a vintage wooden bookcart into Broadway's hottest book stand. "We both love this with a mad passion," they wrote. "It made Bill homesick, and Gene hungry." One fantastic runner-up was the University of California, San Diego's "Cat in the Hat Reshelving and Cleaning Machine."

[<http://www.unshelved.com/PimpMyBookcart/cart.aspx?cart=384>]...  
Unshelved, Nov. 21

Hennepin Friends group receives Minnesota award

[<http://www.hclib.org/pub/info/newsroom/?ID=145&Type=News>]

The Friends of the Rogers Library, which brainstormed an innovative program to connect seniors with technology, was awarded the Minnesota Association of Library Friends' Evy Nordley Award November 20 at the MLA annual conference. The group, advocates for the Rogers branch of the Hennepin County Library, partnered with Best Buy for "Senior Tech Day" in May to demonstrate five devices of interest to seniors: MP3 players, digital cameras, cell phones, high definition TVs, and laptop computers....

Hennepin County Library, Nov. 25

Rachel Johnson wins Bad Sex in Fiction Award

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2008/nov/25/bad-sex-johnson-updike-fiction>]

The air turned blue November 25 as Rachel Johnson beat Alastair Campbell to take this year's Bad Sex in Fiction award. The Literary Review's annual award was presented to Johnson for her novel *Shire Hell* (Penguin, 2008) at a ceremony at London's In and Out club. A lifetime achievement award was also given to John Updike after the American author achieved four consecutive nominations for the award....

The Guardian (U.K.), Nov. 25

Seen Online

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Hildreth to lead Seattle Public Library

[[http://www.spl.org/default.asp?pageID=about\\_leaders\\_citylibrarian\\_selected](http://www.spl.org/default.asp?pageID=about_leaders_citylibrarian_selected)]

The Seattle Public Library board has selected Susan Hildreth, currently State Librarian of California, to serve as its new library director. Seattle's five-member board made its unanimous decision November 24 after a nationwide search. Hildreth will succeed Deborah L. Jacobs, who left SPL in July to join the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. She is expected to begin her new position in early 2009....

Seattle Public Library, Nov. 24

Roxbury gets a restroom

[<http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=200881121015>]

For decades, when you had to go in the Roxbury (Vt.) Free Library, you really had to go&mdash;somewhere else, that is. The one-room clapboard building, originally built as a tea room in 1923 and converted to a library in 1934, had no restrooms. Back then a toilet wasn't required, and the structure was grandfathered under Vermont plumbing rules. But work is now near completion on a small addition that includes a 6-by-8-foot restroom with a sink and toilet (which was installed November 21)....

Associated Press, Nov. 21

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=STpZ6Vyiapc>]Europeana goes online, gets

overwhelmed

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/22/technology/internet/22digital.html>]

A new digital library of Europe's cultural heritage crashed

[[http://7thspace.com/headlines/298283/europeana\\_website\\_overwhelmed\\_on\\_its\\_](http://7thspace.com/headlines/298283/europeana_website_overwhelmed_on_its_first_day_by_interest_of_millions_of_users.html)

[first\\_day\\_by\\_interest\\_of\\_millions\\_of\\_users.html](http://7thspace.com/headlines/298283/europeana_website_overwhelmed_on_its_first_day_by_interest_of_millions_of_users.html)] just hours after it went online and will be out of operation for several weeks, the European

Commission said, attributing the failure to as many as 10 million hits an

hour. Europeana, [<http://www.europeana.eu/portal/>] a website of 3.5

million documents and images, opened November 20 with international

publicity. But by the next day, those trying to log on were greeted with

a message telling them that the service may not be running again until

mid-December, while computer capacity is upgraded. Watch

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=STpZ6Vyiapc>] the BBC report (1:55) on the

Europeana launch....

New York Times, Nov. 21; European Commission, Nov. 21; BBC News, Nov. 21

Ex-director threatens legal action

[[http://www.tbnweekly.com/pubs/beach\\_beacon/content\\_articles/111808\\_bhb-01.txt](http://www.tbnweekly.com/pubs/beach_beacon/content_articles/111808_bhb-01.txt)]

An attorney representing the former director of the Gulf Beaches Public Library in Madeira Beach, Florida, claims her recent firing by the

library board "is in breach of several provisions of her

contract." The threat of a lawsuit over Jan Horah's

termination November 3 comes as the library board struggles to emerge

from a financial crisis and possible closure from lack of operating

funds....

Seminole (Fla.) Beach Beacon, Nov. 18

[[http://www.blinkx.com/video/neighbors-protest-over-doomed-philly-libraries](http://www.blinkx.com/video/neighbors-protest-over-doomed-philly-libraries/snb_t6dumrWNni-SmVoULA)

[/snb\\_t6dumrWNni-SmVoULA](http://www.blinkx.com/video/neighbors-protest-over-doomed-philly-libraries/snb_t6dumrWNni-SmVoULA)] Rallies continue against Philadelphia closings

[[http://www.philly.com/philly/hp/news\\_update/34976269.html](http://www.philly.com/philly/hp/news_update/34976269.html)]

Library supporters gathered outside the Fishtown, Kingsessing, and

Eastwick branches of the Free Library of Philadelphia November 22 and 23

to protest Mayor Michael Nutter's proposed closing of 11 branches. It was

Kafkaesque, said library advocate A. J. Thomson, as more than 100

bundled-up Fishtowners marched a mile and a half on a chilly Sunday

afternoon to the Kensington branch, suggested as an alternate to

Fishtown. Maura Kennedy, a spokeswoman for the mayor, said the city is in

discussions [<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/26/us/26rinks.html>] with

private organizations about their taking over management of the branches

scheduled for closing....

Philadelphia Daily News, Nov. 24; KQWY-TV, Nov. 22; New York Times, Nov. 25

Library supporters honk in San Diego

[<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20081123-9999-1m23cuts.html>]

Drivers passing the University Community branch of the San Diego (Calif.)

Public Library November 22 honked their horns to show support for the

protesters of all ages who stood on the sidewalk holding signs declaring

their opposition to a plan to close the facility. It was the same scene

at six other branch libraries from Ocean Beach to Carmel Mountain Ranch.

Mayor Jerry Sanders has proposed closing seven libraries to help reduce a

\$43-million deficit....

San Diego (Calif.) Union-Tribune, Nov. 23

Time online teaches kids important skills

[[http://www.mercurynews.com/ci\\_11025649](http://www.mercurynews.com/ci_11025649)]

By socializing, tinkering with technology, and intensely delving into media, teens and children on the internet “are picking up basic social and technical skills they need to fully participate in contemporary society,” according to a three-year national study (PDF file [<http://digitalyouth.ischool.berkeley.edu/files/report/digitalyouth-TwoPageSummary.pdf>]) released November 20. The \$3.3-million study, funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, found that youths use online networks to extend friendships, acquire technical skills, learn from each other, explore interests, and develop expertise. This all takes “ongoing maintenance and negotiation.”...  
San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News, Nov. 20

Would you pay \$100,000 for a book?

[[http://blogs.suntimes.com/bookroom/2008/11/would\\_you\\_pay\\_100000\\_for\\_a\\_book.html](http://blogs.suntimes.com/bookroom/2008/11/would_you_pay_100000_for_a_book.html)]

You’d need a pretty sturdy coffee table to house the New York Public Library’s latest acquisition: a 62-pound, velvet-and-marble-bound volume on the life and work of Michelangelo. The handmade book—Michelangelo: La Dotta Mano, which took six months to make and is valued at more than \$100,000—was donated by Italian publisher Marilena Ferrari this week and will go on display December 2. About 20 have been sold....  
Chicago Sun-Times, Nov. 26

Iranian scholar mutilated British Library manuscripts

[[http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts\\_and\\_entertainment/books/article5201784.ece](http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts_and_entertainment/books/article5201784.ece)]

To staff at the British Library, the well-dressed Iranian gentleman was a regular and well-respected visitor to the private reading room where he studied valuable texts. Several times a month, between 1997 and 2003, Farhad Hakimzadeh would examine six books at a time, mostly dating from the 16th and 17th century and relating to European involvement in the Middle East, and quietly pore over their pages. However, he was carefully cutting out those pages with a scalpel or a razor and adding them to his personal collection. The total cost of the damage that he inflicted on books from the British Library could add up to £1 million (\$1.5 million U.S.). Oxford’s Bodleian Library [<http://chronicle.com/news/article/5541/iranian-born-scholar-mutilated-rare-manuscripts-at-british-library-and-u-of-oxford>] was also a target....  
The Times (U.K.), Nov. 21; Chronicle of Higher Education, Nov. 21

Police not sure offender was living in UIUC library

[<http://media.www.dailyillini.com/media/storage/paper736/news/2008/11/18/News/Police.Unsure.If.Sex.Offender.Was.Living.In.Library-3549139.shtml>]

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign police are unsure whether the sex offender arrested at the Undergraduate Library had been living there for a couple days prior to his arrest. Eric Kaminski was arrested early November 13 after security guards notified university police of his suspicious behavior. Undergraduate Library Head Lisa Hinchliffe said Kaminski had not been living in the library. Instead he violated library rules, which prompted the security guards to take further action....  
Daily Illini, Nov. 18

Attic clean-up in Assonet library turns up treasures

[<http://www.heraldnews.com/news/x596316156/Artifacts-discovered-at-library>]

When cleaning out the attic of the Guilford H. Hathaway Library in Assonet, Massachusetts, Michael McCue and others found more than just cobwebs. Instead, they found historical treasures from the 19th century to the mid-20th century that they now plan to preserve at the local historical society museum. Among the artifacts were pencil sketches of two early town officials; a handwritten list of local World War II airplane spotters (above); items from the town's various temperance society groups; and an 1897 original layout of the Assonet Burying Ground....

Fall River (Mass.) Herald News, Nov. 24

D.C. Public Library to close kiosks

[[http://voices.washingtonpost.com/rawfisher/2008/11/dc\\_to\\_close\\_five\\_mini\\_libraries.html](http://voices.washingtonpost.com/rawfisher/2008/11/dc_to_close_five_mini_libraries.html)]

The District of Columbia Public Library, struggling to redefine itself and deal with a collection of old, declining buildings, will close all five of its neighborhood kiosks, four of them by the end of this year. The kiosks—plexiglass and metal booths that were built in the 1970s to bring books and after-school homework help to some of the most impoverished neighborhoods—are all located in eastern D.C....

Washington Post, Nov. 20

Alberta's indigenous colleges get connected

[<http://www.canada.com/edmontonjournal/news/local/story.html?id=7dd84b45-f971-40e0-b4f6-2a45ca1423ab>]

Native American colleges in Alberta have joined the digital age, thanks to an infusion of technology that provides the schools online access to their own library collections. The First Nations Information Connection [<http://www.library.ualberta.ca/fnic/>] is essentially a web-based portal that gives students an easier way to find what they need and links them to a host of research materials around the province, said University of Alberta Chief Librarian Ernie Ingles, who led the project....

Edmonton (Alberta) Journal, Nov. 17

Tech Talk

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15 tech secrets for the road warrior

[[http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/154343/15\\_tech\\_secrets\\_for\\_the\\_serious\\_road\\_warrior.html](http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/154343/15_tech_secrets_for_the_serious_road_warrior.html)]

Adam Pash writes: "Your work increasingly demands that you be able to get things done no matter where you are, so the bigger your mobile tech toolbox, the better. This time we'll take a closer look at 15 mobile tech tricks and tools that will have you working better, smarter, and faster on the go—including how to use your laptop as a Wi-Fi hotspot."...

PC World, Nov. 21

Alternate Reality Games

[<http://www.alatechsource.org/blog/2008/11/alternate-reality-games.html>]

Jason Griffey writes: "I want to introduce you to a type of game you might not be aware of: the Alternate Reality Game. ARGs are becoming more

and more popular, and libraries need to be aware of them and ready to embrace them. An ARG is a game that utilizes the real world as a gameboard and everyday communications mechanisms (cellphone, email, snail mail) as the controls. Think of an ARG as a form of live-action role-playing game that doesn't necessarily involve a role; it is you, and not a character you are portraying, trying to unravel the mystery or solve the puzzle.”...

TechSource Blog, Nov. 21

How to buy a laptop

[[http://www.pcworld.com/article/125647/how\\_to\\_buy\\_a\\_laptop.html](http://www.pcworld.com/article/125647/how_to_buy_a_laptop.html)]

The most highly evolved species of computer, the laptop (aka notebook) computer allows you to work without being tethered to an office. Portability and good performance make laptop PCs an essential part of the daily lives of millions of people, from college students to conference-goers. Even the least expensive of today's laptops are well-equipped for everyday work. This overview covers the available options, specification details, and shopping tips....

PC World, Nov. 24

[<http://www.22books.com/>]40 resources for making lists

[<http://mashable.com/2008/11/20/list-management/>]

Doriano “Paisano” Carta writes: “We like to keep all kinds of lists; wish lists, checklists, lists of lists. In this roundup we will focus on services specializing in wish lists (things we want) and checklists (things we want to get done). Using these 40 mobile and web-based tools, you can keep track of daily tasks, build your reading list, and organize your holiday gift giving.”...

Mashable, Nov. 20

A more useful 404 [<http://www.alistapart.com/articles/amoreuseful404>]

Dean Frickey writes: “Encountering 404 errors is not new. Often, developers provide custom 404 pages to make the experience a little less frustrating. However, for a custom 404 page to be truly useful, it should not only provide relevant information to the user, but should also provide immediate feedback to the developer so that, when possible, the problem can be fixed.”...

A List Apart, Nov. 18

Why I switched from Firefox to Chrome

[[http://news.cnet.com/8301-17939\\_109-10107152-2.html](http://news.cnet.com/8301-17939_109-10107152-2.html)]

Stephen Shankland writes: “Sorry if it sounds like I'm drinking the Google Kool-Aid here, but I switched from Mozilla Firefox to Google Chrome as my default browser for the very reason Google's executives said we should: speed. Using Chrome removed a bit of friction from the Web I hadn't realized was there. It felt like discovering I'd been driving with the parking brake on just a bit.”...

Webware, Nov. 25

RSS and scholarly journal tables of contents

[<http://web.fumsi.com/go/article/share/3356>]

Lisa Rogers writes: “A growing number of scholarly journal publishers provide RSS feeds for their tables of contents. Subscribing to a feed enables someone to not only read the latest TOC, but also to share and

reuse the information by publishing it to their blog or adding it as a widget to their website. In theory, anyone can keep fully up to date with all the scholarly journals they want. However, as I have found from my work on the ticTOCs [<http://www.tictocs.ac.uk/>] project, it isn't always that easy.”...  
FUMSI, Oct.

## Publishing

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The Spoken Word: American and British writers  
[<http://www.bl.uk/news/2008/pressrelease20081022.html>]  
The British Library released two new additions to its popular series of literary spoken-word CDs, featuring many previously unpublished recordings of great British and American writers. Stand-out tracks include the sole surviving recording of Virginia Woolf published in its entirety for the first time, Raymond Chandler interviewed by Ian Fleming, the only audio recording of Arthur Conan Doyle, and John Steinbeck discussing his reasons for writing *The Grapes of Wrath*....  
British Library, Oct. 23

The end of the world as we know it  
[<http://bookgroupbuzz.booklistonline.com/2008/11/21/its-the-end-of-the-world-as-we-know-it/>]  
Neil Hollands writes: “One of the reasons why apocalyptic fiction is so compelling is that it pokes a stick into the most basic of questions: What is human nature like at its core? If we strip away the complicated trappings of civilization, how will people behave? Cormac McCarthy’s version in *The Road* is about as bleak as it gets—a few lovely moments between a father and son as the candle gutters out—but his approach is just one among dozens. Comparing and contrasting these versions of the end would make a fascinating study for brave book groups, either in one themed meeting or in a series of shared readings.”...  
Book Group Buzz, Nov. 21

10 movies that are better than the books  
[<http://listverse.com/movies/10-movies-that-are-better-than-the-books/>]  
Jamie Frater writes: “I am a firm believer in the idea that reading a book is better than watching a film, because it allows your own imagination to make marvelous worlds and characters. Nevertheless, I concede that on a number of occasions, a film director has managed to take a great book and make it an even greater movie. Sometimes it is better for us to watch the creations of someone else’s imagination. Here is a list of 10 such movies.”...  
The List Universe, Nov. 22

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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Top 20 things librarians wish patrons knew or did

[<http://www.examiner.com/x-1361-Seattle-Books-Examiner~y2008m11d18-Top-20-things-librarians-wish-patrons-knew-part-1>]

Danielle Dreger-Babbitt writes: “Librarians work harder than most patrons and nonpatrons realize. I took an informal poll of librarians I know in Boston, Dallas, Detroit, Indianapolis, New York City, and Portland about what they wish library patrons knew or did. The following list is what they came up with. (Note: They’re not disgruntled; they just want to be able to provide the best customer service to patrons possible.)” Read parts 2

[<http://www.examiner.com/x-1361-Seattle-Books-Examiner~y2008m11d19-Top-20-things-librarians-wish-patrons-knew-part-2-of-4>], 3

[<http://www.examiner.com/x-1361-Seattle-Books-Examiner~y2008m11d20-Top-20-things-librarians-wish-patrons-knew-part-3-of-4>], and 4

[<http://www.examiner.com/x-1361-Seattle-Books-Examiner~y2008m11d21-Top-20-things-librarians-wish-patrons-knew-part-4-of-part>]....

Seattle Books Examiner, Nov. 19–21

Iowa City named world City of Literature

[<http://news-releases.uiowa.edu/2008/november/112008unesco.html>]

The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization has designated Iowa City, Iowa, the world’s third City of Literature, making it part of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network, along with Edinburgh and Melbourne. The network was designed to promote the social, economic, and cultural development of cities in both the developed and the developing world....

University of Iowa, Nov. 20

: Episode 1 [<http://www.nypl.org/research/chss/bythebook/>]

For this online-only miniseries, Design by the Book, the New York Public Library partnered with the leading design blog Design\*Sponge and invited five New York City-based artists to sift through its collections in search of inspiration. This episode (9:45) introduces the artists, ranging from a glassblower to a letterpress printer, who in future episodes will be creating unique works inspired by items in the NYPL collections. Produced by Amy Azzarito and James Murdock of the New York Public Library Digital Experience Group, in partnership with Grace Bonney of Design\*Sponge....

New York Public Library, Nov. 17

librarians

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2008/11/20/not-like-those-other-librarians/>]

Mary K. Eagle writes: “On the second day I started work at this school, I told one of the first students I met that I was in school to become a school librarian. ‘You’d make a fun librarian,’ she told me. ‘Not like those boring ones.’ I was pleased, but also a little puzzled—we’d only just met. Earlier today, a teacher at the same school told me in a stage whisper that the way I was sitting at the circulation desk was ‘not so professional-looking.’ So how do I balance being the Fun Librarian with being a Professional Librarian?”...

YALSA Blog, Nov. 20

### Set up a Curiosity Center

[[http://pbskids.org/curiousgeorge/parentsteachers/activities/resources.html#curiosity\\_center](http://pbskids.org/curiousgeorge/parentsteachers/activities/resources.html#curiosity_center)]

PBS has created some easy-to-use activities based on the Curious George character designed for children's programming. The activities, recently mailed to public libraries on the back of a colorful Curious George banner (above), detail how to set up and run hands-on Curiosity Centers where children can explore earth science topics, making their own discoveries about recycling, wind, soil, and sand. Book recommendations are included, as well as simple materials lists, learning goals, and leader notes....

PBS Kids

### 21st Century Skills and English Map

[[http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=548&Itemid=64](http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=548&Itemid=64)]

The Partnership for 21st Century Skills has joined up with the National Council of Teachers of English to produce a 21st Century Skills and English Map (PDF file

[[http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/documents/21st\\_century\\_skills\\_english\\_map.pdf](http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/documents/21st_century_skills_english_map.pdf)]). The map—which demonstrates how the integration of 21st-century skills into the English curriculum supports teaching and learning and prepares students to become effective and productive citizens in the 21st century—highlights the critical connections between English and 21st-century skills....

Partnership for 21st Century Skills, Nov. 24

### 2007 state library agency report

[<http://www.ims.gov/news/2008/112608.shtm>]

The Institute of Museum and Library Services issued its second library statistics report on state library agencies in the 50 states and the District of Columbia for FY 2007. The report includes a wide array of information on internet access and electronic services, collections, staff, and revenue, such as the number of book and serial volumes held by state library agencies (24.1 million)....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Nov. 26

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/85009674@N00/3038442356/sizes/o/>]Five centuries of board games

[<http://bibliodyssey.blogspot.com/2008/11/board-games.html>]

Paul K presents some fascinating illustrations of board games in books and prints published between 1588 and 1940. Included are an etching showing the “new and pleasant game of biribisse” by Giovanni Giacomo de’ Rossi (17th century), a dice game called “pluck the owl” possibly published in Parma by Giovanni Battista Panzera in the 18th century, a steamboat game published in Paris by A. Daane between 1810 and 1825, and a very rare propaganda board game called “Hunt the Coal Thief” (above) published by Lephian-Schiffers in the 1930s that sought to promote economy in the use of raw materials in Germany....

BiblioOdyssey, Nov. 19

### Geocaching for educators

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2008/11/23/geocaching/>]

Kelly Czarnecki writes: “The Geospatial Information and Technology Association has a program called Location in Education

[[http://gita.org/resources/location\\_in\\_education/loc-in-edu.asp](http://gita.org/resources/location_in_education/loc-in-edu.asp)] where educators can borrow 10–15 GPS units (like the one pictured here), free of charge except for shipping and handling. People then can use these units to locate treasures that have been hidden around town. Many libraries already have scavenger hunts, and chances are that teens will pick up pretty easily on using these devices. It’s possible to create endless tie-ins with literature and get readers involved in books in a different way.”...

YALSA Blog, Nov. 23

How librarians are overcoming the language divide

[<http://www.criticasmagazine.com/article/CA6606945.html>]

Judith Rosen writes: “As the Hispanic population continues to grow, more and more libraries across the country have begun reaching out to the Spanish speakers in their community. It’s not always easy, as those who started earlier have learned. In upstate New York, says Kimberly Iraci, many Hispanic migrant farm workers—some undocumented, others anxious about coming under scrutiny—are wary about being visible in public places. Others lack transportation to get to the closest library, which may be 8–10 miles away.”...

Críticas, Nov. 1

Multilingual library jargon

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/sections/is/publicationsacrl/multilingual.cfm>]

Understanding library jargon—OPAC, CD-ROM, microfiche, holdings, stacks—can be difficult for anyone who is not a regular user of the library. The difficulty is compounded for English as a Second Language speakers who must process these specialized terms in a language that is not their native one. ACRL’s Instruction Section has put together a Multilingual Glossary in two parts: a Language Table (PDF file [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/sections/is/publicationsacrl/Languagetable.pdf>]), which presents a list of these terms in six languages, and Definitions (PDF file [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/sections/is/publicationsacrl/Definitions.pdf>]), which gives explanations in English for each of the terms....

ACRL Instruction Section

Swedish library pictograms

[<http://plablog.org/2008/11/library-pictograms-from-sweden.html>]

Nate Hill writes: “New Graphical Symbols for Many More (RAM Publications, Sept. 2008) is ‘a [Swedish] national development and standardization project aimed at making public symbols more uniform and more serviceable in keeping with the concept of Design for All.’ What really got me excited was this: One of the symbols that all 124 competitors had to create for the contest was a symbol for a public library. I’ve posted scans of all of them below for preview and for educational purposes.”....

PLA Blog, Nov. 22

Giving thanks by listening [<http://www.al.ala.org/insidescoop/?p=202>]  
Leonard Kniffel writes: “StoryCorps has declared November 28, the day after Thanksgiving, the first annual National Day of Listening [<http://www.nationaldayoflistening.org/?gclid=COyyoeKmkZcCFRZjnAodxSePJA>]. ‘This holiday season, ask the people around you about their lives,’ StoryCorps is urging. The day after Thanksgiving is the perfect day for us all to grab a few of those technological marvels we have all over the house and sit down with someone we love and ask those questions the answers to which may live in our hearts for as long as we are alive.”...  
AL Inside Scoop, Nov. 25

#### Turkey history and trivia

[<http://www.eatturkey.com/consumer/history/history.html>]  
The National Turkey Federation operates a website that might help you answer a few last-minute Thanksgiving (or other holiday) reference questions. Some factoids: White meat is generally preferred in the United States, while other countries choose the dark meat. It’s estimated that turkeys have 3,500 feathers at maturity. President Andrew Jackson ranked turkey hash first among his favorite foods. Nearly 88% of Americans surveyed by the National Turkey Federation eat turkey at Thanksgiving. And here are some cooking tips  
[<http://www.eatturkey.com/consumer/thanks.html>]....  
National Turkey Federation

#### Iowa’s Carnegie libraries [<http://clip.grad.uiowa.edu/>]

The Carnegie Libraries in Iowa Project is preserving the history of Iowa’s Carnegie libraries by creating a digital library of images and other documentary and statistical information about them. A partnership among students, staff, and faculty at the University of Iowa SLIS, the University of Iowa Libraries, Iowa librarians, and library supporters, the project recently was expanded with the help of some students in UI’s Digital Librarianship Program. They are offering a 2009 calendar [<http://clip.grad.uiowa.edu/clip-calendar>] that shows all 101 of the Iowa Carnegie public libraries....  
Carnegie Libraries in Iowa Project

#### Curse of the Judas Chalice

[<http://www.tnt.tv/movies/librarian3/display/?contentId=43482>]  
The world is in danger of being overrun by vampires, and the only person who can prevent it from happening is Flynn Carsen in the third installment of TNT’s Librarian series, starring Noah Wyle. The Librarian: Curse of the Judas Chalice, costarring Bob Newhart and Jane Curtin, sends the bookish hero to New Orleans. The new feature premieres Sunday, December 7, at 8 p.m. Eastern time....  
Turner Network Television

#### [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NeUId2rv848>]Got any World War I books?

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NeUId2rv848>]  
The Orange County (Calif.) Public Library released this video PSA for its services in 2007, with the theme “Reading increases the imagination,” showing how one reader found some history books more vivid than he could handle....  
YouTube

[[http://www.sesamestreet.org/video\\_player?p\\_p\\_lifecycle=0&p\\_p\\_id=videoPlayer\\_WAR\\_sesameportlets4369&p\\_p\\_uid=5ab3bb6a-1578-11dd-9bc7-777dea8a73e7](http://www.sesamestreet.org/video_player?p_p_lifecycle=0&p_p_id=videoPlayer_WAR_sesameportlets4369&p_p_uid=5ab3bb6a-1578-11dd-9bc7-777dea8a73e7)]No cookies in the library

[[http://www.sesamestreet.org/video\\_player?p\\_p\\_lifecycle=0&p\\_p\\_id=videoPlayer\\_WAR\\_sesameportlets4369&p\\_p\\_uid=5ab3bb6a-1578-11dd-9bc7-777dea8a73e7](http://www.sesamestreet.org/video_player?p_p_lifecycle=0&p_p_id=videoPlayer_WAR_sesameportlets4369&p_p_uid=5ab3bb6a-1578-11dd-9bc7-777dea8a73e7)]

Much to the chagrin of a temperamental librarian, Sesame Street's Cookie Monster can't seem to comprehend that libraries don't have cookies or other edibles: "You got some carrots? How about rutabagas? You got any cantaloupe?" This is a classic late-1970s parody (2:53) of a Monty Python skit. Sesame Street's website has an enormous searchable video archive [<http://www.sesamestreet.org/videos>] of segments, skits, and songs that span nearly four decades, and more than 3,000 videos....

Sesame Street

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To unsubscribe from this newsletter: click here [[<%= edition.unsubscribeLink %>](#)]

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/home.cfm>]

ALA Midwinter Meeting,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2009/faq.cfm>]

Denver, January 23–28.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2009/specialevents.cfm#president>]

The Midwinter ALA President's Program

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/2009/specialevents.cfm#president>] will feature Nobel Peace Prize–winner Dr. Muhammad Yunus, January 25, at 3:30 p.m. in the Four Seasons Ballroom at the Colorado Convention Center. Yunus is the author of *Banker to the Poor: Micro-Lending and the Battle Against World Poverty* (1999) and *Creating a World Without Poverty: Social Business and the Future of Capitalism* (2007).

[[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?\\_sn=catalog2&\\_pn=product\\_detail&\\_op=2644](http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2644)]

This new book from best-selling author Rob Reid features stories, fingerplays, songs, and movement activities to enhance the time families spend at the library. Brimming with all new material, *More Family Storytimes*

[[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?\\_sn=catalog2&\\_pn=product\\_detail&\\_op=2644](http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2644)] offers practical, creative, and active storytime programs that will captivate audiences of all ages with program plans, engaging activities, and relevant themes. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue  
November 2008

[<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala/document/display.jsp?docID=10249458&page=1>]

Effective Training

After-School Success Stories

Time to Retool

Hennen's Public Library Ratings

[<http://www.ala-apa.org/lsscp/>]

The ALA's Allied Professional Association [<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/november2008/alaapaforum.cfm>] is offering ALA Midwinter Meeting attendees attendees an opportunity to provide feedback on the development of a national Library Support Staff Certification Program. [<http://www.ala-apa.org/lsscp/>] This forum will be held 10:30 to noon, on Saturday, January 24, in Denver.

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

Head of Media Services,  
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=12300>] Preston Library, Virginia Military Institute, Lexington.  
Responsible for the leadership, management, and support of media services and the development of state-of-the-art applications and solutions for the library's integrated library system and web technologies. The primary duties and responsibilities include the management of instruction in the use of presentation, audio, and video resources; management of training workshops for the use of media software; management of satellite and cable broadcast system; and the development of web technologies to enhance access to the library's collections....

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

Digital Library of the Week

[<http://www.lpi.usra.edu/resources/apollo/frame/?AS11-40-5946>]

The Lunar and Planetary Institute's collection of online lunar atlases [[http://www.lpi.usra.edu/resources/lunar\\_atlases/](http://www.lpi.usra.edu/resources/lunar_atlases/)] includes a digital version of the Lunar Orbiter Atlas of the Moon, first published in 1971

and considered the definitive reference manual to global photographic coverage of the Moon; the 1967 Consolidated Lunar Atlas by Gerald P. Kuiper, Ewen A. Whitaker, Robert G. Strom, John W. Fountain, and Stephen M. Larson, a collection of the best photographic images of the Moon; an Apollo Image Atlas with some 25,000 photographs from the Apollo 4–17 missions; panoramic surface images from the Apollo missions; photos from the 1964–1965 Ranger 7–9 missions; and various other map series, including geologic, topographic, and topophoto maps.

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] Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the I Love Libraries [http://www.ilovelibraries.ala.org/diglibweekly/] site.

## Public Perception How the World Sees Us

“America’s libraries are the fruits of a great democracy. They are living evidence of the democratic values we cherish. . . . They exist because we believe that memory and truth are important and so we pass what we know from one generation to the next. They exist because we believe that information and knowledge are not the exclusive domain of a certain type or class of person but rather the province of all who seek to learn.”

?Robert S. Martin, then-director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, in “Equipping Museums and Libraries for the 21st Century,” testimony [http://republicans.edlabor.house.gov/archive/hearings/107th/sed/museums21402/martin.htm] before the House Subcommittee on Select Education, Feb. 14, 2002.

## Ask the ALA Librarian

[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?\_sn=catalog2&\_pn=product\_detail&\_op=2440]

Q. I recently retired, but due to the economy, I now find myself needing to go back to work. Rather than going back to working in a library, I was wondering about becoming a consultant and using my skills as an information professional. Any advice or pointers you can pass along?

A. The skills you gain as a librarian are versatile, and becoming a library consultant or independent librarian is often the next step for librarians facing retirement. There are several resources available to help librarians move into this new role within the ever-changing information landscape, including Ulla de Stricker’s 2007 book, *Is*

Consulting For You? A Primer for Information Professionals  
[[http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?\\_sn=catalog2&\\_pn=product\\_detail&\\_op=2440](http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2440)] and Rachel Singer Gordon's 2008 book, What's the Alternative? Career Options for Librarians and Info Pros  
[<http://www.infotoday.com/books/books/WhatsTheAlternative.shtml>].  
[<http://www.infotoday.com/books/books/WhatsTheAlternative.shtml>] From the ALA Professional Tips wiki  
[[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Becoming\\_A\\_Library\\_Consultant](http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Becoming_A_Library_Consultant)].

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

LLAMA is looking for mentors and mentees  
[<http://www.lama.ala.org/llamaleads/?p=245>] for its 10-month mentoring program that will nurture leadership and promote outstanding management practices. Applications  
[[http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/llama/lamacommittees/divisioncomms/LAMA\\_Mentoring\\_Committee/LAMA\\_Mentoring\\_for\\_Leadership\\_Program.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/llama/lamacommittees/divisioncomms/LAMA_Mentoring_Committee/LAMA_Mentoring_for_Leadership_Program.cfm)] will be accepted through December 15 (deadline extended).

## Calendar

Jan. 30–

Feb. 1:

International Conference on Technology, Knowledge and Society,  
[<http://t09.cg-conference.com/>] Huntsville, Alabama.

Feb. 1–3:

Net@EDU, [[http://net.educause.edu/content.asp?SECTION\\_ID=383&bhcp=1](http://net.educause.edu/content.asp?SECTION_ID=383&bhcp=1)]  
Annual Meeting, Tempe Mission Palms Hotel, Arizona. “Cyberinfrastructure for E-Research.”

Feb. 8–11:

4th Annual iconference, [<http://www.ischools.org/oc/>] School of Information and Library Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. “iSociety: Research, Education, Engagement.”

Feb. 13:

Online Northwest, [<http://www.ous.edu/onlinenw/index.html>] Oregon State University, Corvallis.

Feb. 13–14:

American Antiquarian Society,  
[<http://www.americanantiquarian.org/chavic2008.htm>] Conference, Princeton, New Jersey. “Home, School, Play, Work: The Visual and Textual Worlds of Children.”

Feb. 14–21:

Havana International Book Fair Tour, [<http://cubanadventures.org/>] Cuba,

sponsored by Zunzun Education Services (in Vancouver, B.C.), which says the program is legal and licensable for U.S. professionals whose work is related to this tour's theme.

Feb. 24–26:

Educause, [<http://net.educause.edu/swrc09>] Southwest Regional Conference, Marriott Plaza San Antonio, Texas.

Mar. 2–6:

Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education, [<http://site.aace.org/conf/>] 20th International Conference, Charleston, South Carolina.

Mar. 9–11:

North East Regional Computing Program, [<http://net.educause.edu/nc09>] Annual Conference, Rhode Island Convention Center, Providence. “Creative Intersections, Wise Collaborations, and Sustainable Technology.”

Mar. 10–12:

Consortium for School Networking, [<http://www.k12schoolnetworking.org/2009/index.cfm>] Annual Conference, Austin, Texas. “Leadership, Policy, and Innovation in a Collaborative World.”

Mar. 12–14:

Louisiana Library Association, [[http://www.llaonline.org/ne/lla\\_conference.php](http://www.llaonline.org/ne/lla_conference.php)] Annual Conference, Baton Rouge. “Together We Make a Difference.”

Mar. 12–15:

Association of College and Research Libraries, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/seattle/seattle.cfm>] 14th National Conference, Seattle. “Pushing the Edge: Explore, Engage, Extend.”

Mar. 13–16:

Alaska Library Association, [<http://www.akla.org/kodiak2009/>] Annual Conference, Kodiak. “Libraries: Going the Distance.”

Mar. 20:

North American Serials Interest Group, [[http://www.nasig.org/activities\\_calendar.cfm?action=detail&rec=44](http://www.nasig.org/activities_calendar.cfm?action=detail&rec=44)] Regional Unconference, Hale Library, Kansas State University, Manhattan. “An Overview of Serials and Electronic Resources in Libraries.”

Mar. 23–25:

Educause, [<http://net.educause.edu/mwrc09>] Midwest Regional Conference, InterContinental Chicago Hotel. “Intersections: Emerging, Commonly Accepted, and Best Practices in Higher Education IT.”

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

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George M. Eberhart,  
Editor:  
[geberhart@ala.org](mailto:geberhart@ala.org) [<mailto:geberhart@ala.org>]

Greg Landgraf,  
Associate Editor:  
[glandgraf@ala.org](mailto:glandgraf@ala.org) [<mailto:glandgraf@ala.org>]

Leonard Kniffel,  
Editor-in-Chief,  
American Libraries: [lkniffel@ala.org](mailto:lkniffel@ala.org) [<mailto:lkniffel@ala.org>]

To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:  
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American Libraries  
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800-545-2433,  
ext. 4216

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