

## Special Post-Annual Conference Issue

# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 2, 2010

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## Conference Highlights

### Frontline advocacy highlights ALA Annual Conference

Librarians and library supporters spoke loudly and clearly about the value of libraries during the ALA 2010 Annual Conference, held in Washington, D.C., June 24–29. Advocacy was a central theme and the focus of two key programs developed by ALA President Camila Alire and her task force: “Surviving in a Tough Economy: An Advocacy Institute Workshop” and the “Frontline Advocacy Train the Trainer Program.” Attendees also gained valuable tips on the use of technology....  
 Public Information Office, June 29



### 50 years of Mockingbird

Aubrey Madler writes: “Of everything I saw and heard on Saturday, what still sticks with me the following morning is the experience of listening to Nancy Pearl’s interview with Mary McDonagh Murphy. This event was in celebration of the [50th anniversary](#) of Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird* and the book and documentary Murphy created in its honor. There was not a dry eye in the auditorium as reflections from Oprah Winfrey, Rosanne Cash, and Tom Brokaw were projected on the screens.”...  
 OIF Blog, June 27



### Toni Morrison and libraries

Jeanna Vahling writes: “Nobel Prize–winning author, Pulitzer Prize winner, and ‘charming and witty’ are all words to describe Toni Morrison, this year’s Opening Session Keynote Speaker. More importantly, she is a library advocate with a genuine love for our profession. ‘I suspect that every single author that speaks to librarians can tell you about his or her intimate, steady, and vital relationships to libraries,’ she said in her opening remarks.” Watch a [clip](#) (4:42) from her talk....  
 Cognotes, June 28, p. 16; ALA YouTube, June 27



**A grand total of 26,201** librarians and library staff, exhibitors, and library supporters attended ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., June 24–29. Attendance was short of the 28,941 who came to Chicago in 2009, but exceeded the 22,047 attendees in Anaheim in 2008.

Visit the [ALA Annual Conference Flickr group pool](#) to see the hundreds of photos uploaded by attendees (tagged ala10).



### [Marlo Thomas reminisces](#)

Reminiscing with an audience of early Monday risers, Marlo Thomas previewed her forthcoming book from HarperCollins, *Growing Up Laughing*, with jokes and stories about her life as the daughter of comedian Danny Thomas. With the likes of George Burns and Bob Hope frequently showing up in her living room, said Thomas, laughter became "the cushion for life," she said, noting that her father said adults should laugh 75 times a day, as children do....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 28



Find more conference coverage in the online version of [Cognotes](#).

### [John Grisham thanks libraries](#)

Kathryn Shields writes: "I have a long, wonderful history with libraries and librarians. From a purely selfish view, I want to say thanks," said author John Grisham as he began his talk on Monday. Grisham, who will serve as the honorary chair of National Library Week in 2011, said he owes much of his early success as an author to libraries and librarians." A [clip](#) of the speech is here (4:27). Prior to his talk, Grisham spoke about the value of libraries in the Green Room; watch the [video](#) (2:57)....

Cognotes, June 29, p. 1, 8; ALA YouTube, June 29; Visibility @ your library, June 28



### [Kidd and Taylor on memoirs](#)

Amy Pace writes: "Sue Monk Kidd, author of *The Secret Life of Bees*, and her daughter Ann Kidd Taylor, with whom she recently wrote a new book, *Traveling with Pomegranates*, spoke Saturday morning about their memoir. Family photographs—vacations, celebrations, and candid pictures—flashed on the screens before the two took the stage. Kidd described the photos as a visual collage of their book."...

Cognotes, June 27, p. 1, 27



### [The enigmatologist speaks \(but not cryptically\)](#)

At the PLA President's Program on Sunday, *New York Times* Crossword Puzzle Editor Will Shortz gave an appreciative crowd a peek at the world of crosswords, and particularly what makes for good—and bad—solving. Shortz said the difficulty of a crossword puzzle should come from challenging clues rather than obscure words, and crosswords should contain "lively, colorful vocabulary" with a minimum of archaic, vowel-dense words that are primarily used only in crosswords....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 27



### [Salman Rushdie puts messages in a bottle](#)

Brad Martin writes: "Salman Rushdie spoke on Saturday about the writing of *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* and *Luka and the Fire of Life*, weaving in similar examples of other authors' children's books that had been written for specific children. Rushdie told how both his books involve fathers and sons, but they differ as a result of the shifting perspectives we experience in life." Watch Steve Zalusky's [interview](#) with Rushdie



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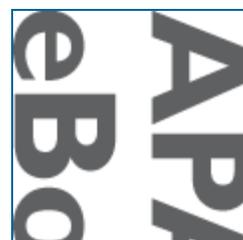
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(4:18) in the green room....

*Cognotes*, June 27, p. 5, 30; *Visibility @ your library*, June 27

### **"Many Voices, One Nation" plays to a full house**

Frederick J. Augustyn Jr. writes: "José Aponte, director of the San Diego County (Calif.) Library, served as MC for the 'Many Voices, One Nation' program on Friday. Introducing the event with readings from novelists, storytellers, and poets as the lighter side of librarianship, Aponte asserted that 'we are librarians and we understand the value of both oral and written traditions.'"...

*Cognotes*, June 27, p. 26

### **Eppo's vision of the future**

Stacy L. Voeller writes: "On Sunday, the ALA President's Program featured inspirational speaker, Eppo van Nispen tot Sevenaer. He greeted the crowd by saying, 'Hello, I'm a librarian. Ever since I've become a librarian, I don't get invited to parties.' He started the DOK Library Concept Center in Delft, Netherlands, with the idea that it 'would always be ahead.' Architects 'think in terms of forms, not of people,' he said. 'They miss the point of really designing a library that's useful.'"...

*Cognotes*, June 29, p. 1, 22



### **Dave Isay and StoryCorps**

Brad Martin writes: "About seven years ago, a booth was set up in Grand Central Terminal in New York to record interviews that would later be preserved for future generations to hear. Studs Terkel cut the ribbon and made a remark about people knowing who designed the famous railroad terminal, but that we didn't know much about the everyday people who built it. Dave Isay, founder of StoryCorps, spoke about this ongoing project on Sunday in this session sponsored by *American Libraries* and shared many examples of the recordings." Watch the [clip](#) (1:10)....

*Cognotes*, June 28, p. 18; ALA YouTube, June 27



### **Haunting graphic tales**

Amy Pace writes: "What do David Small and Audrey Niffenegger have in common? Both have recently written graphic novels, beautiful and evocative and written for adults. The haunting book trailer featuring poignant black-and-white illustrations by David Small introduced attendees to the work of art and memoir that is *Stitches*. On Monday, Small and Niffenegger shared their works and their reasons for creating graphic novels at the Graphic Novel Panel."...

*Cognotes*, June 29, p. 3



### **An inside look at national policies**

"All Politics Is Local: Positioning Libraries for Success in the Capital," the ALA Washington Office update, featured District insiders including FCC Commissioner Mignon Clyburn. She spoke about the role of libraries in the national broadband plan and underscored ALA's position that anchor institutions—such as libraries—must be supported by the federal government in order to ensure that all members of the



### **Twitter Perception**

Selected Annual Conference Tweets

**"Ok, I'm here. Where do I find the librarians in this burg?"**

—Natalie Binder, June 25.

**"How embarrassing! I am the only one who brought my dog to the Train the Trainer preconference."**

—Polite Librarian, June 25.

**"At #unala10 we unconfereced so hard we needed a medic."**

—Jenny Relswig, June 25.

public have access to broadband as well as digital literacy skills.”...  
District Dispatch, June 28

### [Natalie Merchant at Exhibits Closing](#)

On Monday after the exhibits closed, songwriter Natalie Merchant performed selections from her newly released *Leave Your Sleep*, a set of songs adapted from the works of various classic and contemporary poets. The special event was presented by Baker & Taylor, Nonesuch Records, and WEA....

ALA Membership Blog, June 29



**“Hot as blazes in DC, and this afternoon’s #ala10 program on global warming has been cancelled.”**

—Tom Peters, June 26.

**“I just became the mayor of Membership Pavilion, Booth 2525, Exhibit Hall (ALA10 Annual Conference) on @foursquare!”**

—Ed Garcia, June 27.

**“Demand for metadata is always underrated! Librarians crave metadata like zombies crave flesh.”**

—Justin Grimes, June 28.

**“Day 4 of the #ala10 hostage crisis. Tell Red Cross to send caffeine.”**

—Karen Schneider, June 28.

**“DC taxi driver: ‘Nobody got no excuse not to read. Everybody go to the bathroom, don’t they? Read for 5 minutes!’”**

—Hope Baugh, June 28.

**“Does it weird anyone else out that librarians refer to OCLC as ‘The Big O’?”**

—Jessica Speer, June 28.

**“Natalie Merchant is doing an encore for a ballroom full of librarians. We really have the best jobs in the world.”**

—Marcela Evans, June 28.

### [Amy Sedaris keynotes Closing Session](#)

Author and comedian Amy Sedaris demonstrated some of the reasonably twisted craft projects from her forthcoming book *Simple Times: Crafts for Poor People* during the Closing Session on Tuesday morning. “If you want to have some gingham shoes,” she said, “go buy some cheap tennis shoes, use a magic marker, and you can make your own (above). Aren’t they cute?”...

ALA YouTube, June 30



### [Libraries Build Communities at DC Public Library](#)

Robin Brown, information literacy librarian for the Borough of Manhattan Community College’s Randolph Memorial Library, volunteered at the District of Columbia Public Library’s Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library on Friday. She writes: “Since I was on my own in a strange city and available, I naturally wanted to sign up for the Libraries Build Communities project. The day seemed like a gift, and a great chance to meet other librarians.”...

ALA Membership Blog, June 27



### [Roberta Stevens inaugurated ALA President](#)

Friends, family, and colleagues, including new division presidents, helped Roberta Stevens (right) of the Library of Congress celebrate her inauguration as 2010–2011 president of ALA. Instead of a traditional presidential speech, Stevens turned the podium over to four of her favorite authors: Marie Arana, Brad Meltzer, Sharon Draper, and Carmen Agra Deedy....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 30



### [Council handles full agenda](#)

ALA Council sailed through its last Annual Conference session, which began early on Tuesday to accommodate the Library Advocacy Day rally on Capitol Hill. Among other things, it approved the establishment of a Retired Members Round Table recommended by the Committee on Organization. On Sunday, Council unanimously [passed](#) the ALA 2011–



2015 Strategic Plan...  
AL: Inside Scoop, June 27, 29



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## Advocacy



### Report from the ground on Library Advocacy Day

Matthew Moffett writes: "Like so many at this year's ALA Annual, I took advantage of being in D.C. to play a part in Library Advocacy Day on Tuesday. The event started a few minutes early with YA author Lauren Myracle (right)—who was introduced by ALA President Camila Alire (above) as this year's most banned author—warming up the crowd with a reading from her new book *Luv Ya Bunches*. Both Senator Jack Reed (left, D-R.I.) and Rep. Vern Ehlers (right, R-Mich.) delivered short speeches on the importance of libraries." ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels empowered the state delegations meeting with Congress to remember they represent the millions of schoolchildren and Americans who depend on library services every day. Watch the [video](#) (33:46)....

YALSA Blog, June 29; District Dispatch, June 30



### Arne Duncan meets with AASL leaders

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan (right) had an informal meeting with the AASL Board of Directors on Monday. The meeting was scheduled to discuss how school librarians can be included in *A Blueprint for Reform*, President Obama's plan for revising the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. However, Duncan stressed that without the passage of the jobs bill, education would see a level of destruction as never seen before. "Use your loud librarian voices" for lobbying, [he said](#). If the bill doesn't pass, there will be severe devastation for education, including library positions....

AASL, June 29; AASL Blog, June 28



### Nine ways to defend your budget

At the Advocacy Institute on Friday, Committee on Library Advocacy Chair Carol Brey-Casiano and Office for Library Advocacy Director Marci Merola offered a nine-point plan on what to do when your budget is threatened.

**"My hope for next year's #ala10: Less structured, more social. Be the change we want to see in our libraries."**

—Natalie Binder, June 28.

**"And DC is a lovely 61 degrees and breezy today... I think the librarians brought that heat/humidity! LOL."**

—Sarah Cantrell, June 30.

@ [More quotes...](#)

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Watch a [clip](#) (3:15). More information is available in a newly released toolkit on the Advocacy University website, "[Budget in the Crosshairs? Navigating a Challenging Budget Year.](#)"...

ALA Membership Blog, June 25; ALA YouTube, June 27

### [Alire talks about Frontline Advocacy](#)

Steve Zalusky writes: "We caught up with ALA President Camila Alire following her Friday speech before those gathered for the Advocacy Institute. 'We want to engage frontline librarians and other library employees,' she said, 'in a different level of advocacy, one that they are comfortable with.'"...

Visibility @ your library, June 25



### [Sony unveils Reader Library program](#)

In recognition of Library Advocacy Day on June 29, Sony unveiled its Reader Library program, a new initiative to support the work of public libraries as they expand and promote their e-book collections. The program provides public libraries with training on digital reading devices, educational materials to help readers learn about e-books and digital texts available to them through their local libraries, and digital reading devices for library staff use. Sony spokesperson Leanne Drown said libraries that have worked with Sony on other media projects are likely to be the [first candidates](#) for the Reader Library program....

Sony Electronics, June 29; AL: Inside Scoop, June 29

### [Grassroots 2.0: Tips from the advocacy experts](#)

The joint ALSC/AASL program "Grassroots 2.0: New Technologies" program on Sunday morning brought together three experts on delivering effective library messages to legislators. Curtis R. Rogers of the South Carolina State Library presented a [slideshow](#) of social media resources that librarians can use to promote the library and engage lawmakers. Libraries should all have an electronic newsletter, a Facebook page, a Twitter feed, a blog, and a YouTube channel as a matter of course, he said....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 27



### [When library schools are threatened](#)

The Committee on Education invited two special guests to its meeting Saturday afternoon—Linda Smith, associate dean of the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library and Information Science, and Beth Paskoff, director of the Louisiana State University School of Library and Information Science—both of whom had stories to tell about attempts made by the university administration, in the face of severe budget constraints, to shut down or restructure the library school....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 26

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## Authors

### [Pam Ehrenberg: YA author at large](#)

2010 ALA Rainbow Project author Pam Ehrenberg had it made in the shade Saturday. Literally. It seems like the YA author arrived a bit too early for the Exhibit Hall and decided to kill some time and beat the heat by working under a shady tree nearby. Well, it was too interesting an image to pass up, so our man on the street Steve Zalusky decided to go in for a closer look....

ALA Membership Blog, June 27; ALA YouTube, June 27



### [Live at the LIVE @ your library Reading Stage](#)

Live readings from popular and up-and-coming authors were hosted at the LIVE! @ your library Reading Stage in the Exhibit Hall. Public Programs Office Deputy Director Mary Davis Fournier caught up with authors Kwame Alexander (right) and R. Dwayne Betts to ask how libraries impacted their lives. See also [interviews](#) with Laurie Halse Anderson and Heid E. Erdrich....

ALA Membership Blog, June 27, 29



### [ALA Exhibit Hall 2010](#)

Betsy Bird writes: "So it was on to the Exhibit Hall for fun and profit. First up, I needed to grab my press badge, and while doing so who else did I see but Tom Angleberger, author of the widely (and justifiably) acclaimed *The Strange Case of Origami Yoda*, being interviewed by Barb Langridge of the Howard County (Md.) Library and the television show *Books Alive!* Authors were in abundance this day, so I took a great deal of fun in snapping quicky pics of them."...

*School Library Journal*: A Fuse #8 Production, June 27



### [A day of authors](#)

Children's librarian Travis Jonker shot this cleverly produced video (1:52) of author signings and events that he encountered at conference. Included are snippets on Libba Bray, Jon Scieszka, Notable Book nominees, and the Newbery/Caldecott banquet....

YouTube, June 29



### [Chef authors heat up the exhibit floor](#)

Sean Fitzpatrick writes: "Libraries and foodie culture have an obvious tie: cookbooks. All weekend long, the Cooking Pavilion in the Exhibit Hall celebrated that relationship with cookbook authors showing their chops with live demos and talks. I caught the first



session, on healthy living through veganism. Neal Barnard and Robyn Webb talked about the state of veganism today (it's not just for tie-dyed hippies, they assured) and the health benefits of avoiding meat while discussing their book *To Get Healthy, Go Vegan.* Watch Warren Brown (above), author of *United Cakes of America*, mix up a sweet potato cake in this [video](#) (1:52)....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 26; ALA YouTube, June 27

## ALA Publishing

### [It's a comic world](#)

*Booklist's* Books for Youth Annual Forum on Friday night drew a roomful of comics admirers who came to hear an art editor, a children's book illustrator, a publisher, and a comics creator share their thoughts on how graphic novels have evolved from collections of newspaper comic strips and formulaic superhero fare into a massive mainstream publishing phenomenon. First up was Françoise Mouly (left), founder of *Raw* magazine and art editor of the *New Yorker* (who also happens to be married to comics artist and *Maus* creator Art Spiegelman). First Second publisher Mark Siegel (right) offered a rundown of the graphic novels in his catalog since 2006....



AL: Inside Scoop, June 26

### [RDA Toolkit cake](#)

The [RDA Toolkit](#) launch was celebrated at the Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access meeting on Monday. The free, open-access period started on June 23 and catalogers marked this significant moment with ALA Publishing (representing the copublishers) when Joint Steering Committee members Barbara Tillett (Library of Congress) and John Attig (Pennsylvania State University) cut the cake. *RDA: Resource Description and Access* is the new, unified standard designed for the digital world and an expanding universe of metadata users....



RDA Toolkit, July 1

### [Reference works from conception to fruition](#)

Sue Polanka writes: "This year the *Reference Books Bulletin* session focused on the process of creating a reference work, from idea to reality. The speakers included Casper Grathwohl from Oxford University Press, Rolf Janke from Sage Reference, and Frank Menchaca from Gale Cengage. Here is a summary of each panelist's comments."...

Points of Reference, July 1

### [Everyone's a critic](#)

Barbara Bibel writes: "During a lively *Booklist* presentation called 'Everyone's a Critic,' panelists discussed the fine art of reviewing in the age of instant comments. Otis Chandler (*Good Reads*), Ron Charles (*Washington Post*), Jon Fine (*Amazon.com*), and Jennifer Huber Swan (*Reading Rants*) talked about the role of professional reviewers, the nature of authority, and the significance of reviews. Do readers want heavy analysis or do they care more about whether their friends enjoyed a book? There is room for both."...

Points of Reference, June 30

## Division Sessions

### [AASL President's Program](#)

Author Allison Zmuda was the keynote speaker at the **AASL** President's Program on Saturday. Her presentation, "Leading the Transformation of Education for the 21st Century," was a call to action for school librarians to position themselves at the forefront of the push to transform American education into the 21st century. Zmuda is also a survivor of a recent stroke, which she talked about. Watch the [video](#) (5:34)....



ALA YouTube, June 28

### [National Preservation Week: Pass It On](#)

Beth Doyle writes: "The first annual Preservation Week took place May 9–15. By all accounts it was a success. Next year's [Preservation Week](#) is scheduled for April 24–30. At a joint **ALCTS/AASL/PLA** program on Sunday, three panelists outlined their events for 2010, then the audience brainstormed slogans and ideas for the 2011 event."...

Preservation and Conservation Administration News, June 29

### [Help! My patron is a cyber patient](#)

Mana Tominaga writes: "LaVentra E. Danqua of Wayne State University's Shiffman Medical Library presented an excellent **PLA** session on health literacy and reference Saturday morning. She's worked as a health reference librarian for more than 14 years and shared her tips and resources for helping customers. More than half of American adults (90 million people) are considered to have low health literacy. Librarians should follow these tips when answering health questions."...

PLA Blog, June 26

### [I'm doing events at my library from now on](#)

Beverly Lawler writes: "This **PLA** session, presented by librarians from the St. Louis County (Mo.) Library, dealt with bringing authors to libraries to provide programs for the community. They have an awesome program, run by Carrie Robb, who was spirited away from a corporate position to facilitate the author program series. The library hosts 50 well-attended author events a year, for both children and adults."...

PLA Blog, July 1

### [RUSA's Annual Research Forum](#)

Jennifer Howard writes: "This year's **RUSA** Research Forum focused on three studies driven by academic libraries. First up was Ethnographic Research in Illinois Academic Libraries. Led by Andrew Asher, a research anthropologist, the project seeks to establish how undergraduates at five Illinois institutions actually use their campus libraries. Steven J. Bell, associate university librarian at Temple University, presented findings on a study he and colleagues did of LibGuides, which are subject- or course-specific guides designed to help students find relevant library resources."...

*Chronicle of Higher Education*, June 29

### [Reference evolution](#)

Stephen Francoeur writes: "On Friday, I was one of four presenters at a day-long preconference workshop on 'Reference Evolution: Envisioning the Future, Remembering the Past,' sponsored by **RUSA**.

First up was Joe Janes, who gave a great keynote presentation on what's changed in reference and what's stayed, often for not good reasons, the same as ever. Amy VanScoy spoke next about why librarians should be more reflective about their personal philosophy of reference."...

Digital Reference, June 28

### [A-Z of electronic reference products](#)

Sue Polanka writes: "On Saturday, **RUSA** sponsored a panel discussion on product development of electronic reference resources. Panelists discussed a variety of topics including: how product topics are selected and the role of librarians in that selection, technology expenses, time needed for product development, how items are priced, and the use of online products. The comments of all four panelists are summarized here, by topic."...

No Shelf Required, June 26

### [LITA Happy Hour](#)

Tanya Cothran writes: "Who says that librarians can't let their hair down and have some fun? The **LITA** happy hour on Friday at the Mixx Bar was a great example to the contrary. The bar area was filled with people networking, chatting, and generally having a good time. The take-away message? Don't be afraid to have a good time with your fellow librarians/techies. After a long day of panels and discussions, it's nice to have a chance to talk shop over a pint of beer and see what new solutions and opportunities arise."...



LITA Blog, June 29

### [Strategies for reaching Latino youth](#)

Megan Hodge writes: "The Saturday panel, 'Reaching Latino Teens through Multiple Literacies: A Program for School and Public Librarians,' sponsored by Reforma, **PLA**, **YALSA**, and **AASL**, discussed the strategies and programs three librarians have used to reach out to and increase the literacy of the Latino teenagers in their communities. The program opened with a video interview of then-16-year-old spoken word artist Diego Mosquera, who said he was very interested in rap early in his teens."...

Cognotes, June 28, p. 8, 10

### [The Year of Cataloging Research](#)

Megan Hodge writes: "Moderated and organized by Allyson Carlyle of the University of Washington's iSchool, this Sunday panel brought together four experts on current cataloging trends in order to provide research ideas for what **ALCTS** has dubbed the Year of Cataloging Research. Lynn Silipigni Connaway of OCLC said that users want catalog or database searches to be 'as easy as Google Book Search.' She analyzed 12 user studies published in the U.S. and U.K. over the last five years, in order to determine what the digital researcher looks like today."...

Cognotes, June 28, p. 30

### [Strategic future of print collections](#)

Beth Doyle writes: "Gary Frost began this joint **ALCTS/ACRL** session on Sunday by describing the interplay between print and screen reading. He urged us to think about the potential interdependence between the self-authenticating nature of print and the self-indexing nature of the screen. This 'and' not 'or' was investigated by Walt Crawford, the next speaker, who believes that digital resources

enhance print resources.”...

Preservation and Conservation Administration News, June 30

### [Food Network gets a librarian, and a new blog is born](#)

Ian Kahn writes: “LC’s Mark Dimunation, Cristina Favretto (director of special collections at the University of Miami), Aidan Kahn, and I had lunch at John’s Roast Pork on Day 2 of the **ACRL/RBMS** Preconference in Philadelphia. On the door was a large notice that they were filming for the Food Network. It turns out Michael Symon (of *Iron Chef* fame) was filming a new show. Cristina agreed to order a spinach and pork sandwich and was filmed doing so. One possibly exciting result of this lunch was the decision to start a [group blog](#) that revolved around our mutual love of food and books.”...



Lux Mentis, Lux Orbis, June 23; . . . And a Side of Books

### [Librarians just want to have fun](#)

Kathryn Shields writes: “On Saturday morning, you could find librarians wielding plastic clappers, blowing bubbles, and eating Tootsie Rolls while listening to the Beatles and the Beach Boys. Where? At ‘Librarians Just Need to Have Fun: Utilizing Fun and Humor in the Workplace to Enhance Employee Performance,’ a program sponsored by **ACRL’s** College Libraries Section.”...

*Cognotes*, June 27, p. 6

### [What every new librarian needs to know](#)

Kathryn Shields writes: “On Saturday afternoon, Lisa Carlucci Thomas and Karen Sobel spoke to a packed audience in an **ACRL** program entitled ‘Starting Out? Start with You: What Every New Librarian Needs to Know.’ Sobel focused on a challenge that many new (and experienced) librarians face—research—and encouraged new librarians to plan out projects in great detail before starting. She provided tips for surviving the Institutional Review Board process, including being prepared for bizarre questions.”...

*Cognotes*, June 28, p. 25–26

### [Librarians can change society](#)

Amy Pace writes: “How can librarians become more engaged in social movements? On Sunday morning, activists, historians, librarians, and other creative thinkers discussed their research and work to promote civic engagements to help provoke this question. The **ACRL** program was moderated by Annie Paprocki, anthropology and sociology librarian from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.”...

*Cognotes*, June 28, p. 18, 23

### [YALSA’s virtual President’s Program](#)

This year, **YALSA** President Linda Braun wanted to create a completely virtual program. Since the planning committee had already decided to provide a take-away—some kind of “risk kit”—to program participants, an online program really made the most sense (even if it did make them nervous). Watch what the Search Institute, Media MashUp project, and FIERCE can teach about taking risks....



YALSA President’s Program 2010

## [YALSA at Annual](#)

YALSA's Flickr [slideshow](#) offers a glimpse of some stellar events: Friday's **YALSA** Happy Hour at Old Dominion Brew House; the Margaret A. Edwards luncheon on Saturday honored Jim Murphy, winner of the 2010 Margaret A. Edwards Award; and Sunday's YA Author Coffee Klatch, which provided an opportunity to meet with the division's award-winning authors....

ALA Membership Blog, June 27



## [Lights! Cameras! Booktrailers!](#)

The **YALSA** Teens and Technology Interest Group organized a panel program on booktrailers and video on Saturday afternoon. *New York Times* best-selling author Simone Elkeles discussed two of her booktrailers: *Perfect Chemistry* and *Rules of Attraction*. She said she was a "child of the eighties" and wanted to make a booktrailer like the *Fresh Prince of Bel-Air's* opening credits—a rap book trailer. She felt that because teens are on the internet, that is where she needed to get them interested in her books....

YALSA Blog, July 1

## Other Events

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### [ALA unites to grant a wish](#)

ALA President Camila Alire hosted a once-in-a-lifetime "make-a-wish" luncheon for a special young lady who describes herself as "crazy about books and reading." Laura Rodgers, 9, from Lebanon, Indiana, suffers from mitochondrial disease, and she recently contacted the Association indicating her desire to attend Annual Conference. Neither she nor her mother mentioned the disease, but her social worker called to explain why this would make her happy since she has only a few years to live.

Watch the [interview](#) (2:10)....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 27; ALA YouTube, June 28



### [Ogletree: Libraries a mirror of societal success](#)

"There are far too many libraries today that are not open seven days a week, weekends, or at night," Harvard Law School Jesse Climenko Professor Charles Ogletree said in an exclusive *American Libraries* interview. Ogletree, founder of Harvard Law's Charles Hamilton Institute for Race and Justice, serves as one of several celebrity honorary cochairs of ALA's Spectrum Presidential Initiative. He addressed Library Champions at a reception held in their honor....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 25



### [Carol Brey-Casiano tells a Patriot Act story](#)

The Leroy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund—established in 1970 to provide financial aid to librarians who are in jeopardy for their stand on intellectual freedom—celebrated its 40th anniversary Monday with a gala dinner in the Folger Shakespeare Library. Besides



the Shakespeariana and Elizabethan maritime rarities on display, the highlight of the evening was the story former ALA President Carol Brey-Casiano told about an experience she described as the worst in her professional career. It involved a Texas Ranger, a lawyer named Paco, the Patriot Act, and the Merritt Fund....

*AL: Inside Scoop, June 29*

### [Google Books panel](#)

Karen E. Brown writes: "There are many resources to help one try and understand the complicated aspects of the Google Books Settlement. A more engaging avenue was listening to Monday's discussion by the ALA Task Force on Google Books panelists. As it is now, the settlement decision is in the hands of Judge Denny Chin; ultimately, Register of Copyrights Marybeth Peters (right) believes the case will turn to litigation."...



*Cognotes, June 29, p. 4, 6*

### [GLBTRT 40th anniversary recognized in House](#)

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table was recognized by a June 23 resolution of the U.S. House of Representatives, congratulating it on its 40th anniversary. Sponsored by Rep. Mike Quigley (D-III.), the resolution recognizes GLBTRT for seeking to "improve the lives of librarians, archivists, other information specialists, and library users who are part of the GLBT community."...

*Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table, June 29*

### [Research, research everywhere](#)

A number of poster sessions provided librarians and students an opportunity to share research projects. On Friday, the Emerging Leaders had their turn, at a reception where they showed off the group projects undertaken as part of the EL program. All of the Emerging Leaders' projects are available on [ALA Connect](#), and *AL* showcases four of them: [Visual Map of ALA](#), [updating the librarians and the internet](#), [staff development day](#), and [international partnership for advocacy](#)....



*AL: Inside Scoop, June 26; ALA YouTube, June 28*

### [Poetry as a community builder](#)

M. Rini Hughes writes: "If the three panelists at this Public Programs Office session on Saturday can't turn you on to poetry, you might want to get your hearing checked. Kwame Alexander opened the discussion by reading his own poetry. His dynamic delivery engaged the listener from the moment he opened his mouth, living evidence of the power of poetry. He was followed by Stephen Young of the Poetry Foundation, who talked about exciting programs aimed at getting young adults interested in reading and writing poetry."...

*Programming Librarian, June 28*

## [Getting graphic at the Graphic Novel Pavilion](#)

The Graphic Novel and Gaming Pavilions hosted a plethora of miniprograms, author signings, demos, and events. Friday night featured a Drink and Draw reception that pitted such luminaries as Owly's Andy Runton, Unshelved's Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum (right), and American Elf's James Kochalka against each other in the art of drawing pictures on the fly. On Saturday, the Cosplay on Parade cocktail reception allowed attendees to dress up....  
ALA Membership Blog, June 27



## [Graphic novels: More bang for your book](#)

Lisa Goldstein writes: "Christian Zabriskie of Queens (N.Y.) Public Library discussed 'where graphic novels and circulation mesh' Monday in one of over 40 hours of programming devoted to graphic novels. 'Superbooks: How Graphics Can Save Your Library' was a numbers-based case for graphic novels as a solid investment. Using statistics, graphs, and his own cost/circ ratio, Zabriskie demonstrated that the graphic novels in his collection cost about 38 cents per circulation."...  
PLA Blog, June 28

## [Better services to the underserved](#)

Stacy L. Voeller writes: "The Office for Literacy and Outreach Services hosted the program 'Library Services for the Poor and Homeless' on Sunday. Victoria Hill, cluster children's specialist at Brooklyn Public Library who does a lot of outreach services to schools and hospitals, said, 'You have to meet the people where they are, which is not always within our doors.' She added that clustering or grouping of four to six neighboring branches that share resources to better serve the community became their model for achieving this."...  
*Cognotes*, June 29, p. 8

## [Bookmobiles on parade](#)

The 2010 Parade of Bookmobiles featured bookmobiles from the Frederick County (Md.) Public Library, the Jefferson-Madison (Va.) Regional Library, Baltimore County (Md.) Public Library, the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore, the Bowling Green (Ohio) Public Library, and a vehicle from Meridian Specialty Vehicles with Montana plates....  
ALA Membership Blog, June 28



## [Thoughts on Burning Man](#)

The Sunday Intellectual Freedom Round Table program featuring Burning Man Executive Director Larry Harvey and IFRT Chair Lauren Christos featured a dialogue that ranged from what it truly means to participate in a civic-minded society to creating culture amidst the vast expanse of the backdrop known as Black Rock City. Harvey eloquently delivered the concept of commodification of our culture while balancing the innate instincts of the human soul to give and connect freely to others....  
ALA Membership Blog, June 27

## [Documentaries: The ethical challenges](#)

Alexander Street Press held its customer appreciation breakfast Sunday morning, this one celebrating its 10th anniversary as a provider of large-scale digital collections to libraries. As breakfast speaker, the

company brought in Patricia Aufderheide (right), director and founder of the Center for Social Media at American University, who discussed the behind-the-scenes ethical choices documentary filmmakers must make in attempting to portray real events....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 27



### [Talking financial literacy](#)

In the "Money Smart Week: Promoting Financial Literacy in Your Library" program on Monday, Bobbie Rudnick of Naperville (Ill.) Public Library and Lori Burgess of Fond du Lac (Wis.) Public Library talked about their libraries' financial programming. [Money Smart Week](#) is a series of classes and activities designed to help consumers better manage their money that was started by the Federal Reserve Bank in Chicago in 2001....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 29

### [Black Caucus of ALA celebrates 40 years](#)

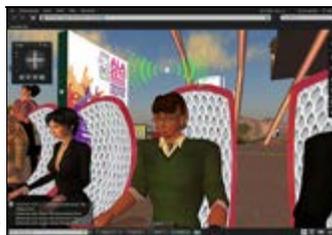
The Black Caucus of the American Library Association celebrated 40 years of service to African-American librarianship Friday night at the Historical Society of Washington. Following a tribute to the late E. J. Josey and Effie Lee Morris, Black Classic Press Editor W. Paul Coates talked about BCALA's legacy and future....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 28

### [Virtual communities and libraries](#)

Tom Boellstorff, professor of anthropology at the University of California, Irvine, spoke at the Virtual Communities and Libraries Member Initiative Group meeting on Saturday. Boellstorff spoke from Second Life (using voice chat) regarding research and his book *Coming of Age in Second Life*....

Flickr, June 27



### [Focusing a global lens on local communities](#)

Karen E. Brown writes: "Imagine if your bandwidth were so slow, you had to physically mail a CDR or thumb drive containing PDFs of your hard work to another location for someone else to upload? What if the only computers you have to help digitize your beloved cultural materials are infested with worms and viruses? These were legitimate difficulties encountered, along with extremely positive experiences, by some of the speakers of the 'Libraries as Gateways to Local History Around the World' panel, hosted by the International Relations Round Table."...

*Cognotes*, June 28, p. 24

### [Preparing the librarians of the future](#)

Jeanna Vahling writes: "Reforma and the New Members Round Table, collaborating for the first time, hosted a session titled 'The New Professional Paradigm: Redefining the New Librarian' on Sunday. It addressed the planning and passing on of knowledge and management skills across generations in this era of the 'new librarian.' Rutgers University Business Librarian Gene Springs suggested two levels of preparedness: institutional and individual."...

Cognotes, June 29, p. 22

### [Off to read the wizard](#)

It's difficult to miss the OverDrive Digital Bookmobile stationed in the corner of a large parking lot across the street from the Washington Convention Center. But inside is not just the expected product information. The Digital Bookmobile is also home to a project called Lend Your Voice. "Lend Your Voice is a community-sourced audiobook production," said Katherine Fleming of Random House Audio Listening Library, which is partnering with OverDrive on the project. Some 300 librarians collaborated on an audiobook recording of *The Wizard of Oz*. Random House's Katherine Fleming [explains](#) the project (3:41)....



AL: Inside Scoop, June 27; YouTube, June 27

### [MAGERT's 30th anniversary celebration](#)

The Map and Geography Round Table celebrated its 30th anniversary with a toast at the ALA Membership Pavilion on Sunday. The celebration included a book signing by Jim Coombs, map librarian at Missouri State University, past MAGERT chair, and author of *Great Moments in Map Librarianship: Cartoons from the First 30 Years of base line*, the round table's newsletter....



ALA Membership Blog, June 27

### [Training Showcase on YouTube](#)

Maurice Coleman writes: "Each of the exhibitors in the Learning Round Table Training Showcase has a short video giving their 'elevator speech' about why they participated and what they had to offer the LRT community. Here is Stacy Schrank (right) as an excellent example of the brief but effective videos. You can find the rest on my [YouTube Channel](#)."...



Learning Round Table, June 28

### [ALA Dance Party 2010](#)

Patrick Sweeney writes: "The ALA Dance Party was organized by the [8bitlibrary](#) gaming folks. The event was advertised almost entirely via Twitter and Facebook and various blogs in an almost guerrilla fashion. In the end, about 100 librarians showed up at the Apex nightclub on Friday night and danced until the early morning hours. Attendees included Joe Murphy, Loida Garcia-Febo, and Stephen Abram." Check out the [video](#) (0:29)....



PLA Blog, June 30

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## Awards

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### [Pitt wins Book Cart Drill championship](#)

The "Night of the Living Librarians" team from the University of Pittsburgh won the

sixth annual Library Book Cart Drill Team Championship on Sunday. Watch the [video](#) (8:14) of their performance. Drill teams made up of library workers performed themed dance routines with costumes and decorated book carts. Pitt's team won the "golden book cart," topping competitors from Delaware; Gettysburg College; Midlothian, Texas; and Roselle, New Jersey. [All performances](#) are on YouTube....



ALA Membership Blog, June 28; ALA YouTube, July 1

### [Jason Griffey crowned Battledecks champion](#)

A raucous, standing-room-only crowd of about 250 stayed after the closing of the exhibit hall Monday to watch Jason Griffey (right) win the Battledecks competition. Battledecks is a not-completely-serious contest in which participants give a presentation based on slides they've never seen before on a topic they get minutes beforehand. The results are frequently hilarious and often surprisingly insightful. Watch the [video](#) (4:03). Videos of all the participants are available [here](#)....



AL: Inside Scoop, June 29; ALA YouTube, June 29; Librarian by Day, July 1

### [Newbery/Caldecott: The pageantry, the splendor, the tats](#)

Betsy Bird writes: "Each and every year I decide to celebrate the Newbery/Caldecott winners with a bit of old-fashioned body art. In the past, this has involved bands of the covers of the winners on either arm. This is fine and all, but this year I wanted to step it up a notch. So it was that I decided to go an entirely different route for 2010. In short, a kind of guessing game on either arm. As for the banquet itself, the flyers were consistently gorgeous."...



*School Library Journal*: A Fuse #8 Production, June 28

### [Secrets of the John Cotton Dana winners](#)

LLAMA sponsored a panel Saturday morning on outstanding community-centered marketing campaigns. "John Cotton Dana Winners Tell All!" brought together experts from libraries that won the John Cotton Dana Award to share their secrets about successful library PR and advocacy campaigns. Nancy Dowd (right), director of marketing for the New Jersey State Library, described the statewide 2009 campaign that allowed local libraries in New Jersey to tell strategic stories about how libraries transform lives....



AL: Inside Scoop, June 26

### [Crystal Apple goes to Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland](#)

AASL President Cassandra Barnett selected Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland as the recipient of the 2010 Crystal Apple. The honor, announced at the AASL Awards



Luncheon, is given at the discretion of the division president to an individual or group that has had a significant impact on school library programs and students. Barnett specifically mentioned Strickland's Evidence-based Education Reform and Funding Plan, which includes a provision for phasing in funding for school librarians....

*Cognotes*, June 27, p. 8

## Tech Events

### Top Technology Trends 2010

Sean Fitzpatrick writes: "Maybe it was the cavernous ballroom, but LITA's Top Technology Trends panel seemed to have the biggest attendance I've ever seen. It was also the most information-dense, so much so that I'll split the coverage into three parts. The Trendsters had three minutes to project trends for current, imminent, and long-term timelines." Read parts [two](#) and [three](#). LITA has a [complete video](#) of the session. See the LITA summary [here](#)....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 28-29; LITA Blog, July 2



### TechSource Gadget Petting Zoo

Daniel A. Freeman writes: "The petting zoo was a major success, with dozens of people coming by the ALA Publishing booth to talk with some of our bloggers about the latest gadgets and what they can do for our libraries. It's hard to say which gadget got the most attention. Of course, we were expecting a ton of interest in the iPad and eReaders, and the interest was certainly there."...

ALA TechSource Blog, June 28



### Four major trends from the tech vendors

Sean Fitzpatrick writes: "I spent most of my time at Annual meeting up with tech vendors who discussed their product plans and strategies. The ideas they share play an important part in shaping trends in librarianship, for those trends almost always have an antecedent technology component, and the technology the vendors provide must always fill some need if it's going to be viable in the marketplace. Here are some major concepts that came up again and again."...

AL: Inside Scoop, June 30



### Infrastructure for intermediation

As librarians, we know we're *better* than Google at providing relevant information—it's just that we're rarely as *fast*. At LLAMA's "Competing with Search Engines: Rethinking Websites and Social Media Strategies" program Saturday morning, NewsTrust Executive Director Fabrice Florin described a technological platform that allows his group



to quickly and efficiently intermediate between producers and consumers....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 27

### [ProQuest unveils new tech](#)

Attendees got a preview of ProQuest's all-new platform, which promises to unify all ProQuest content in a single framework. It will now include ProQuest Extended Search, a Serials Solutions technology that will enable libraries to connect to other non-ProQuest databases as well. The platform is the highlight of a wave of new technology being released by the company throughout 2010. ProQuest will begin migrating customers to the new platform in late summer....

Information Today, June 28



## Seen Online

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### [How to tell librarians from vendors](#)

A favorite game to play whenever ALA is in town is Spot the Librarian. It's usually a safe bet to start playing on your plane ride, at the airport, and throughout the city. As you are traversing the wilds of ALA, including roller backpacks and people covered in buttons, if you are new to the scene you might find yourself confusing equally badged vendors with librarians. Here is a handy guide to spotting the differences between the two species....

Unintentionally Funny Books, June 27

### [Tutor.com's Best of ALA 2010](#)

Jennifer Kohn writes: "The Tutor.com team had a great time at the ALA Annual Conference—meeting with clients, spotting celebrities, enjoying a home-cooked meal away from home, and of course having wonderful conversations about how Tutor.com and libraries are making a difference in people's lives. Here are the very best moments of our ALA 2010 experience."...

Tutor.com Blog, June 29



### [NPR's Diane Rehm showcases libraries](#)

NPR's *Diane Rehm Show* invited ALA President Camila Alire, PLA President Sari Feldman, and DCPL Board of Trustees President John Hill to the June 28 show titled "The Changing Role of Public Libraries." They discussed the ever-growing need for public libraries' free resources, and the ongoing state budget cuts. The [comments](#) are interesting....

ALA Membership Blog, June 28; NPR: *Diane Rehm Show*, June 28

### [Returning a library book, five years late](#)

This weekend, ALA kicked off its annual conference, just across the street from NPR. It's a bit too close for comfort for Matt Martinez (right), the senior supervising producer of *All Things Considered*. He has a book that's five years overdue, and with the librarians so close, he decided to turn himself in. The show features ALA President Camila Alire and D.C. Public Library Director Ginnie Cooper. Find out why Martinez is fascinated with libraries in this [video](#) (6:18)....



NPR: *All Things Considered*, June 27; ALA YouTube, June 27

### [ALA10: A day in the life](#)

Travis Jonker writes: "What with all the real-life interactions and events going on during ALA Annual Conference, it is remarkably easy to not blog. But that changes here and now, as I present a day in the life (Sunday) at ALA 2010."...

100 Scope Notes, July 1

### [Lessons from ALA10](#)

Cindi Trainor writes: "At the 2007 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., I wrote [this blog post](#). I was a month into a new job and trying to find my way into the impenetrable depths of the seemingly endless ALA. My past experience in other associations told me that Woody Allen was right when he said that 80% of success is showing up. Associations like ALA and its chapters and divisions depend on volunteers to get business and planning done, and there are never enough volunteers. So, looking back, what have I learned?"...

ALA TechSource Blog, July 2; Citegeist, June 24, 2007



### [Notes from a first-timer](#)

Britt Foster writes: "Let me just say straight off that when you check in with conference registration, and they give you your name tag, there should be a small device that allows you to mainline coffee. I was able to attend Annual Conference this year through the [Student-to-Staff program](#), a great opportunity for students involved in their ALA Student Chapters. Rather than go through the conference day by day (yawn), I wanted to report on some of the major themes I took away from the conference, and what that meant to me in terms of being a student librarian."...

Library Moth, July 1

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AL Direct, July 2, 2010

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## Special Post-Annual Conference Issue

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 2, 2010

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[<http://info.sirsidynix.com/saas-ipad.html>]

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

### Conference Highlights

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#### Frontline advocacy highlights ALA Annual Conference

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/news/ala/capitol-hill-rally-meeting-us-secretary-education-arne-duncan-frontline-advocacy-highlight->]

Librarians and library supporters spoke loudly and clearly about the value of libraries during the ALA 2010 Annual Conference, held in Washington, D.C., June 24–29. Advocacy was a central theme and the focus of two key programs developed by ALA President Camila Alire and her task force: “Surviving in a Tough Economy: An Advocacy Institute Workshop” and the “Frontline Advocacy Train the Trainer Program.” Attendees also gained valuable tips on the use of technology....

Public Information Office, June 29

Mockingbird [<http://www.oif.ala.org/oif/?p=1257>]

Aubrey Madler writes: “Of everything I saw and heard on Saturday, what still sticks with me the following morning is the experience of listening to Nancy Pearl’s interview with Mary McDonagh Murphy. This event was in celebration of the 50th anniversary

[<http://tokillamockingbird50year.com/>] of Harper Lee’s To Kill a Mockingbird and the book and documentary Murphy created in its honor.

There was not a dry eye in the auditorium as reflections from Oprah Winfrey, Rosanne Cash, and Tom Brokaw were projected on the screens.”...  
OIF Blog, June 27

#### Toni Morrison and libraries

[<http://ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/cognotes/index.cfm>]  
Jeanna Vahling writes: “Nobel Prize–winning author, Pulitzer Prize winner, and ‘charming and witty’ are all words to describe Toni Morrison, this year’s Opening Session Keynote Speaker. More importantly, she is a library advocate with a genuine love for our profession. ‘I suspect that every single author that speaks to librarians can tell you about his or her intimate, steady, and vital relationships to libraries,’ she said in her opening remarks.” Watch a clip [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7W8vnZ9Ftu8>] (4:42) from her talk....  
Cognotes, June 28, p. 16; ALA YouTube, June 27

#### Marlo Thomas reminisces

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/marlo-thomas-reminisces-love-and-laughter>]  
Reminiscing with an audience of early Monday risers, Marlo Thomas previewed her forthcoming book from HarperCollins, *Growing Up Laughing*, with jokes and stories about her life as the daughter of comedian Danny Thomas. With the likes of George Burns and Bob Hope frequently showing up in her living room, said Thomas, laughter became “the cushion for life,” she said, noting that her father said adults should laugh 75 times a day, as children do....  
AL: Inside Scoop, June 28

[<http://www.pio.ala.org/visibility/?p=1957>] John Grisham thanks libraries  
[<http://ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/cognotes/index.cfm>]  
Kathryn Shields writes: “‘I have a long, wonderful history with libraries and librarians. From a purely selfish view, I want to say thanks,’ said author John Grisham as he began his talk on Monday. Grisham, who will serve as the honorary chair of National Library Week in 2011, said he owes much of his early success as an author to libraries and librarians.”  
A clip [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VEBK27Xaewo>] of the speech is here (4:27). Prior to his talk, Grisham spoke about the value of libraries in the Green Room; watch the video [<http://www.pio.ala.org/visibility/?p=1957>] (2:57)....  
Cognotes, June 29, p. 1, 8; ALA YouTube, June 29; Visibility @ your library, June 28

#### Kidd and Taylor on memoirs

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/kidd-and-taylor-memoirs-relationships>]  
Amy Pace writes: “Sue Monk Kidd, author of *The Secret Life of Bees*, and her daughter Ann Kidd Taylor, with whom she recently wrote a new book, *Traveling with Pomegranates*, spoke Saturday morning about their memoir. Family photographs—vacations, celebrations, and candid pictures—flashed on the screens before the two took the stage. Kidd described the photos as a visual collage of their book.”...  
Cognotes, June 27, p. 1, 27

The enigmatologist speaks (but not cryptically)

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/enigmatologist-speaks-not-cryptically>]

At the PLA President's Program on Sunday, New York Times Crossword Puzzle Editor Will Shortz gave an appreciative crowd a peek at the world of crosswords, and particularly what makes for good—and bad—solving. Shortz said the difficulty of a crossword puzzle should come from challenging clues rather than obscure words, and crosswords should contain “lively, colorful vocabulary” with a minimum of archaic, vowel-dense words that are primarily used only in crosswords....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 27

[<http://www.pio.ala.org/visibility/?p=1955>] Salman Rushdie puts messages in a bottle

[<http://ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/cognotes/index.cfm>] Brad Martin writes: “Salman Rushdie spoke on Saturday about the writing of *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* and *Luka and the Fire of Life*, weaving in similar examples of other authors’ children’s books that had been written for specific children. Rushdie told how both his books involve fathers and sons, but they differ as a result of the shifting perspectives we experience in life.” Watch Steve Zalusky’s interview [<http://www.pio.ala.org/visibility/?p=1955>] with Rushdie (4:18) in the green room....

Cognotes, June 27, p. 5, 30; Visibility @ your library, June 27

“Many Voices, One Nation” plays to a full house

[<http://ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/cognotes/index.cfm>] Frederick J. Augustyn Jr. writes: “José Aponte, director of the San Diego County (Calif.) Library, served as MC for the ‘Many Voices, One Nation’ program on Friday. Introducing the event with readings from novelists, storytellers, and poets as the lighter side of librarianship, Aponte asserted that ‘we are librarians and we understand the value of both oral and written traditions.’”...

Cognotes, June 27, p. 26

Eppo’s vision of the future

[<http://ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/cognotes/index.cfm>] Stacy L. Voeller writes: “On Sunday, the ALA President’s Program featured inspirational speaker, Eppo van Nispen tot Sevenaer. He greeted the crowd by saying, ‘Hello, I’m a librarian. Ever since I’ve become a librarian, I don’t get invited to parties.’ He started the DOK Library Concept Center in Delft, Netherlands, with the idea that it ‘would always be ahead.’ Architects ‘think in terms of forms, not of people,’ he said. ‘They miss the point of really designing a library that’s useful.’”...

Cognotes, June 29, p. 1, 22

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVLeu8EJpsQ>] Dave Isay and StoryCorps

[<http://ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/cognotes/index.cfm>] Brad Martin writes: “About seven years ago, a booth was set up in Grand Central Terminal in New York to record interviews that would later be preserved for future generations to hear. Studs Terkel cut the ribbon and made a remark about people knowing who designed the famous railroad terminal, but that we didn’t know much about the everyday people

who built it. Dave Isay, founder of StoryCorps, spoke about this ongoing project on Sunday in this session sponsored by American Libraries and shared many examples of the recordings.” Watch the clip [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVLeu8EJpsQ>] (1:10)....  
Cognotes, June 28, p. 18; ALA YouTube, June 27

#### Haunting graphic tales

[<http://ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/cognotes/index.cfm>]  
Amy Pace writes: “What do David Small and Audrey Niffenegger have in common? Both have recently written graphic novels, beautiful and evocative and written for adults. The haunting book trailer featuring poignant black-and-white illustrations by David Small introduced attendees to the work of art and memoir that is Stitches. On Monday, Small and Niffenegger shared their works and their reasons for creating graphic novels at the Graphic Novel Panel.”...  
Cognotes, June 29, p. 3

#### An inside look at national policies

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=5077>]  
“All Politics Is Local: Positioning Libraries for Success in the Capital,” the ALA Washington Office update, featured District insiders including FCC Commissioner Mignon Clyburn. She spoke about the role of libraries in the national broadband plan and underscored ALA’s position that anchor institutions—such as libraries—must be supported by the federal government in order to ensure that all members of the public have access to broadband as well as digital literacy skills.”...  
District Dispatch, June 28

#### Natalie Merchant at Exhibits Closing

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/natalie-merchant-performance-exhibits-closing-reception>]  
On Monday after the exhibits closed, songwriter Natalie Merchant performed selections from her newly released *Leave Your Sleep*, a set of songs adapted from the works of various classic and contemporary poets. The special event was presented by Baker & Taylor, Nonesuch Records, and WEA....  
ALA Membership Blog, June 29

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CRszd6bfyDY>]Amy Sedaris keynotes Closing Session [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CRszd6bfyDY>]  
Author and comedian Amy Sedaris demonstrated some of the reasonably twisted craft projects from her forthcoming book *Simple Times: Crafts for Poor People* during the Closing Session on Tuesday morning. “If you want to have some gingham shoes,” she said, “go buy some cheap tennis shoes, use a magic marker, and you can make your own (above). Aren’t they cute?”...  
ALA YouTube, June 30

[[http://www.flickr.com/photos/ala\\_members/4733389788/in/photostream/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/ala_members/4733389788/in/photostream/)]Libraries Build Communities at DC Public Library  
[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/libraries-build-communities-service-martin-luther-king-library-dc-public-library>]  
Robin Brown, information literacy librarian for the Borough of Manhattan

Community College's Randolph Memorial Library, volunteered at the District of Columbia Public Library's Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library on Friday. She writes: "Since I was on my own in a strange city and available, I naturally wanted to sign up for the Libraries Build Communities project. The day seemed like a gift, and a great chance to meet other librarians."...  
ALA Membership Blog, June 27

Roberta Stevens inaugurated ALA President  
[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/roberta-stevens-library-congress-inaugurated-2010-2011-ala-president>]  
Friends, family, and colleagues, including new division presidents, helped Roberta Stevens (right) of the Library of Congress celebrate her inauguration as 2010–2011 president of ALA. Instead of a traditional presidential speech, Stevens turned the podium over to four of her favorite authors: Marie Arana, Brad Meltzer, Sharon Draper, and Carmen Agra Deedy....  
AL: Inside Scoop, June 30

Council handles full agenda  
[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/council-handles-full-agenda-early-last-session>]  
ALA Council sailed through its last Annual Conference session, which began early on Tuesday to accommodate the Library Advocacy Day rally on Capitol Hill. Among other things, it approved the establishment of a Retired Members Round Table recommended by the Committee on Organization. On Sunday, Council unanimously passed  
[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/council-ends-session-early-cheers-preliminary-attendance-figures>] the ALA 2011–2015 Strategic Plan....  
AL: Inside Scoop, June 27, 29

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[<http://mangolanguages.com/libraries>]  
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Advocacy  
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Report from the ground on Library Advocacy Day  
[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2010/06/29/report-from-the-ground-on-library-advocacy-day/>]  
Matthew Moffett writes: "Like so many at this year's ALA Annual, I took advantage of being in D.C. to play a part in Library Advocacy Day on Tuesday. The event started a few minutes early with YA author Lauren Myracle (right)—who was introduced by ALA President Camila Alire (above) as this year's most banned author—warming up the crowd with a reading from her new book Luv Ya Bunches. Both Senator Jack Reed (left, D-R.I.) and Rep. Vern Ehlers (right, R-Mich.) delivered short

speeches on the importance of libraries.” ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels empowered the state delegations meeting with Congress to remember they represent the millions of schoolchildren and Americans who depend on library services every day. Watch the video [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=5089>] (33:46).... YALSA Blog, June 29; District Dispatch, June 30

Arne Duncan meets with AASL leaders

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/news/ala/arne-duncan-holds-dialogue-aasl-leaders>]

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan (right) had an informal meeting with the AASL Board of Directors on Monday. The meeting was scheduled to discuss how school librarians can be included in A Blueprint for Reform, President Obama’s plan for revising the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. However, Duncan stressed that without the passage of the jobs bill, education would see a level of destruction as never seen before. “Use your loud librarian voices” for lobbying, he said. [<http://www.aasl.ala.org/aasblog/?p=1150>] If the bill doesn’t pass, there will be severe devastation for education, including library positions....

AASL, June 29; AASL Blog, June 28

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqElamQStpg>] Nine ways to defend your budget

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/nine-point-plan-budget-defense>]

At the Advocacy Institute on Friday, Committee on Library Advocacy Chair Carol Brey-Casiano and Office for Library Advocacy Director Marci Merola offered a nine-point plan on what to do when your budget is threatened. Watch a clip [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqElamQStpg>] (3:15). More information is available in a newly released toolkit on the Advocacy University website, “Budget in the Crosshairs? Navigating a Challenging Budget Year.”

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/advocacyuniversity/budget\\_crosshairs/index.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/advocacyuniversity/budget_crosshairs/index.cfm)]...

ALA Membership Blog, June 25; ALA YouTube, June 27

Alire talks about Frontline Advocacy

[<http://www.pio.ala.org/visibility/?p=1954>]

Steve Zalusky writes: “We caught up with ALA President Camila Alire following her Friday speech before those gathered for the Advocacy Institute. ‘We want to engage frontline librarians and other library employees,’ she said, ‘in a different level of advocacy, one that they are comfortable with.’”...

Visibility @ your library, June 25

Sony unveils Reader Library program

[[http://news.sel.sony.com/en/press\\_room/consumer/computer\\_peripheral/e\\_book\\_release/57890.html](http://news.sel.sony.com/en/press_room/consumer/computer_peripheral/e_book_release/57890.html)]

In recognition of Library Advocacy Day on June 29, Sony unveiled its Reader Library program, a new initiative to support the work of public libraries as they expand and promote their e-book collections. The program provides public libraries with training on digital reading devices, educational materials to help readers learn about e-books and

digital texts available to them through their local libraries, and digital reading devices for library staff use. Sony spokesperson Leanne Drown said libraries that have worked with Sony on other media projects are likely to be the first candidates  
[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/national-library-advocacy-day-sony-introduces-reader-library-program>] for the Reader Library program....

Sony Electronics, June 29; AL: Inside Scoop, June 29

Grassroots 2.0: Tips from the advocacy experts  
[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/grassroots-20-tips-advocacy-experts>]

The joint ALSC/AASL program "Grassroots 2.0: New Technologies" program on Sunday morning brought together three experts on delivering effective library messages to legislators. Curtis R. Rogers of the South Carolina State Library presented a slideshow [<http://www.slideshare.net/crr29061/social-media-and-advocacy>] of social media resources that librarians can use to promote the library and engage lawmakers. Libraries should all have an electronic newsletter, a Facebook page, a Twitter feed, a blog, and a YouTube channel as a matter of course, he said....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 27

When library schools are threatened  
[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/when-library-schools-are-threatened>]

The Committee on Education invited two special guests to its meeting Saturday afternoon—Linda Smith, associate dean of the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library and Information Science, and Beth Paskoff, director of the Louisiana State University School of Library and Information Science—both of whom had stories to tell about attempts made by the university administration, in the face of severe budget constraints, to shut down or restructure the library school....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 26

Authors

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[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qq9wCjuEow0>] Pam Ehrenberg: YA author at large

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/pam-ehrenberg-ya-author-large>]

2010 ALA Rainbow Project author Pam Ehrenberg had it made in the shade Saturday. Literally. It seems like the YA author arrived a bit too early for the Exhibit Hall and decided to kill some time and beat the heat by working under a shady tree nearby. Well, it was too interesting an image to pass up, so our man on the street Steve Zalusky decided to go in for a closer look....

ALA Membership Blog, June 27; ALA YouTube, June 27

[[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-eOPg\\_c1DU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-eOPg_c1DU)] Live at the LIVE @ your library Reading Stage

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/live-live-your-l>]

library-reading-stage]

Live readings from popular and up-and-coming authors were hosted at the LIVE! @ your library Reading Stage in the Exhibit Hall. Public Programs Office Deputy Director Mary Davis Fournier caught up with authors Kwame Alexander (right) and R. Dwayne Betts to ask how libraries impacted their lives. See also interviews

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/more-live-live-our-library-reading-stage>] with Laurie Halse Anderson and Heid E. Erdrich....

ALA Membership Blog, June 27, 29

ALA Exhibit Hall 2010

[<http://blog.schoollibraryjournal.com/afuse8production/2010/06/27/ala-convention-floor-2010-the-days-of-wine-and-swig-have-gone/>]

Betsy Bird writes: "So it was on to the Exhibit Hall for fun and profit. First up, I needed to grab my press badge, and while doing so who else did I see but Tom Angleberger, author of the widely (and justifiably) acclaimed *The Strange Case of Origami Yoda*, being interviewed by Barb Langridge of the Howard County (Md.) Library and the television show *Books Alive!* Authors were in abundance this day, so I took a great deal of fun in snapping quicky pics of them."...

School Library Journal: A Fuse #8 Production, June 27

A day of authors [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BiuKljHiZuM>]

Children's librarian Travis Jonker shot this cleverly produced video (1:52) of author signings and events that he encountered at conference. Included are snippets on Libba Bray, Jon Scieszka, Notable Book nominees, and the Newbery/Caldecott banquet....

YouTube, June 29

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nIEYszXgpdC>] Chef authors heat up the exhibit floor

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/chef-authors-heat-exhibits-floor>]

Sean Fitzpatrick writes: "Libraries and foodie culture have an obvious tie: cookbooks. All weekend long, the Cooking Pavilion in the Exhibit Hall celebrated that relationship with cookbook authors showing their chops with live demos and talks. I caught the first session, on healthy living through veganism. Neal Barnard and Robyn Webb talked about the state of veganism today (it's not just for tie-dyed hippies, they assured) and the health benefits of avoiding meat while discussing their book *To Get Healthy, Go Vegan*." Watch Warren Brown (above), author of *United Cakes of America*, mix up a sweet potato cake in this video

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nIEYszXgpdC>] (1:52)....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 26; ALA YouTube, June 27

ALA Publishing

It's a comic world

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/its-comic-world>]

Booklist's Books for Youth Annual Forum on Friday night drew a roomful of comics admirers who came to hear an art editor, a

children's book illustrator, a publisher, and a comics creator share their thoughts on how graphic novels have evolved from collections of newspaper comic strips and formulaic superhero fare into a massive mainstream publishing phenomenon. First up was Françoise Mouly (left), founder of Raw magazine and art editor of the New Yorker (who also happens to be married to comics artist and Maus creator Art Spiegelman). First Second publisher Mark Siegel (right) offered a rundown of the graphic novels in his catalog since 2006....

AL: Inside Scoop. June 26

RDA Toolkit cake [<http://www.rdatoolkit.org/ccdacelebration>]

The RDA Toolkit [<http://www.rdatoolkit.org/>] launch was celebrated at the Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access meeting on Monday. The free, open-access period started on June 23 and catalogers marked this significant moment with ALA Publishing (representing the copublishers) when Joint Steering Committee members Barbara Tillett (Library of Congress) and John Attig (Pennsylvania State University) cut the cake. RDA: Resource Description and Access is the new, unified standard designed for the digital world and an expanding universe of metadata users....

RDA Toolkit, July 1

Reference works from conception to fruition

[<http://pointsofreference.booklistonline.com/2010/07/01/reference-works-from-idea-to-reality-rbb-program-summary/>]

Sue Polanka writes: "This year the Reference Books Bulletin session focused on the process of creating a reference work, from idea to reality. The speakers included Casper Grathwohl from Oxford University Press, Rolf Janke from Sage Reference, and Frank Menchaca from Gale Cengage. Here is a summary of each panelist's comments."...

Points of Reference, July 1

Everyone's a critic

[<http://pointsofreference.booklistonline.com/2010/06/30/reviewing/>]

Barbara Bibel writes: "During a lively Booklist presentation called 'Everyone's a Critic,' panelists discussed the fine art of reviewing in the age of instant comments. Otis Chandler (Good Reads), Ron Charles (Washington Post), Jon Fine (Amazon.com), and Jennifer Huber Swan (Reading Rants) talked about the role of professional reviewers, the nature of authority, and the significance of reviews. Do readers want heavy analysis or do they care more about whether their friends enjoyed a book? There is room for both."...

Points of Reference, June 30

Division Sessions

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AASL President's Program

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8kdMWHiFg2w>]

Author Allison Zmuda was the keynote speaker at the AASL President's Program on Saturday. Her presentation, "Leading the Transformation of Education for the 21st Century," was a call to action for school

librarians to position themselves at the forefront of the push to transform American education into the 21st century. Zmuda is also a survivor of a recent stroke, which she talked about. Watch the video [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8kdMWHiFg2w>] (5:34)....  
ALA YouTube, June 28

National Preservation Week: Pass It On  
[<http://prescan.wordpress.com/2010/06/29/ala-2010-roundup-preservation-week-program/>]

Beth Doyle writes: “The first annual Preservation Week took place May 9–15. By all accounts it was a success. Next year’s Preservation Week [<http://www.ala.org/preservationweek>] is scheduled for April 24–30. At a joint ALCTS/AASL/PLA program on Sunday, three panelists outlined their events for 2010, then the audience brainstormed slogans and ideas for the 2011 event.”...

Preservation and Conservation Administration News, June 29

Help! My patron is a cyber patient  
[<http://plablog.org/2010/06/session-report-help-my-patron-is-a-cyber-patient.html>]

Mana Tominaga writes: “LaVentra E. Danqua of Wayne State University’s Shiffman Medical Library presented an excellent PLA session on health literacy and reference Saturday morning. She’s worked as a health reference librarian for more than 14 years and shared her tips and resources for helping customers. More than half of American adults (90 million people) are considered to have low health literacy. Librarians should follow these tips when answering health questions.”...

PLA Blog, June 26

I’m doing events at my library from now on  
[<http://plablog.org/2010/07/im-doing-events-at-my-library-from-now-on-%E2%80%93-ala-saturday-morning.html>]

Beverly Lawler writes: “This PLA session, presented by librarians from the St. Louis County (Mo.) Library, dealt with bringing authors to libraries to provide programs for the community. They have an awesome program, run by Carrie Robb, who was spirited away from a corporate position to facilitate the author program series. The library hosts 50 well-attended author events a year, for both children and adults.”...

PLA Blog, July 1

RUSA’s Annual Research Forum  
[<http://chronicle.com/article/Overdue-at-the-Library-Good/66086/>]

Jennifer Howard writes: “This year’s RUSA Research Forum focused on three studies driven by academic libraries. First up was Ethnographic Research in Illinois Academic Libraries. Led by Andrew Asher, a research anthropologist, the project seeks to establish how undergraduates at five Illinois institutions actually use their campus libraries. Steven J. Bell, associate university librarian at Temple University, presented findings on a study he and colleagues did of LibGuides, which are subject- or course-specific guides designed to help students find relevant library resources.”...

Chronicle of Higher Education, June 29

Reference evolution

[<http://www.stephenfrancoeur.com/digitalreference/2010/06/28/my-presentation-at-ala-on-reference-tools/>]

Stephen Francoeur writes: "On Friday, I was one of four presenters at a day-long preconference workshop on 'Reference Evolution: Envisioning the Future, Remembering the Past,' sponsored by RUSA. First up was Joe Janes, who gave a great keynote presentation on what's changed in reference and what's stayed, often for not good reasons, the same as ever. Amy VanScoy spoke next about why librarians should be more reflective about their personal philosophy of reference."...

Digital Reference, June 28

A&#8211;Z of electronic reference products

[<http://www.libraries.wright.edu/noshelfrequired/?p=1146>]

Sue Polanka writes: "On Saturday, RUSA sponsored a panel discussion on product development of electronic reference resources. Panelists discussed a variety of topics including: how product topics are selected and the role of librarians in that selection, technology expenses, time needed for product development, how items are priced, and the use of online products. The comments of all four panelists are summarized here, by topic."...

No Shelf Required, June 26

LITA Happy Hour [<http://litablog.org/2010/06/having-fun-at-ala/>]

Tanya Cothran writes: "Who says that librarians can't let their hair down and have some fun? The LITA happy hour on Friday at the Mixx Bar was a great example to the contrary. The bar area was filled with people networking, chatting, and generally having a good time. The take-away message? Don't be afraid to have a good time with your fellow librarians/techie. After a long day of panels and discussions, it's nice to have a chance to talk shop over a pint of beer and see what new solutions and opportunities arise."...

LITA Blog, June 29

Strategies for reaching Latino youth

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

Megan Hodge writes: "The Saturday panel, 'Reaching Latino Teens through Multiple Literacies: A Program for School and Public Librarians,' sponsored by Reforma, PLA, YALSA, and AASL, discussed the strategies and programs three librarians have used to reach out to and increase the literacy of the Latino teenagers in their communities. The program opened with a video interview of then-16-year-old spoken word artist Diego Mosquera, who said he was very interested in rap early in his teens."...

Cognotes, June 28, p. 8, 10

The Year of Cataloging Research

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/cataloging-and-beyond-year-cataloging-research>]

Megan Hodge writes: "Moderated and organized by Allyson Carlyle of the University of Washington's iSchool, this Sunday panel brought together four experts on current cataloging trends in order to provide research ideas for what ALCTS has dubbed the Year of Cataloging Research. Lynn Silipigni Connaway of OCLC said that users want catalog or database searches to be 'as easy as Google Book Search.' She analyzed 12 user studies published in the U.S. and U.K. over the last five years, in order

to determine what the digital researcher looks like today.”...  
Cognotes, June 28, p. 30

Strategic future of print collections

[<http://prescan.wordpress.com/2010/06/30/ala-2010-program-strategic-future-of-print-collections/>]

Beth Doyle writes: “Gary Frost began this joint ALCTS/ACRL session on Sunday by describing the interplay between print and screen reading. He urged us to think about the potential interdependence between the self-authenticating nature of print and the self-indexing nature of the screen. This ‘and’ not ‘or’ was investigated by Walt Crawford, the next speaker, who believes that digital resources enhance print resources.”...  
Preservation and Conservation Administration News, June 30

Food Network gets a librarian, and a new blog is born

[<http://luxmentis.com/blog/?p=1437>]

Ian Kahn writes: “LC’s Mark Dimunation, Cristina Favretto (director of special collections at the University of Miami), Aidan Kahn, and I had lunch at John’s Roast Pork on Day 2 of the ACRL/RBMS Preconference in Philadelphia. On the door was a large notice that they were filming for the Food Network. It turns out Michael Symon (of Iron Chef fame) was filming a new show. Cristina agreed to order a spinach and pork sandwich and was filmed doing so. One possibly exciting result of this lunch was the decision to start a group blog [<http://asideofbooks.com/>] that revolved around our mutual love of food and books.”...  
Lux Mentis, Lux Orbis, June 23; . . . And a Side of Books

Librarians just want to have fun

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

Kathryn Shields writes: “On Saturday morning, you could find librarians wielding plastic clappers, blowing bubbles, and eating Tootsie Rolls while listening to the Beatles and the Beach Boys. Where? At ‘Librarians Just Need to Have Fun: Utilizing Fun and Humor in the Workplace to Enhance Employee Performance,’ a program sponsored by ACRL’s College Libraries Section.”...  
Cognotes, June 27, p. 6

What every new librarian needs to know

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/new-librarians-know-thyself>]

Kathryn Shields writes: “On Saturday afternoon, Lisa Carlucci Thomas and Karen Sobel spoke to a packed audience in an ACRL program entitled ‘Starting Out? Start with You: What Every New Librarian Needs to Know.’ Sobel focused on a challenge that many new (and experienced) librarians face—research—and encouraged new librarians to plan out projects in great detail before starting. She provided tips for surviving the Institutional Review Board process, including being prepared for bizarre questions.”...  
Cognotes, June 28, p. 25–26

Librarians can change society

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/librarians-can-change-society>]

Amy Pace writes: “How can librarians become more engaged in social

movements? On Sunday morning, activists, historians, librarians, and other creative thinkers discussed their research and work to promote civic engagements to help provoke this question. The ACRL program was moderated by Annie Paprocki, anthropology and sociology librarian from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.”...  
Cognotes, June 28, p. 18, 23

YALSA’s virtual President’s Program

[<http://www.yalsa.ala.org/yalsapresident2010/>]

This year, YALSA President Linda Braun wanted to create a completely virtual program. Since the planning committee had already decided to provide a take-away—some kind of “risk kit”—to program participants, an online program really made the most sense (even if it did make them nervous). Watch what the Search Institute, Media MashUp project, and FIERCE can teach about taking risks....

YALSA President’s Program 2010

YALSA at Annual

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/yalsa-annual>]

YALSA’s Flickr slideshow

[[http://www.flickr.com/photos/ala\\_members/sets/72157624239304325/show/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/ala_members/sets/72157624239304325/show/)]

offers a glimpse of some stellar events: Friday’s YALSA Happy Hour at Old Dominion Brew House; the Margaret A. Edwards luncheon on Saturday honored Jim Murphy, winner of the 2010 Margaret A. Edwards Award; and Sunday’s YA Author Coffee Klatch, which provided an opportunity to meet with the division’s award-winning authors....

ALA Membership Blog, June 27

Lights! Cameras! Booktrailers!

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2010/07/01/ala10-lights-camera-booktrailers/>]

The YALSA Teens and Technology Interest Group organized a panel program on booktrailers and video on Saturday afternoon. New York Times best-selling author Simone Elkeles discussed two of her booktrailers: Perfect Chemistry and Rules of Attraction. She said she was a “child of the eighties” and wanted to make a booktrailer like the Fresh Prince of Bel-Air’s opening credits—a rap book trailer. She felt that because teens are on the internet, that is where she needed to get them interested in her books....

YALSA Blog, July 1

Other Events

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[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qUEZwydtOik>]ALA unites to grant a wish

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/ala-unites-grant-wish>]

ALA President Camila Alire hosted a once-in-a-lifetime “make-a-wish” luncheon for a special young lady who describes herself as “crazy about books and reading.” Laura Rodgers, 9, from Lebanon, Indiana, suffers from mitochondrial disease, and she recently contacted the Association indicating her desire to attend Annual Conference. Neither she nor her mother mentioned the disease, but her social worker called to explain why this would make her happy since she

has only a few years to live. Watch the interview  
[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qUEZwydtOik>] (2:10)....  
AL: Inside Scoop, June 27; ALA YouTube, June 28

Ogletree: Libraries a mirror of societal success  
[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/libraries-are-mirror-societal-success-says-harvard-law-professor>]  
“There are far too many libraries today that are not open seven days a week, weekends, or at night,” Harvard Law School Jesse Climenko Professor Charles Ogletree said in an exclusive American Libraries interview. Ogletree, founder of Harvard Law’s Charles Hamilton Institute for Race and Justice, serves as one of several celebrity honorary cochairs of ALA’s Spectrum Presidential Initiative. He addressed Library Champions at a reception held in their honor....  
AL: Inside Scoop, June 25

Carol Brey-Casiano tells a Patriot Act story  
[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/carol-brey-casiano-tells-patriot-act-story>]  
The Leroy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund—established in 1970 to provide financial aid to librarians who are in jeopardy for their stand on intellectual freedom—celebrated its 40th anniversary Monday with a gala dinner in the Folger Shakespeare Library. Besides the Shakespeariana and Elizabethan maritime rarities on display, the highlight of the evening was the story former ALA President Carol Brey-Casiano told about an experience she described as the worst in her professional career. It involved a Texas Ranger, a lawyer named Paco, the Patriot Act, and the Merritt Fund....  
AL: Inside Scoop, June 29

Google Books panel  
[<http://ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/cognotes/index.cfm>]  
Karen E. Brown writes: “There are many resources to help one try and understand the complicated aspects of the Google Books Settlement. A more engaging avenue was listening to Monday’s discussion by the ALA Task Force on Google Books panelists. As it is now, the settlement decision is in the hands of Judge Denny Chin; ultimately, Register of Copyrights Marybeth Peters (right) believes the case will turn to litigation.”...  
Cognotes, June 29, p. 4, 6

GLBTRT 40th anniversary recognized in House  
[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/news/ala/ala-glbtrt-40th-anniversary-recognized-us-house-resolution>]  
The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table was recognized by a June 23 resolution of the U.S. House of Representatives, congratulating it on its 40th anniversary. Sponsored by Rep. Mike Quigley (D-Ill.), the resolution recognizes GLBTRT for seeking to “improve the lives of librarians, archivists, other information specialists, and library users who are part of the GLBT community.”...  
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table, June 29

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YMEH2SmF4w4>]Research, research everywhere  
[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/research-research-everywhere>]  
here]

A number of poster sessions provided librarians and students an opportunity to share research projects. On Friday, the Emerging Leaders had their turn, at a reception where they showed off the group projects undertaken as part of the EL program. All of the Emerging Leaders's projects are available on ALA Connect, [<http://connect.ala.org/el10projects>] and AL showcases four of them: Visual Map of ALA, [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YMEH2SmF4w4>] updating the librarians and the internet, [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tQuOWeUEu5M>] staff development day, [[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Edwa\\_3YpGwg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Edwa_3YpGwg)] and international partnership for advocacy [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YUvKxMyd1j0>]....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 26; ALA YouTube, June 28

#### Poetry as a community builder

[<http://programminglibrarian.org/blog/2010/june-2010/poetry-as-a-community-builder.html>]

M. Rini Hughes writes: "If the three panelists at this Public Programs Office session on Saturday can't turn you on to poetry, you might want to get your hearing checked. Kwame Alexander opened the discussion by reading his own poetry. His dynamic delivery engaged the listener from the moment he opened his mouth, living evidence of the power of poetry. He was followed by Stephen Young of the Poetry Foundation, who talked about exciting programs aimed at getting young adults interested in reading and writing poetry."...

Programming Librarian, June 28

#### Getting graphic at the Graphic Novel Pavilion

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/getting-graphic-graphic-novel-pavilion>]

The Graphic Novel and Gaming Pavilions hosted a plethora of miniprograms, author signings, demos, and events. Friday night featured a Drink and Draw reception that pitted such luminaries as Owl's Andy Runton, Unshelved's Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum (right), and American Elf's James Kochalka against each other in the art of drawing pictures on the fly. On Saturday, the Cosplay on Parade cocktail reception allowed attendees to dress up....

ALA Membership Blog, June 27

#### Graphic novels: More bang for your book

[<http://plablog.org/2010/06/graphic-novels-more-bang-for-your-book.html>]

Lisa Goldstein writes: "Christian Zabriskie of Queens (N.Y.) Public Library discussed 'where graphic novels and circulation mesh' Monday in one of over 40 hours of programming devoted to graphic novels. 'Superbooks: How Graphics Can Save Your Library' was a numbers-based case for graphic novels as a solid investment. Using statistics, graphs, and his own cost/circ ratio, Zabriskie demonstrated that the graphic novels in his collection cost about 38 cents per circulation."...

PLA Blog, June 28

#### Better services to the underserved

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

Stacy L. Voeller writes: "The Office for Literacy and Outreach Services hosted the program 'Library Services for the Poor and Homeless' on Sunday. Victoria Hill, cluster children's specialist at Brooklyn

Public Library who does a lot of outreach services to schools and hospitals, said, 'You have to meet the people where they are, which is not always within our doors.' She added that clustering or grouping of four to six neighboring branches that share resources to better serve the community became their model for achieving this.'...

Cognotes, June 29, p. 8

Bookmobiles on parade

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/bookmobiles-parade>]

The 2010 Parade of Bookmobiles featured bookmobiles from the Frederick County (Md.) Public Library, the Jefferson-Madison (Va.) Regional Library, Baltimore County (Md.) Public Library, the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore, the Bowling Green (Ohio) Public Library, and a vehicle from Meridian Specialty Vehicles with Montana plates....

ALA Membership Blog, June 28

Thoughts on Burning Man

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/thoughts-burning-man>]

The Sunday Intellectual Freedom Round Table program featuring Burning Man Executive Director Larry Harvey and IFRT Chair Lauren Christos featured a dialogue that ranged from what it truly means to participate in a civic-minded society to creating culture amidst the vast expanse of the backdrop known as Black Rock City. Harvey eloquently delivered the concept of commodification of our culture while balancing the innate instincts of the human soul to give and connect freely to others....

ALA Membership Blog, June 27

Documentaries: The ethical challenges

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/documentaries-ethical-challenges>]

Alexander Street Press held its customer appreciation breakfast Sunday morning, this one celebrating its 10th anniversary as a provider of large-scale digital collections to libraries. As breakfast speaker, the company brought in Patricia Aufderheide (right), director and founder of the Center for Social Media at American University, who discussed the behind-the-scenes ethical choices documentary filmmakers must make in attempting to portray real events....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 27

Talking financial literacy

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/talking-financial-literacy>]

In the "Money Smart Week: Promoting Financial Literacy in Your Library" program on Monday, Bobbie Rudnick of Naperville (Ill.) Public Library and Lori Burgess of Fond du Lac (Wis.) Public Library talked about their libraries' financial programming. Money Smart Week [<http://www.chicagofed.org/webpages/education/msw/index.cfm>] is a series of classes and activities designed to help consumers better manage their money that was started by the Federal Reserve Bank in Chicago in 2001....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 29

Black Caucus of ALA celebrates 40 years

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/black-caucus-celebrates-40-years-tribute-e-j-josey-effie-lee-morris>]

The Black Caucus of the American Library Association celebrated 40 years of service to African-American librarianship Friday night at the Historical Society of Washington. Following a tribute to the late E. J. Josey and Effie Lee Morris, Black Classic Press Editor W. Paul Coates talked about BCALA's legacy and future....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 28

Virtual communities and libraries

[[http://www.flickr.com/photos/ala\\_members/4738394271/in/pool-ala10](http://www.flickr.com/photos/ala_members/4738394271/in/pool-ala10)]

Tom Boellstorff, professor of anthropology at the University of California, Irvine, spoke at the Virtual Communities and Libraries Member Initiative Group meeting on Saturday. Boellstorff spoke from Second Life (using voice chat) regarding research and his book *Coming of Age in Second Life*....

Flickr, June 27

Focusing a global lens on local communities

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/focusing-lense-local-communities>]

Karen E. Brown writes: "Imagine if your bandwidth were so slow, you had to physically mail a CDR or thumb drive containing PDFs of your hard work to another location for someone else to upload? What if the only computers you have to help digitize your beloved cultural materials are infested with worms and viruses? These were legitimate difficulties encountered, along with extremely positive experiences, by some of the speakers of the 'Libraries as Gateways to Local History Around the World' panel, hosted by the International Relations Round Table."...

Cognotes, June 28, p. 24

Preparing the librarians of the future

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

Jeanna Vahling writes: "Reforma and the New Members Round Table, collaborating for the first time, hosted a session titled 'The New Professional Paradigm: Redefining the New Librarian' on Sunday. It addressed the planning and passing on of knowledge and management skills across generations in this era of the 'new librarian.' Rutgers University Business Librarian Gene Springs suggested two levels of preparedness: institutional and individual."...

Cognotes, June 29, p. 22

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RnyZPn-OqcU>] Off to read the wizard

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/read-wizard>]

It's difficult to miss the OverDrive Digital Bookmobile stationed in the corner of a large parking lot across the street from the Washington Convention Center. But inside is not just the expected product information. The Digital Bookmobile is also home to a project called Lend Your Voice. "Lend Your Voice is a community-sourced audiobook production," said Katherine Fleming of Random House Audio Listening Library, which is partnering with OverDrive on the project. Some 300 librarians collaborated on an audiobook recording of *The Wizard of Oz*.

Random House's Katherine Fleming explains

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RnyZPn-OqcU>] the project (3:41)....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 27; YouTube, June 27

MAGERT's 30th anniversary celebration

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/magerts-30th-anniversary-celebration>]

The Map and Geography Round Table celebrated its 30th anniversary with a toast at the ALA Membership Pavilion on Sunday. The celebration included a book signing by Jim Coombs, map librarian at Missouri State University, past MAGERT chair, and author of Great Moments in Map Librarianship: Cartoons from the First 30 Years of base line, the round table's newsletter....

ALA Membership Blog, June 27

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x-spMGwtG8M>]Training Showcase on YouTube

[<http://alalarning.org/2010/06/28/ala-2010-training-showcase-on-youtube/>]

Maurice Coleman writes: "Each of the exhibitors in the Learning Round Table Training Showcase has a short video giving their 'elevator speech' about why they participated and what they had to offer the LRT community. Here is Stacy Schrank (right) as an excellent example of the brief but effective videos. You can find the rest on my YouTube Channel.

[<http://www.youtube.com/user/baldgeekinmd#p/u>]..."

Learning Round Table, June 28

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/pcsweeney/4749367041/in/photostream/>]ALA Dance Party 2010

[<http://plablog.org/2010/06/my-top-5-ala-annual-experiences.html>]

Patrick Sweeney writes: "The ALA Dance Party was organized by the 8bitlibrary [<http://blog.8bitlibrary.com/>] gaming folks. The event was advertised almost entirely via Twitter and Facebook and various blogs in an almost guerrilla fashion. In the end, about 100 librarians showed up at the Apex nightclub on Friday night and danced until the early morning hours. Attendees included Joe Murphy, Loida Garcia-Febo, and Stephen Abram." Check out the video

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/pcsweeney/4749367041/in/photostream/>]  
(0:29)....

PLA Blog, June 30

Go back to the Top [#top]

Awards

[<http://www.youtube.com/user/Circulatethefun#p/c/43E022126B3AC9C7/3/NUIVQm0Whc4>]Pitt wins Book Cart Drill championship

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/book-carts-parade>]

The "Night of the Living Librarians" team from the University of Pittsburgh won the sixth annual Library Book Cart Drill Team Championship on Sunday. Watch the video

[<http://www.youtube.com/user/Circulatethefun#p/c/43E022126B3AC9C7/3/NUIVQm0Whc4>] (8:14) of their performance. Drill teams made up of library workers performed themed dance routines with costumes and decorated book carts.

Pitt's team won the "golden book cart," topping competitors from Delaware; Gettysburg College; Midlothian, Texas; and Roselle, New Jersey.

All performances

[<http://www.youtube.com/user/Circulatethefun#p/c/6/jElyhqfTbFU>] are on YouTube....

ALA Membership Blog, June 28; ALA YouTube, July 1

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BiRp95B0z4w>] Jason Griffey crowned Battledecks champion

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/griffey-crowned-battledecks-champion>]

A raucous, standing-room-only crowd of about 250 stayed after the closing of the exhibit hall Monday to watch Jason Griffey (right) win the Battledecks competition. Battledecks is a not-completely-serious contest in which participants give a presentation based on slides they've never seen before on a topic they get minutes beforehand. The results are frequently hilarious and often surprisingly insightful. Watch the video [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BiRp95B0z4w>] (4:03). Videos of all the participants are available here

[<http://librarianbyday.net/2010/07/ala-battledecks-2010-the-rumble-royale/>]

....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 29; ALA YouTube, June 29; Librarian by Day, July 1

Newbery/Caldecott: The pageantry, the splendor, the tats

[<http://blog.schoollibraryjournal.com/afuse8production/2010/06/28/newbery-caldecott-banquet-2010-the-pageantry-the-splendor-the-tats/>]

Betsy Bird writes: "Each and every year I decide to celebrate the Newbery/Caldecott winners with a bit of old-fashioned body art. In the past, this has involved bands of the covers of the winners on either arm. This is fine and all, but this year I wanted to step it up a notch. So it was that I decided to go an entirely different route for 2010. In short, a kind of guessing game on either arm. As for the banquet itself, the flyers were consistently gorgeous."...

School Library Journal: A Fuse #8 Production, June 28

Secrets of the John Cotton Dana winners

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/secrets-john-cotton-dana-winners>]

LLAMA sponsored a panel Saturday morning on outstanding community-centered marketing campaigns. "John Cotton Dana Winners Tell All!" brought together experts from libraries that won the John Cotton Dana Award to share their secrets about successful library PR and advocacy campaigns. Nancy Dowd (right), director of marketing for the New Jersey State Library, described the statewide 2009 campaign that allowed local libraries in New Jersey to tell strategic stories about how libraries transform lives....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 26

Crystal Apple goes to Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/crystal-apple-given-ohio-governor-ted-strickland>]

AASL President Cassandra Barnett selected Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland as the recipient of the 2010 Crystal Apple. The honor, announced at the AASL Awards Luncheon, is given at the discretion of the division president to an individual or group that has had a significant impact on school library programs and students. Barnett specifically mentioned

Strickland's Evidence-based Education Reform and Funding Plan, which includes a provision for phasing in funding for school librarians....

Cognotes, June 27, p. 8

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

A grand total of 26,201 librarians and library staff, exhibitors, and library supporters attended ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., June 24–29. Attendance was short of the 28,941 who came to Chicago in 2009, but exceeded the 22,047 attendees in Anaheim in 2008.

=====  
Visit the ALA Annual Conference Flickr group pool

[<http://www.flickr.com/groups/ala10/pool/>] to see the hundreds of photos uploaded by attendees (tagged ala10).

[[http://www.flickr.com/photos/ala\\_members/4740032697/in/pool-1420613@N22/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/ala_members/4740032697/in/pool-1420613@N22/)]

[[http://www.flickr.com/photos/ala\\_members/4736409381/in/pool-1420613@N22/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/ala_members/4736409381/in/pool-1420613@N22/)]

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Find more conference coverage in the online version of Cognotes.

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

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

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[[http://www.apa.org/pubs/marketing/green.aspx?utm\\_source=al\\_direct&utm\\_medium=display\\_email&utm\\_content=sla&utm\\_campaign=ebooks](http://www.apa.org/pubs/marketing/green.aspx?utm_source=al_direct&utm_medium=display_email&utm_content=sla&utm_campaign=ebooks)]

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Twitter Perception

Selected Annual Conference Tweets

“Ok, I’m here. Where do I find the librarians in this burg?”

—Natalie Binder, June 25.

“How embarrassing! I am the only one who brought my dog to the Train the Trainer preconference.”

—Polite Librarian, June 25.

“At #unala10 we unconfereced so hard we needed a medic.”

—Jenny Relswig, June 25.

“Hot as blazes in DC, and this afternoon’s #ala10 program on global warming has been cancelled.”

—Tom Peters, June 26.

“I just became the mayor of Membership Pavilion, Booth 2525, Exhibit Hall (ALA10 Annual Conference) on @foursquare!”

—Ed Garcia, June 27.

“Demand for metadata is always underrated! Librarians crave metadata like zombies crave flesh.”

—Justin Grimes, June 28.

“Day 4 of the #ala10 hostage crisis. Tell Red Cross to send caffeine.”

—Karen Schneider, June 28.

“DC taxi driver: ‘Nobody got no excuse not to read. Everybody go to the bathroom, don’t they? Read for 5 minutes!’”

—Hope Baugh, June 28.

“Does it weird anyone else out that librarians refer to OCLC as ‘The Big O’?”

—Jessica Speer, June 28.

“Natalie Merchant is doing an encore for a ballroom full of librarians. We really have the best jobs in the world.”

—Marcela Evans, June 28.

“My hope for next year’s #ala10: Less structured, more social. Be the change we want to see in our libraries.”

—Natalie Binder, June 28.

“And DC is a lovely 61 degrees and breezy today... I think the librarians brought that heat/humidity! LOL.”

—Sarah Cantrell, June 30.

@ More quotes [[http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/public\\_perception](http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/public_perception)]...

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## Tech Events

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### Top Technology Trends 2010

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/top-technology-trends-ala10-part-one-current-technology>]

Sean Fitzpatrick writes: “Maybe it was the cavernous ballroom, but LITA’s Top Technology Trends panel seemed to have the biggest attendance I’ve ever seen. It was also the most information-dense, so much so that I’ll split the coverage into three parts. The Trendsters had three minutes to project trends for current, imminent, and long-term timelines.” Read parts two

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/top-technology-trends-ala10-part-2-imminent-trends>] and three.

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/top-technology-trends-ala10-part-3-long-term-trends>] LITA has a complete video

[<http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/7939188>] of the session. See the LITA summary here

[<http://litablog.org/2010/07/lita-top-tech-trends-ala-2010/>]....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 28–29; LITA Blog, July 2

### TechSource Gadget Petting Zoo

[<http://www.alatechsource.org/blog/2010/06/thanks-to-everyone-who-attended-the-ala-techsource-gadget-petting-zoo.html>]

Daniel A. Freeman writes: “The petting zoo was a major success, with dozens of people coming by the ALA Publishing booth to talk with some of our bloggers about the latest gadgets and what they can do for our libraries. It’s hard to say which gadget got the most attention. Of course, we were expecting a ton of interest in the iPad and eReaders, and the interest was certainly there.”...

ALA TechSource Blog, June 28

[<http://www.sirsidynix.com/iphone/apps/bookmyne/>]Four major trends from the tech vendors

[<http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/four-major-trends-tech-vendors-are-talking-about>]

Sean Fitzpatrick writes: “I spent most of my time at Annual meeting up with tech vendors who discussed their product plans and strategies. The ideas they share play an important part in shaping trends in librarianship, for those trends almost always have an antecedent technology component, and the technology the vendors provide must always fill some need if it’s going to be viable in the marketplace. Here

are some major concepts that came up again and again.”...

AL: Inside Scoop, June 30

Infrastructure for intermediation

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/inside-scoop/infrastructure-intermediation>]

As librarians, we know we’re better than Google at providing relevant information—it’s just that we’re rarely as fast. At LLAMA’s “Competing with Search Engines: Rethinking Websites and Social Media Strategies” program Saturday morning, NewsTrust Executive Director Fabrice Florin described a technological platform that allows his group to quickly and efficiently intermediate between producers and consumers....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 27

ProQuest unveils new tech

[<http://newsbreaks.infotoday.com/Digest/ProQuest-Unveils-New-Technologies-for-its-Upcoming-Platform-67991.asp>]

Attendees got a preview of ProQuest’s all-new platform, which promises to unify all ProQuest content in a single framework. It will now include ProQuest Extended Search, a Serials Solutions technology that will enable libraries to connect to other non-ProQuest databases as well. The platform is the highlight of a wave of new technology being released by the company throughout 2010. ProQuest will begin migrating customers to the new platform in late summer....

Information Today, June 28

Seen Online

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How to tell librarians from vendors

[<http://unintentionallyfunnybooks.com/2010/06/27/special-ala-how-to-tell-librarians-from-vendors/>]

A favorite game to play whenever ALA is in town is Spot the Librarian. It’s usually a safe bet to start playing on your plane ride, at the airport, and throughout the city. As you are traversing the wilds of ALA, including roller backpacks and people covered in buttons, if you are new to the scene you might find yourself confusing equally badged vendors with librarians. Here is a handy guide to spotting the differences between the two species....

Unintentionally Funny Books, June 27

Tutor.com’s Best of ALA 2010

[<http://blog.tutor.com/2010/06/the-very-best-of-ala-2010/>]

Jennifer Kohn writes: “The Tutor.com team had a great time at the ALA Annual Conference— meeting with clients, spotting celebrities, enjoying a home-cooked meal away from home, and of course having wonderful conversations about how Tutor.com and libraries are making a difference in people’s lives. Here are the very best moments of our ALA 2010 experience.”...

Tutor.com Blog, June 29

NPR’s Diane Rehm showcases libraries

[<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/ala-president-camila-alire-pla-president-sari-feldman-and-dcpls-john-hill-diane-reh>]  
NPR's Diane Rehm Show invited ALA President Camila Alire, PLA President Sari Feldman, and DCPL Board of Trustees President John Hill to the June 28 show titled "The Changing Role of Public Libraries." They discussed the ever-growing need for public libraries; free resources, and the ongoing state budget cuts. The comments

[<http://thedianerehmshow.org/shows/2010-06-28/changing-role-public-libraries>] are interesting....

ALA Membership Blog, June 28; NPR: Diane Rehm Show, June 28

Returning a library book, five years late

[<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=128149021>]

This weekend, ALA kicked off its annual conference, just across the street from NPR. It's a bit too close for comfort for Matt Martinez (right), the senior supervising producer of All Things Considered. He has a book that's five years overdue, and with the librarians so close, he decided to turn himself in. The show features ALA President Camila Alire and D.C. Public Library Director Ginnie Cooper. Find out why Martinez is fascinated with libraries in this video

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DA9GnvWyUQs>] (6:18)....

NPR: All Things Considered, June 27; ALA YouTube, June 27

ALA10: A day in the life

[<http://100scopenotes.com/2010/07/01/ala-annual-2010-a-day-in-the-life/>]

Travis Jonker writes: "What with all the real-life interactions and events going on during ALA Annual Conference, it is remarkably easy to not blog. But that changes here and now, as I present a day in the life (Sunday) at ALA 2010."...

100 Scope Notes, July 1

Lessons from ALA10

[<http://www.alatechsource.org/blog/2010/06/lessons-from-ala-2010.html>]

Cindi Trainor writes: "At the 2007 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., I wrote this blog post [<http://citegeist.com/?p=318>]. I was a month into a new job and trying to find my way into the impenetrable depths of the seemingly endless ALA. My past experience in other associations told me that Woody Allen was right when he said that 80% of success is showing up. Associations like ALA and its chapters and divisions depend on volunteers to get business and planning done, and there are never enough volunteers. So, looking back, what have I learned?"...

ALA TechSource Blog, July 2; Citegeist, June 24, 2007

Notes from a first-timer

[<http://librarymoth.wordpress.com/2010/07/01/ala-annual-conference-notes-from-a-first-timer/>]

Britt Foster writes: "Let me just say straight off that when you check in with conference registration, and they give you your name tag, there should be a small device that allows you to mainline coffee. I was able to attend Annual Conference this year through the Student-to-Staff program [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/affiliates/chapters/student/studentchapterspages/studenttostaffprogram.cfm>], a great opportunity for students involved in their ALA Student Chapters. Rather than go through the

conference day by day (yawn), I wanted to report on some of the major themes I took away from the conference, and what that meant to me in terms of being a student librarian.”...

Library Moth, July 1

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## American Libraries Online

### [Wheaton officials threaten cash-strapped library board](#)

Outraged at the prospect of no library service on Fridays due to lack of funding, the city council of Wheaton, Illinois, is considering an ordinance to require its public library to remain open at least four hours per day for a six-day week during the summer and a seven-day week during the school year. The proposal is less a tribute by council members to the library's indispensability than an indication of their displeasure that trustees chose this means to close a \$300,000 budget gap....

*American Libraries news, July 7*



### [Party at your book discussions](#)

Alan Jacobson writes: "An avid colleague once told me that facilitating a book discussion is the most fun we can have at work. She was right. Take a break from the intense work of reading for a book discussion—and keep your library's focus on books—by making your next book discussion a reader party. Set up food and beverages, and then sit and relax. All you have to do is talk about your book—a book you *want* to read for once."...

*American Libraries feature*



### [Internet Librarian: I'm sorry, you're out](#)

Joseph Janes writes: "I was part of a RUSA preconference in Washington, D.C., in June, and I offered a challenge as a small-group activity: Google buys every major search tool and is then shut down as a monopoly, and in the same week Wikipedia goes bankrupt. Choose three freely available websites as the best starting points for the widest possible range of inquiries. Some very good ideas emerged, especially with only 20 minutes to work on this."...

*American Libraries column, Aug.*

### [Before you press the print button](#)

Laura Bruzas writes: "I have to be honest. In years

  
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Whenever teachers, parents and students ask you for help with schoolwork, answer their requests with Thinkfinity.org. Thousands of premium lesson plans, interactive activities, remarkable resources and more... all from leading educational organizations.

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gone by, learning about printers and print ink has never been on my priority list. Then some good-to-know information came my way that changed my printing practices, making them more environmentally friendly. One such resource was a 2007 Lyrá newsletter where I learned that printer hardware was expected to contribute 1 million tons of solid waste in this country alone that year."...



AL: Green Your Library, July 1

## ALA News

### Library Advocacy Day: The video

This AL Focus video (2:07) shows scenes from the Library Advocacy Day rally on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., June 29, including interviews with participants, and footage of U.S. Rep. Vernon Ehlers (R-Mich.) and U.S. Sen. Jack Reed (D-R.I.)...



AL Focus, July 6

### Accreditation actions

The Committee on Accreditation granted continuing accreditation status to master's programs at the University of Michigan and the University of Toronto, released programs at the University of Rhode Island and Texas Woman's University from conditional status, and granted conditional accreditation status to Southern Connecticut State University....

Office for Accreditation, June 30

### PR Forum slides available

Unable to attend this year's PR Forum with Stephen Abram? Librarians interested in learning more about how to market and promote their libraries using new technologies can access Abram's presentation, given at the ALA Annual Conference. The PowerPoint presentation is available on [Slideshare](#)....

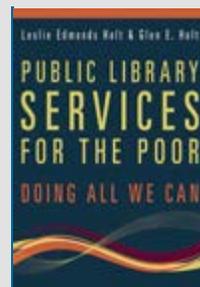
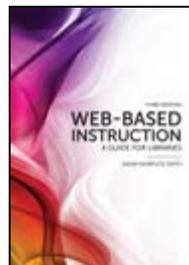
Public Information Office, July 6



### Web-based instruction for libraries

ALA Editions has released a third edition of [Web-Based Instruction: A Guide for Libraries](#), by Susan Sharpless Smith. Expanding on the best-selling how-to guide for public, academic, school, and special libraries, technology expert Smith offers library instructors the confidence to take web-based instruction into their own hands. Smith includes new tools and trends, including current browsers, access methods, hardware, and software....

ALA Editions, July 6



For many, the library is the only refuge for information, literacy, entertainment, language skills, employment help, free computer use, and even safety and shelter. In [Public Library Services for the Poor](#), experts Leslie and Glen Holt, with decades of service to inner city communities between them, challenge librarians to do more for poor people. While recognizing the financial crunch libraries are under, the authors offer concrete advice about programs and support for this unique group. **NEW!** From ALA Editions.

### New this week in American Libraries



[Book Discussions](#)

[Internet Librarian](#)

[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

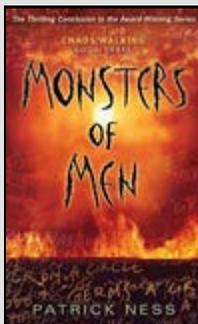


# Booklist ONLINE

## Featured review: Youth science fiction

Ness, Patrick. *Monsters of Men*. Sept. 2010. 608p. Candlewick, hardcover (978-0-7636-4751-3).

Ness, a forceful writer who chews through ideas at a blistering clip, takes on war, the heftiest of human follies, in the conclusion to his Chaos Walking trilogy. The genocidal tyrant Mayor Prentiss leads an army on one side, the terrorist healer Mistress Coyle heads a band of revolutionaries on another, and a massive legion of native Spackle threatens from a third. All three sides see only the complete annihilation of the others as the sole option for victory and survival, and they might be right, no matter how Todd and Viola use their formidable wills to advance peace as an influx of new colonists nears. It's a thick book, approaching Russian-novel territory, but it rarely feels bloated; and readers invested in the story will likely concede that Ness has earned the space....



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

## D.C. Update

### Party in the ALA

EasyBib partners with Gale Group, EBSCO, OCLC, and Credo Reference to present this paean to online search tools (2:55) at the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., in the style of Miley Cyrus's "Party in the USA." With a cameo by Demco's Cat in the Hat, and lyrics by Eric Li, Marissa Biagioli, Neal Taparia, and Teresa Tran....

YouTube, July 1



## Division News

### New, improved WrestleMania 27 Reading Challenge

YALSA and World Wrestling Entertainment announced plans for the [WrestleMania 27 Reading Challenge](#), which will take place in the United States and Canada October 17–23. Superstars Big Show, Rey Mysterio, Kofi Kingston, Hornswoggle, and WWE Diva Eve will serve as spokespersons. Teen author Joan Bauer will serve as the judge at the Finals, which will take place on April 2, 2011, in Atlanta. [Register](#) online by July 31....

YALSA, July 6



[Green Your Library](#)

[Librarian's Library](#)

[AL Focus](#)

**Career Leads  
from**



### Reference Librarian.

Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts. The Edwin Ginn Library of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University seeks an individual with outstanding reference, research, and instruction skills to join its reference team. This position represents a unique opportunity for an individual looking to work in a challenging and fast-paced environment. Ginn's reference librarians work collaboratively to provide support to an active, international, and culturally diverse student and faculty population engaged in international relations research across a wide variety of subjects, including diplomacy, international law and organizations, international business and finance, human rights, economics and economic development, history and political

## [ASCLA seeks \*Interface\* editor](#)

ASCLA seeks an editor for its quarterly online membership journal, *Interface*, which serves as the primary source of information between the division and the library and user communities. The deadline for applying is July 30; it is anticipated that a candidate will be selected by September 1....

ASCLA Blog, June 29

## Round Table News

### [State Department expands reach of IRRT program](#)

Participants from 41 countries virtually joined a roomful of conference-goers in Washington, D.C., at a June 28 program cosponsored by the International Relations Round Table's Connections and Sister Libraries Committees. The U.S. State Department streamed the program live to embassies and American corners worldwide. Four panelists spoke about the mechanics of starting international library exchanges and sister libraries, and a library cooperation agreement was ceremonially signed between October 6 University in Egypt and Troy University in Alabama (above)....



International Relations Round Table

## Awards

### [Speeches by the 2010 Printz winners](#)

Laura Tillotson writes: "Ah, the June 28 Michael L. Printz Reception at 2010 ALA Annual Conference. Another evening of good times and good memories, with speeches by this year's honorees, Adam Rapp (*Punkzilla*), Deborah Heiligman (*Charles and Emma*), Rick Yancey (*The Monstrumologist*), John Barnes (*Tales of the Madman Underground*), and Libba Bray (above, *Going Bovine*). Did budget cutbacks keep you from the festivities? Never fear, *Booklist* is here to help. Once again we filmed the Printz speeches in their entirety."...

Booklist Video, July 6



### [McCook presents 2010 Jean Coleman Lecture](#)

University of South Florida SLIS Professor Kathleen de la Peña McCook presented the 2010 Dr. Jean E. Coleman Library Outreach Lecture on June 28 as part of the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. In "Librarians and Human Rights," McCook explored the philosophical basis of librarians' commitment to human rights and human development as grounded in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Millennium Development Goals....

USF School of Library and Information Science, June 29



### [YALS wins third APEX Award in a row](#)

For the third year in the row, Communications Concepts has chosen *Young Adult Library Services*,

science, international energy resources and environmental policy, international security and peacekeeping, humanitarian assistance and migration, and conflict negotiation and resolution....



@ [More jobs...](#)

## Digital Library of the Week

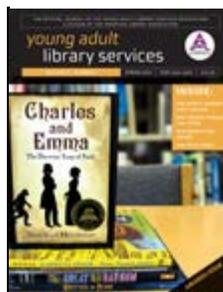


### [Commonwealth College Fortnightly](#) is

the 14-volume run of the newsletter of Commonwealth College, a controversial labor college that operated near Mena, Arkansas, from 1924 to 1940. Digitized by the Special Collections Department of the University of Arkansas Libraries, the newsletter affords an inside look at an institution devoted to cooperative living and labor education, for which the FBI investigated it, eventually cleared the college of promoting free love, Bolshevism, and Communism.

YALSA's quarterly journal, to receive an Award of Excellence from the [APEX Awards for Publication Excellence](#). YALS was recognized in the category of Journals and Magazines over 32 pages. The journal won for issues from its seventh and eighth volumes, which were edited by Sarah Flowers....

YALSA, July 1



Among its "Commoner" graduates was future six-term Arkansas governor Orval E. Faubus, who fought the desegregation of Little Rock Central High in 1957.

**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.

### [AASL Thinkfinity Zmuda Challenge](#)

Verizon's Thinkfinity digital learning platform is offering two \$5,000 incentive awards for the two most innovative ideas on how school librarians can help students acquire 21st-century skills. School librarians can post ideas in reply to the Thinkfinity Community [AASL Thinkfinity Zmuda Challenge](#) discussion by July 15. The challenge was introduced during the AASL President's Program at ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. Submissions will be reviewed by author Allison Zmuda and the AASL leadership....

Thinkfinity Community, June 28

### [2010 Diversity Research Grants](#)

The Office for Diversity has announced four recipients of its 2010 Diversity Research Grants, one-time \$2,000 awards for original research and a \$500 travel grant to attend and present at the ALA Annual Conference. The grantees are Elizabeth Friese (University of Georgia), Sandra Hughes-Hassell and Casey Rawson (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), and Jennifer K. Sweeney (Drexel University)....

Office for Diversity, June 23

### [2010 Cicely Phippen Marks Scholarship](#)

Megan Myers, of Crozet, Virginia, has received the 2010 Cicely Phippen Marks Scholarship, sponsored by the Federal and Armed Forces Round Table. The scholarship is awarded to individuals pursuing a master's degree in library and information studies with a focus on federal librarianship. Myers attends the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill....

Human Resource Development and Recruitment, July 2

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

The Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science in Boston has raised more than \$1,000 for the Spectrum Presidential Initiative through a recent dinner for Spectrum Scholars. Assistant Dean for Student Services Em Claire Knowles and Spectrum Scholars Miranda Rivers and Christina Thompson hosted the event....

Office for Diversity, July 1

### [Library's program helps El Paso become All-America City](#)

The National Civic League announced the 10 winners of the 61st annual [All-America City award](#) during a June 18 celebration at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center in Kansas City. El Paso, Texas, won one of the awards in part because it emphasized the public library's Día de los Niños/Día de los Libros program during its [presentation](#) (23:50) to the judges....

*El Paso (Tex.) Times*, June 23; All-America City blog, June 21



## Public Perception

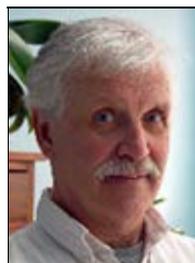
How the World Sees Us

**"The people who welcome us to the library are idealists who believe that accurate information leads to good decisions and that exposure to the intellectual riches of civilization leads to a better world. The next Abraham Lincoln could be sitting in their library, teaching himself all he needs to know to save the country. While they help us get online, employed, and informed, librarians don't try to sell us anything. Nor do they turn around and broadcast our problems, send us spam, or keep a record of our interests and needs, because no matter how savvy this profession is at navigating the online world, it clings to**

## [Lubans lands a Fulbright](#)

John Lubans Jr., former deputy university librarian at Duke University, has received a Fulbright scholarship to teach for five months in Riga, Latvia, starting in February 2011. He will teach library leadership and management at the University of Latvia Department of Information and Library Studies and conduct research on how Latvian organizations work....

Leading from the Middle, May 9



## [Scottish prison library changes lives](#)

An Edinburgh prison library has won a prestigious award for its "life-changing" impact on inmates. Run by Kate King, a librarian with the City of Edinburgh Council, the library, which opened at Saughton Prison in November 2008, is the only one in Scotland with a waiting list. The Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals presented Saughton its Libraries Change Lives Award at a ceremony in London July 6, along with £5,000 (\$7,570 U.S.) in prize money. The prisoners' favorite books are noted [here](#)....

BBC News, July 6; Deadline Press and Picture Agency, July 6



## [Belgian architects design Library of the Future](#)

Belgian architects Coussée & Goris teamed up with their Spanish colleagues RCR Aranda Pigem Vilalta to win the design competition for a library in Ghent, Belgium. When 3D renderings and plans were presented in June, Belgian journalists nicknamed the new building "[The Library of the Future](#)" and gave it rave reviews, stating it would discreetly fit in the mid-19th century neighborhood....

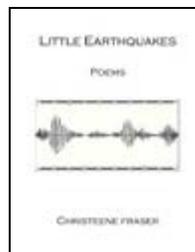
Planet Vectorworks, July 6; De Waalse Krook



## [New York Book Festival winners](#)

The coming-of-age memoir *County of Kings* by Lemon Andersen is the grand prize winner of the 2010 New York Book Festival. Andersen was honored at a June 11 awards ceremony in New York City. Other winners included Hank O'Neal's *The Ghosts of Harlem* for Nonfiction and Christeene Fraser's chapbook *Little Earthquakes* for Poetry....

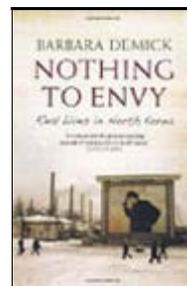
New York Book Festival



## [Samuel Johnson Prize for Nonfiction](#)

*Los Angeles Times* foreign correspondent Barbara Demick has won the 2010 BBC Samuel Johnson Prize for Nonfiction for *Nothing to Envy: Real Lives in North Korea* (Granta), which weaves together the stories of six ordinary people living in Chongjin, North Korea. The £20,000 (\$30,240 U.S.) prize was announced at a July 1 ceremony at the Royal Institute for British Architects in London....

Samuel Johnson Prize, July 1



## [Spear's Book Awards 2010](#)

The winners of the second annual Spear's Book Awards

that old-fashioned value, privacy. (A profession dedicated to privacy in charge of our public computers? That's brilliant.) They represent the best civic value out there, an army of resourceful workers that can help us compete in the world."

—Marilyn Johnson, author of *This Book Is Overdue!*, in "U.S. Public Libraries: [We Lose Them at Our Peril.](#)" editorial in *Los Angeles Times*, July 6.

@ [More quotes...](#)



## TweetWatch

### Follow:

Association of Jewish Libraries, Annual Convention, Seattle, July 4–7, at: [JewishLibraries](#)

*American Libraries* news stories, videos, tweets, and blog posts at: [amlibraries](#)

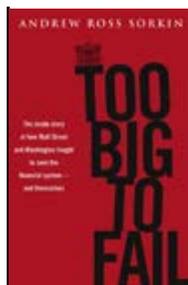
## Calendar

July 4–  
Aug. 4:

[World eBook Fair](#). Free public access for a month to 2 million e-books.

(in association with Citi Private Bank) were announced July 5 in London. The awards celebrate the best of writing talent and the best books of the year in 10 categories from finance to fiction. Andrew Ross Sorkin's *Too Big to Fail* (Viking) won in the category of Best Financial Book of the Year, while William Trevor's *Love and Summer* won for Best Novel....

Spear's Book Awards



### [2010 Wales Book of the Year](#)

A poet has won the English-language Wales Book of the Year prize for his collection of poems about photography. Philip Gross's *I Spy Pinhole Eye* was one of the three shortlisted works for the £10,000 (\$15,120 U.S.) prize. The book is described as a collaborative work between the poet and photographer Simon Denison, who used a pinhole camera to transform the footings of electrical pylons....

BBC News, June 30



### [2010 Bulwer-Lytton Fiction Contest winners](#)

Since 1982, the English Department at San Jose State University has sponsored the Bulwer-Lytton Fiction Contest, a whimsical literary competition that challenges entrants to compose the opening sentence to the worst of all possible novels. The contest was inspired by Edward Bulwer-Lytton (1803–1873), the originator of the first line, "It was a dark and stormy night," in *Paul Clifford* (1830). The 2010 first-place winner is Seattle author Molly Ringle (above)....

Bulwer-Lytton Fiction Contest

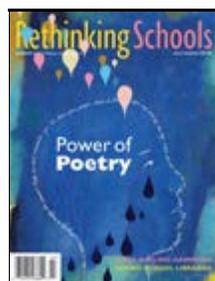


## Seen Online

### [A librarian in every school, books in every home](#)

Bob Peterson writes: "This spring, within a week's time, two things happened that made me angry. The first was the release of scores from the National Assessment of Educational Progress that showed African-American 4th-graders in Wisconsin (most of whom live in Milwaukee) had the lowest reading scores in the nation. The second was the district's announcement of major cuts to local school budgets for next year. Most tellingly, there was not one mention in the media of libraries or librarians, or the need for children to have books in their homes."...

*Rethinking Schools*, Summer



### [Chicago's Mary Dempsey responds to local Fox News report](#)

Chicago Public Library Commissioner Mary Dempsey writes: "I am astounded at the lack of understanding of public libraries that your June 28 story, "[Are Libraries Necessary, or a](#)



### **July 30:**

[2010 Collaboration UnConference](#), University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Library, Little Rock. Sponsored by the Arkansas Library Association Information Technology Roundtable.

### **Aug. 11–13:**

[Pacific Northwest Library Association / Washington Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Victoria, B.C.

### **Sept. 19–24:**

[Seventh International Conference on Preservation of Digital Objects](#), Freihaus Building, Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria. Sponsored by Vienna University of Technology's Department of Software Technology and Interactive Systems, Austrian National Library, and Austrian Computer Society.

### **Sept. 23–25:**

[Association for Library Service to Children](#), National Institute, Emory Conference Center Hotel, Atlanta.

### **Sept. 30–Oct. 3:**

[Library and Information Technology Association](#), National Forum, Hilton Downtown, Atlanta. "The Cloud and the Crowd."

### **Oct. 1–2:**

[The Business of Children's Publishing](#), Annual Event, Hedberg Library, Carthage College, Kenosha, Wisconsin. Sponsored by

[Waste of Tax Money?](#)" revealed. Public libraries are more relevant and heavily used today than ever before, and public libraries are one of the better uses of the taxpayers' dollars. Let me speak about the Chicago Public Library, which serves 12 million visitors per year. No other cultural, educational, entertainment, or athletic organization in Chicago can make that claim."...

WFLD-TV, Chicago, June 28, July 2

### [Obama awards funds for broadband access](#)

In an effort to expand broadband access and create jobs across the United States, President Obama has awarded \$765 million in grants and loans to recipients that include colleges and public libraries. The money, distributed through the Department of Commerce and the Department of Agriculture, will go to 66 projects ([PDF file](#)). Libraries in Arizona, the District of Columbia, Maine, Montana, New Jersey, Nevada, Oklahoma, and Tennessee will receive funding. An [award](#) to create the U.S. Unified Community Anchor Network (U.S. UCAN) is also expected to benefit many libraries....

*Chronicle of Higher Education: Wired Campus, July 2; District Dispatch, July 2*

### [Finland makes broadband a legal right](#)

Finland is now the first country in the world where every citizen is entitled to a 1Mbps (megabit-per-second) internet connection, starting July 1. A similar plan for the United States faces hurdles and will likely take years to come to fruition. Finland has vowed to connect everyone to a 100Mbps connection by 2015. In 2009, the [average internet download speed](#) in the United States was 5.1Mbps and the average upload speed was 1.1Mbps....

MSNBC: Tech and Gadgets, July 2; Speed Matters

### [What happened to studying?](#)

New research, conducted by two California economics professors, shows that over the past five decades, the number of hours that the average college student studies each week has been steadily dropping. According to time-use surveys analyzed by professors Philip Babcock at UC Santa Barbara and Mindy Marks at UC Riverside, the average student at a four-year college in 1961 studied about 24 hours a week. Today's average student hits the books for just 14 hours....

*Boston Globe, July 4*

### [Grand jury recommends filters in Sonoma County](#)

A grand jury in Santa Rosa, California, has again addressed what it sees as problems of access to pornography in the Sonoma County Library, calling for filters to be installed on computers in the children's section while their effectiveness is gauged. The grand jury's report, released June 30, suggests that the filters may be more effective than the library commission believes. In 2009, the grand jury recommended the Central Library move its public access computers to a side wall and install filters, but the library staff claimed the filters were ineffective....

*Santa Rosa (Calif.) Press Democrat, June 30*

### [The playwright and the Provincetown librarian](#)

Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Eugene O'Neill (right) was known for modeling characters in his plays after people in his own life. But what he did to a librarian in Provincetown, Massachusetts, proved that he could be a cruel and vindictive man. O'Neill's first dust-up with Abbie Putnam was in 1917. As he sat in the reading



the Center for Children's Literature.

**Oct. 13–16:** [Access 2010](#), Hotel Fort Garry, Winnipeg, Manitoba. Sponsored by the Canadian Library Association's Emerging Technology Interest Group.

**Oct. 21–23:** [Rabbit Hill Festival of Literature](#), Westport, Connecticut.

**Nov. 18–21:** [National Council of Teachers of English](#), Annual Convention, Orlando, Florida. "Teachers and Students: Living Literate Lives."

@ [More...](#)

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American Libraries Direct



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



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Sean Fitzpatrick,

room, she watched him closely and restricted the number of books that he could take out. Shortly afterwards, O'Neill drafted a play set in a coastal town that featured a deaf librarian with a homely face....

*Barnstable (Mass.) Patriot*, June 25

### [Teen faces charges in Orlando library attack](#)

A 17-year-old accused of attacking a library employee at the South Creek branch of the Orange County Library in Orlando on July 5 was arrested on several charges, including attempted first-degree murder. Angel Luis Rios-Labrador will also be charged with burglary, theft, and possession of burglary tools. The employee, who has not been identified, found a man robbing the closed library when she came to empty the book drop. He attacked her with a knife and fled....

*Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel*, July 6

### [Florida mom targets manga in the library](#)

Manga has raised the ire of a mother whose teenage son found an adult specimen of the genre in the Crestview (Fla.) Public Library. Margaret Barbaree, founder of a citizens' group called Protect Our Children, presented [examples](#) from a manga book to the city council June 28 that she described as "graphic" and "shocking." Library Director Jean Lewis explained that there is a demand for manga, but they keep the adult comics separate from those for a teen audience....



*Crestview (Fla.) News Bulletin*, July 2; Comic Book Resources: Robot6, July 2

### [Los Angeles library cuts don't add up](#)

David Meyer is an accountant, not an activist. But there he was on June 30 at Los Angeles City Hall, protesting city budget cuts and trying to convince council members that millions in uncounted revenue had slipped by budget gurus—enough to pay the salaries of pink-slipped employees at the city's libraries. Meyer spent weeks combing through financial reports, trying to figure out why projected parking revenue didn't seem to include this year's parking fee increases....

*Los Angeles Times*, July 3

### [Detroit Public Library partners with McDonald's](#)

Using burgers and book bags as an enticement, McDonald's and Detroit Public Library officials launched a partnership on June 30 to encourage city elementary school students to read more often. Called Books and Backpacks, the program offers children incentives to check out books at the Main Library or any of the 23 branches. The program, which will run through the end of the year, was announced at a [kickoff event](#) (9:28) at the Main Library....



*Detroit Free Press*, July 1; YouTube, July 3

### [Library summer camp](#)

In Chicago neighborhoods like Austin and Englewood and suburban communities such as Chicago Heights and Zion, many libraries serve as makeshift summer camps. They're a place where parents with limited means leave their kids for part of the day, and where children escape the streets. Many of these children spend the day at the library without the guidance of a parent; as a result, some librarians have developed informal regimens and systems for managing the

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daily influx of unsupervised kids...  
*Chicago Tribune, July 5*

### [Siskiyou County scrambles to keep doors open](#)

The \$1,300 that Friends of the Fort Jones Library raised a couple months ago at an enchilada fundraiser is going to come in handy. Fort Jones and six other branches of Siskiyou County (Calif.) Library have until July 16 to come up with a plan to pay for someone to work at their libraries at least four hours a week. County Librarian Lisa Musgrove said that earlier in June the library budget was completely eliminated. Then on June 22, the county board of supervisors voted to give the libraries a six-month reprieve....

*Redding (Calif.) Record-Searchlight, June 26*

### [Retiring MSU director donates red telephone box](#)

The classic red British phone box practically glows in the dusky indoor illumination of Montana State University Billings library's south wall. Retiring MSUB Library Director Jane Howell (right) bought the phone box at Christmas from a Billings Army-Navy surplus store and donated it to the university as a memento of her four decades at the library. Howell was born in England and moved to the United States in 1968.



Watch the exciting [installation](#) (8:22) and June 30 [ribbon-cutting](#) (3:39)....

*Billings (Mont.) Gazette, June 30*

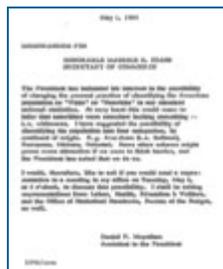
### [Jurors hear of Scott's prior theft record](#)

Raymond Scott, accused of stealing a Shakespeare First Folio from Durham University, has convictions for theft going back two decades. Jurors heard July 5 that Scott has more than a dozen arrests for dishonesty, all relating to shoplifting, with a first conviction in 1991. On July 1, Scott walked into the Peterlee police station and [handed over](#) a 1627 dictionary and told police that he had acquired the book in Cuba in January 2008 and did not know whether it had been stolen....

*Durham Times (U.K.), July 2, 6*

### [Nixon Library releases more records](#)

The Richard Nixon Presidential Library in Yorba Linda, California, released nearly 100,000 pages of [presidential records](#) and 80 hours of video oral histories as part of its ongoing transformation into a modern research facility. Most of the documents are from the files of former New York Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, who, though a Democrat, served in the Nixon administration in 1969 and 1970. The papers deal with his role in shaping policy on welfare reform, population control, civil rights, the environment, and drug control....



*Los Angeles Times: L.A. Now, July 2; Richard Nixon Presidential Library, July 2*

### [George Washington's papers moving to Mount Vernon](#)

A collection of about 135,000 documents belonging to George Washington and studied at the University of Virginia for more than four decades will be making its way to the home of the nation's first president as the centerpiece of a new



library. Scholars at the Charlottesville school have sifted through more than half of the 90 volumes of papers, issuing two volumes each year. About 15 years from now when the volumes are complete, the papers will become part of the Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington at Mount Vernon....

*Washington Post*, July 4

### [Thomas Jefferson a closet royalist? Hardly](#)

To usher in the Fourth of July weekend, the Library of Congress [revealed](#) hard evidence from high-resolution spectral imaging that Thomas Jefferson, on the third page of a "rough draught" of the Declaration of Independence, wiped the word "subjects" off with his hand and meticulously etched the word "citizens" on top—perhaps the kind of brain-freeze that a modern writer quickly hits delete in order to send into the digital ether, but that Jefferson struggled mightily to erase in a section on British abuses of the colonists....



*Christian Science Monitor*, July 3; Library of Congress, July 2

### [British alliance calls for librarian liberation](#)

A newly formed alliance of grassroots library campaign groups in the United Kingdom launched a national Library Charter July 1 calling for the "liberation" of librarians to run their service based on what their communities want. The group said it would target councils with the worst library services with PR and marketing campaigns. A 12-point [Charter for Change](#) is the alliance's opening salvo in its battle to improve the library service....

*The Bookseller*, July 1

[Go back to the Top](#)

## Tech Talk

### [How to buy a photo printer](#)

M. David Stone writes: "Whether you're looking for a portable printer to provide your friends with snapshots or a machine capable of printing gallery-worthy photos, we examine the issues to help you make the right choice. True photo printers—in contrast to standard inkjets that manufacturers merely call photo printers—fall into two broad categories at the consumer level: dedicated and near-dedicated photo printers."...

*PC Magazine*, July 1



### [Batteries that can recharge on a PC](#)

We've all been there—rummaging through a drawer of junk trying to find new batteries for the TV remote only to realize there are none. But now you can avoid this frustration with new rechargeable batteries from [USBcell](#). At first glance the battery looks like an ordinary AA battery, but peeling back the little green cap that crowns the top reveals a USB port that allows you to recharge the batteries using a computer's USB port or USB adapter....



*New York Times*: Gadgetwise, June 28

## Publishing

### Scholastic's Arabic translations

Children's book publisher Scholastic is on a rare and delicate mission to translate and market books from America for a part of the world that often rails against American values. Its list of thousands of [titles](#) was first weeded down to 200 and later 80, avoiding words and images that might appear culturally imperialistic. But over the last three years, almost 17 million copies have been shipped from a plant in Missouri to elementary schools across the Middle East and North Africa....

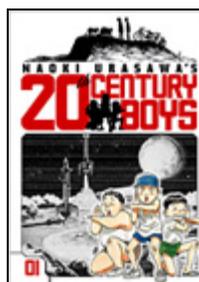
*Los Angeles Times*, July 4



### The best manga you've overlooked

Robin Brenner writes: "What manga titles have libraries overlooked? That was the question posed to a group of panelists, including myself, at the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. Here are my own takes, plus one mulligan, to borrow an idea from fellow panelist Brigid Alverson. To illustrate that these titles have indeed been overlooked by libraries, I've included at the end of each recommendation a note on how many libraries own each one according to WorldCat."...

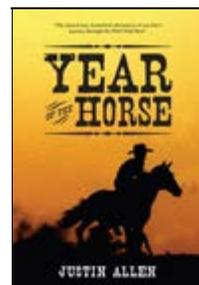
EarlyWord: The Publisher | Librarian Connection, July 6



### 12 uniquely American SF/fantasy novels and stories

John T. Ottinger writes: "Those mentioned here are only the most obvious, but many other science fiction and fantasy writers, both historical and current, have dealt with themes associated with America or Americana. This list is by no means comprehensive, and I would challenge you to list others in the comments that I might have forgotten, never read, or simply did not know about. Topping the list is, ironically, a book by a Brit."...

Grasping for the Wind, July 4



## Actions & Answers

### The future of online socializing

The social benefits of internet use will far outweigh the negatives over the next decade, according to experts consulted in the Pew Research Center's fourth Future of the Internet survey ([PDF file](#)). They say this is because email, social networks, and other online tools offer "low friction" opportunities to create, enhance, and rediscover social ties that make a difference in people's lives. The highly engaged set of respondents to the online, opt-in survey included 895 technology stakeholders and critics....

Pew Internet and American Life Project, July 2

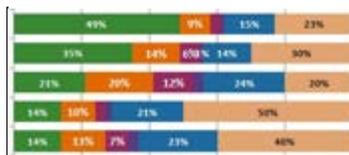


### Library staff and online tools

Sharon Streams writes: "In a survey to a

random sample of WebJunction members this spring, respondents answered a question on how frequently they used online tools, either in or outside of their professional life. Nearly half of the respondents (49%) use email discussion lists daily. One-third of the respondents (35%) use professional or social networking sites daily. When we separated the responses by library type, we saw some notable differences.”...

BlogJunction, July 6



## [12 social-media-friendly business cards](#)

Erica Swallow writes: “While the traditional business card trend is still going strong, you may want to consider optimizing the space on that little piece of paper. A growing number of professionals are finding it useful to include social media links on their business cards. Including social links on your card not only showcases your progressive approach, but it also gives your contacts more choices in how they communicate with you.”...

Open Forum, July 6



## [In praise of slow reading](#)

Malcolm Jones writes: “Thomas Newkirk, an English professor at the University of New Hampshire, says schools should encourage old-fashioned exercises such as reading aloud and memorization. He says that when he uses these exercises in his college-level classes, his students thank him and tell him that it helps them concentrate, unlike the surfing they do online. This may be a movement largely without leaders or organization, but it does not lack for heroes, and wouldn't you know, they're all writers.”...

Newsweek, June 23

## [The backroad librarian: Five forwards](#)

Marcel LaFlamme writes: “In 2009, voters in communities of fewer than 10,000 people [approved](#) 85% of the library operating referenda that came up for a vote, as well as 55% of the building referenda. The fact that rural communities across the country continue to support their libraries, even in these grim economic times, speaks to the esteem rural communities hold for them. But for libraries to maintain this loyalty, they must position themselves as platforms for the civic activism and engagement that are needed to revitalize rural America. Here are five ways they can do it.”...

Daily Yonder, June 30; *Library Journal*, Mar. 15



## [Microphone tips for presenters](#)

David Lee King writes: “I see lots of people give presentations and I hear lots of presenters with microphone problems. I know a little bit about microphones and how to get the most out of them, so here are five microphone tips for presenters. Number 1: Most mic and volume problems are solved if the presenter simply moves his or her head closer to the mic.”...

David Lee King, July 6



## [26 reasons why most brainstorming sessions suck](#)

Mitch Ditkoff writes: "Whenever I ask my clients to tell me about the quality of brainstorming sessions in their company, they usually roll their eyes and grumble. Bottom line, most brainstorming sessions don't work. Not because brainstorming, as a process, doesn't work—but because they're usually done poorly. Here are 26 reasons why, followed by 26 ways to turn these sessions around."...

The Heart of Innovation, July 5

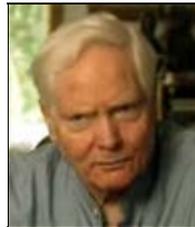
### [Marketing academic libraries in the 21st century](#)

Shawn Hartman writes: "As libraries begin their frantic race through the 21st century, it becomes apparent that effective marketing strategies are imperative if they want to survive. A significant challenge is the sentiment that because of the internet libraries are becoming obsolete. What can libraries do to effectively market their services and prove they are indeed superior to the internet?"...

Library Management Today, July 1

### [Librarian of Congress appoints William S. Merwin poet laureate](#)

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington announced the appointment of William S. Merwin July 1 as the library's 17th poet laureate consultant in poetry for 2010–2011. Merwin will take up his duties in the fall, opening LC's annual literary series on October 25 with a reading of his work. Merwin, 82, is a [member](#) of that generation of mostly male poets influenced by classical forms who emerged after World War II and published his first poetry in 1952, "A Mask for Janus."...



Library of Congress, July 1; Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, July 5

### [Google phrase searches with quotation marks](#)

One of the very best blogs with a solid focus on Google is the Google Operating System blog. On July 4, the blog posted an [article](#) on phrase searching, aka searching for phrases using quotation marks. The item specifically points out that a "shortcut" that once worked is no longer available. Gary Price points out a few facts about using them in searches....

ResourceShelf, July 5; Google Operating System blog, July 4

### [Oceanographer touts deep-sea web surfing](#)

Bob Ballard, the explorer best known for the discovery of the *Titanic* and other wrecks, has not only made deep-sea exploration more accessible for K–12 and college students, but he'll feed them updates through two of their favorite websites: Facebook and Twitter. Ballard visited the Mystic Aquarium and Institute for Exploration in Connecticut June 23 to introduce his new *Nautilus* Live Theater, along with a new [website](#) where people can watch his expeditions live....



eSchool News, July 2

### [Happy 140th birthday, LC copyright](#)

Larry Nix writes: "On July 8, 1870, President Ulysses S. Grant signed into law a bill centralizing all the functions of copyright in the Library of Congress. Since 1870, the Copyright Office has registered more than 33 million claims for copyright. The first Register of Copyrights was Thorvald Solberg (1852–1940), who



mailed this postal card to a colleague on October 27, 1887, mentioning that he was sending a copy of his *History of International Copyright in Congress*."...

Library History Buff Blog, July 6

### [Law librarians: An untapped resource](#)

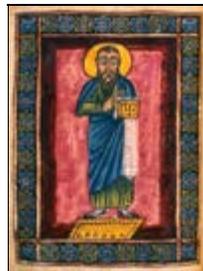
Law firm management and attorneys have often overlooked an untapped resource: the library. Law librarians bring skill, talent, creativity, and unconventional resources to the firm, all of which greatly assist in serving the needs of clients. As the legal landscape has changed, by developing innovative ways to find and gather intelligence and information, librarians have kept pace and provided a valuable resource to attorneys....

*National Law Journal*, July 6

### [The oldest illustrated gospels are in Ethiopia](#)

Kept under lock and key in a bright-blue circular hut at the center of the Abba Garima Monastery in northern Ethiopia, the Garima Gospels are one of the Christian world's oldest and most exquisite treasures. Until recently, scholars had always assumed that the two 10-inch-thick volumes, written on goat skin and brightly illustrated, dated back to the early 11th century. But recent carbon testing has proven that the books are the oldest illustrated gospels in existence....

*The Independent* (U.K.), July 6



### [The 1918 flu pandemic: An online exhibition](#)

Nancy Mattoon writes: "A new [online exhibition](#) from the National Archives and Records Administration aims to show how the 1918 influenza pandemic changed life in this country. Some scientists believe this incredibly virulent strain of flu actually began its deadly journey across the globe at the army's Camp Funston, part of Fort Riley, Kansas. In the early morning of March 11, 1918, Albert Mitchell, a company cook, reported to the infirmary complaining of a sore throat, headache, and muscle aches."...

BookTryst, July 2



### [Think of the zombies!](#)

Jonathan Reed's Bouncing Ferret Films produced this fundraiser video (1:02) for the Charlotte Mecklenburg (N.C.) Library. As library branches close, the food supply (brains) for zombies becomes drastically reduced and the undead hordes are forced to rely on a lesser quality of food. Filmed at the library's Matthews branch....

YouTube, June 15



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# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 7, 2010

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## American Libraries Online

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### ALA News

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## Booklist ONLINE

### Featured review: Audiobook

Green, John, and David Levithan. *Will Gra*

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

### D.C. Update

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## Seen Online

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## Tech Talk

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### New this week *in American Libraries*

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mber 19.

### Career Leads from



**Integrated Library  
Systems  
Administrator,**  
University of Richmond,  
Virgin....



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### Digital Library of the Week

Five centuries of maps

**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

“.”

—ia, in *Cleopatra* (1963).

@ [More quotes...](#)



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## Calendar

**Aug. 11–13:**

@ [More...](#)

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American Libraries Direct

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## Publishing

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 14, 2010

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## American Libraries Online

### [California groups oppose library privatization talks](#)

Several nonprofits in San Joaquin County, California, are sounding the alarm as the county board of supervisors considers privatizing the management of Stockton–San Joaquin County Public Library. “People have a right to be informed about this quiet move toward privatizing the library,” asserted Severn Williams, spokesperson for the SSJCPL Friends as well as the Concerned Citizens Coalition of Stockton. Williams emailed *American Libraries* July 8 that the Board of Supervisors “has so far refused to share this information, noting that it is in closed-door negotiations with the applicant.”...

*American Libraries* news, July 14



### [W. S. Merwin named Poet Laureate](#)

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington announced July 1 that W. S. Merwin has been appointed as the library’s 17th poet laureate consultant in poetry. Merwin will serve as poet laureate for 2010–2011 and is scheduled to open the Library of Congress’s annual literary series October 25 with a reading from his work....

*American Libraries* news, July 10



### [Books and literacy in the digital age](#)

Ralph Raab writes: “I become so perplexed when I read articles or hear on the news that books are slowly and inexorably vanishing, that computers, handheld eReaders, and iPods will surely win out and force books out of our schools, our libraries, and ultimately, our lives. But before we can discuss how the new technology can be used side-by-side with books to promote literacy, it behooves us to first understand how we got to this point as well as the demographic that is sounding the death knell for printed matter.”...

*American Libraries* feature, Aug.

### [On My Mind: Signage—better none than bad](#)

Leah L. White writes: “Poor visual communication



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can create a frustrating environment for users, but it's a practice that librarians commonly cling to. People eating in your library? Tape a piece of paper to the wall with a picture of a burger that has a large red X through it and there you go, problem solved! Our desire to avoid confrontation and our inability to understand the user get in the way of providing the highest level of service."...

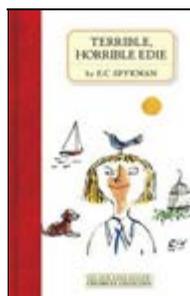
*American Libraries* column, Aug.

Thou Shalt Not  
Have Food or Drink  
in the HSRC

### [Youth Matters: What came home from D.C.](#)

Jennifer Burek Pierce writes: "All sorts of things made their way home with me: a signed collage by children's book illustrator Melissa Sweet and my carefully chosen purchases from the idyllic *New York Review of Books* booth—*Terrible, Horrible, Edie* among them. I can testify to librarians' thunderous appreciation of authors and illustrators, whom they applauded like rock stars."...

*American Libraries* column, Aug.



### [Shift to paperless notices keeps NYPL in the green zone](#)

Laura Bruzas writes: "Like the vast majority of libraries across the country, the New York Public Library had been sending out paper notices to its patrons using the U.S. postal service for more than 100 years. These notices required thousands of pounds of paper, and drove up postage costs for the library. Starting August 1, this will change. The library will cease mailing out hold notices in an effort to help the environment while freeing up funds for additional programs, services, and new materials for its collection."...

AL: Green Your Library, July 9



### [Filing rules](#)

*Q. I can't believe I'm asking this in this age of computers, but are there printed instructions for filing available? A. Absolutely! Even though our online catalogs have programming to arrange screen displays of search results and the software we use will arrange lists for us quickly, there are many times we still need rules for arranging words. Human resources departments still have paper files on staff members and fiction books are [arranged on shelves](#) by the authors' last names....*

AL: Ask the ALA Librarian, July 7

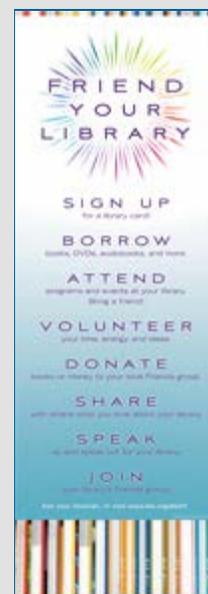


### [The switch should stay](#)

Laura Bruzas writes: "As I sit typing today's blog post, I am surrounded by light—too much light. It's giving me a headache. Where am I? I am in a small conference room at a beautiful, newly renovated local library. The room has a gigantic window unadorned by drapes or blinds offering more than enough natural sunlight for me to work. Nonetheless, there are two 32-watt, five-foot-long fluorescent bulbs beaming overhead. I cannot turn them off as there is no light switch in the room."...



A sure way to cool off this summer is to start thinking about the [ALA Midwinter Meeting](#) in San Diego, California, January 7–11, 2011.



Recognize the important role of your Friends group and generate enthusiasm for new members with this [Friend Your Library](#) poster. The accompanying bookmark makes a great giveaway and reminds all patrons there are many ways they can support their local library. Developed in partnership with ALTAFF. **NEW!** From **ALA Graphics**.

AL: Green Your Library, July 7

## American Libraries webinar

Join leading researchers Denise M. Davis from the ALA Office for Research and Statistics and John Carlo Bertot from the University of Maryland as they share insights into the 2010 Public Library Funding and Technology Access Study in this free one-hour webinar, July 26, at 3 p.m. Eastern time. Sign up [here](#).

## ALA News

### [Court decision could affect library lending rights](#)

ALA, as a member of the Library Copyright Alliance, filed an amicus curiae brief ([PDF file](#)) with the U.S. Supreme Court in support of petitioner Costco Wholesale Corporation in *Costco v. Omega*. LCA believes this case could diminish the legal provision that allows libraries to lend books. The first-sale doctrine allows any purchaser of a legal copy of a book or other copyrighted work to sell or lend that copy. However, the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit ruled that the first-sale doctrine applies only to copies manufactured in the United States. Peter Hirtle [explains](#) why this is important....

Library Copyright Alliance, July 8; LibraryLaw Blog, July 12

### [ALA endorses e-rate changes](#)

ALA's comments ([PDF file](#)) to the Federal Communications Commission regarding the e-rate program—the program that provides schools and libraries with discounts on telecommunications services—urge the FCC to implement and build upon recommendations proposed in the National Broadband Plan. ALA wholeheartedly supports the FCC's initiative to "maximize the utilization of broadband" and agrees "it is time to reexamine what is working well and what can be improved in the current program."...

District Dispatch, July 12

### [Our Authors, Our Advocates](#)

ALA President Roberta Stevens (right) introduces (3:41) her [Our Authors, Our Advocates](#) presidential initiative—which officially launched at her inauguration at the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.—in an interview with *American Libraries* Associate Editor Pamela A. Goodes. Through the initiative, authors will lend their support for libraries through media interviews, podcasts, public service announcements, and other marketing opportunities....

AL Focus, July 14



### [Prisoners' right to read](#)

At the 2010 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., the Intellectual Freedom Committee presented the [Prisoners' Right to Read: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights](#) to ALA Council for adoption. Council adopted the new interpretation during its final session on June 29....

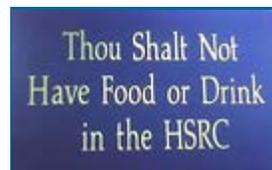
OIF Blog, July 12

### [Council opposes elimination of LSU library school](#)

ALA Council, on a recommendation of its Committee



## New this week in American Libraries



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### [Youth Matters](#)

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### [Green Your Library](#)

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### [Librarian's Library](#)

### [AL Focus](#)



Katie Maier-O'Shea discovered some valuable lessons in collection management and a broader outlook on libraries and librarianship when she [volunteered at a public library](#) Saturday afternoons at the fiction desk. See the [July/August issue](#) of *College & Research Libraries News*, now online.

## Career Leads

on Education, has adopted a resolution strongly opposing the elimination of the School of Library and Information Science at Louisiana State University. ALA urges the LSU Board of Supervisors and Board of Regents to continue to support the school....

Office of ALA Governance, July 13

### [Council promotes summer reading programs](#)

ALA Council has adopted a resolution urging library directors, trustees, school board members, and supervising government bodies to provide adequate funding to ensure the maintenance of summer reading programs. In adopting the resolution, ALA recognizes the role school and public librarians play in enhancing the reading development of children and teens....

Office of ALA Governance, July 13

### [A guide to RDA basics](#)

ALA Editions has released *Introducing RDA: A Guide to the Basics* by Chris Oliver. *Resource Description and Access (RDA)* is the new cataloging standard that will replace the *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, 2d ed.* (AACR2). The 2010 release of RDA is not the release of a revised standard; it represents a shift in the understanding of the cataloging process. Oliver offers practical advice on how to make the transition....

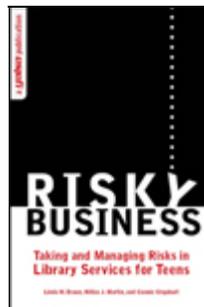
ALA Editions, July 13



### [Risky change that pays off](#)

ALA Editions has released *Risky Business: Taking and Managing Risks in Library Services for Teens* by Linda W. Braun, Hillias J. Martin, and Connie Urquhart for YALSA. In this exploration of a topic rarely discussed in depth but central to YA services in school and public libraries today, the authors explain how to be smart about taking risks without shying away from them. They offer concrete advice for laying the groundwork for change in key areas such as collection building and programming....

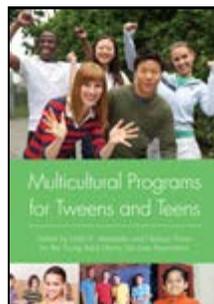
ALA Editions, July 13



### [Exploring diverse cultures with tweens and teens](#)

ALA Editions has released *Multicultural Programs for Tweens and Teens*, edited by Linda B. Alexander and Nahyun Kwon for YALSA. A flexible, one-stop resource that encourages children and young adults to explore different cultures, this book contains dozens of programming ideas that will help young adult librarians in public and school libraries choose a program specific to scheduling, budget, or age-group requirements....

ALA Editions, July 13



### [New Banned Books book](#)

The Office for Intellectual Freedom has released the latest edition of *Banned Books: Challenging our Freedom to Read* by Robert P. Doyle. Published annually from 1983 to 2001, and every third year since then, this new edition details incidents of book banning from 387 B.C. to 2010. Doyle is the executive



### [Reference Librarian,](#)

Charlotte School of Law Library, Charlotte, North Carolina. This position focuses on providing access to both print and electronic resource services, especially Law 2.0 resources. The library supports the teaching, research, and service activities of a new and growing school. Prospective candidate must be interested in engaging as an active partner with faculty and students in improving access to digital and scholarly resources. The incumbent will provide reference service to law students, faculty, and the legal community (includes evening and weekend hours), prepare print and electronic research guides and bibliographies, and occasionally teach basic and advanced legal research through guest lectures and workshops....



@ [More jobs...](#)

**Digital Library of the Week**

director of the Illinois Library Association....  
Office for Intellectual Freedom, July 13

### [Cognotes highlights issue available](#)

The final issue of *Cognotes*, the Highlights issue, for the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., is now available online in [Nxtbook](#), [mobile](#), and [accessible](#) formats. Find out what you missed! With reports on Amy Sedaris, John Grisham, the Library Advocacy Day rally, Junot Diaz, Will Shortz, Dave Isay, and Marlo Thomas....

Conference Services



### [ALA Annual Conference 2010: The superlatives](#)

Karen Schneider writes: "Hotter than blazes, but still a great venue, even after a major blister on one foot made me limp. Great discovery: the Circulator, which for \$1 brought me from Georgetown (church with my stepmom) back to the CC in air-conditioned bliss." Schneider gives her take on the best showcase, best program, best unofficial program, product hour, social hour, and more....

Free Range Librarian, July 9



The University of South Florida's Educational Technology Clearinghouse offers [Maps ETC](#)—a collection of more than 5,000 historical maps that are available for free download and reuse by teachers and students. The collection is organized by continent and country. United States maps are further broken down by state and historical theme. A friendly [license](#) allows teachers and students to use up to 25 maps in noncommercial school projects without further permission. All maps are available as GIF or JPEG files for screen display as well as in PDF format for printing. Use the GIF or JPEG maps for classroom presentations and student websites. Use the PDF maps for displays, bulletin boards, and printed school reports.

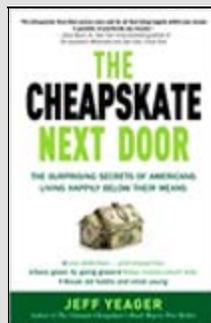
**Do you know** of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#) Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the [Love Libraries](#) site.

# Booklist ONLINE

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

Yeager, Jeff. *The Cheapskate Next Door: The Surprising Secrets of Americans Living Happily below Their Means*. June 2010. 240p. Broadway, paperback (978-0-7679-3132-8).

Ah, yes, belt-tightening is the order of the day, from how giant businesses conduct themselves to managing one's own personal finances. It is the latter aspect of conservative spending that the author of the popular *Ultimate Cheapskate's Road Map to True Riches* (2007) and of the blog *Green Cheapskate* addresses in this delightful—yes, *delightful*—guide for me, you, and everyone else. Personal finance is a topic that people need to know about but still shy away from. Yeager is here to draw you in and does so easily....



### [Top 10 business books: 2010](#)

Brad Hooper writes: "Although there may be uncertainty about whether



the economy is really picking up, one thing *is* for certain: Business publishers are still hard at it. Here are the 10 best business titles reviewed in *Booklist* since the last Spotlight on Business that are worthy of inclusion in any business collection."...

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

## Division News

### [PLA offers free advocacy training](#)

PLA is now offering [Turning the Page Online](#), an interactive advocacy training course, free of charge to all ALA members. This advocacy education, originally designed for public libraries participating in the Gates

Foundation Opportunity Online hardware grants program, has benefited more than 3,500 librarians and library supporters across 32 states. The online course typically takes 4–5 hours to complete, but can be stopped and resumed as needed....

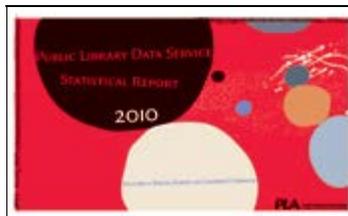
PLA, July 12



### [2010 PLDS report available](#)

PLA's [2010 Public Library Data Service Statistical Report](#) is now available for purchase. The report presents timely and topical data to assist public library administrators in making informed management decisions. Published annually since 1988, the PLDS Statistical Report is compiled from voluntary surveys submitted by public libraries across the United States and Canada. In the 2010 edition, 987 public libraries have shared their data on finances, library resources, annual use figures, and technology....

PLA, July 12



### [Vaunda Micheaux Nelson at YALSA Symposium](#)

Coretta Scott King Award–winning author Vaunda Micheaux Nelson will be the keynote speaker at the Bill Morris Memorial Author Luncheon at the 2010 Young Adult Literature Symposium in Albuquerque on November 5–7. Nelson, a New Mexico librarian who won the 2010 Coretta Scott King Author Award for *Bad News for Outlaws*, plans to give symposium attendees a look through a window opened by a pioneer bookseller who changed the state of literary diversity....

YALSA, July 8



### [YALSA's Great Ideas contest](#)

YALSA is offering \$250 in cash for great ideas that would help the division fulfill its strategic plan in the areas of advocacy, marketing,

## Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

**"If most people were asked what qualifications are necessary for a librarian, probably most of them would say a soft voice with which to say 'Shhh.'"**

—Priscilla Hendryx, "[Librarians Must Know More Than How to Say 'Shhh.'](#)" *Pittsburgh (Pa.) Post-Gazette*, Sept. 16, 1948.

**"Pimps make the best librarians."**

—Opening line of Avi Steinberg's *Running the Books: The Adventures of an Accidental Prison Librarian* (Nan A. Talese, Oct. 2010).

@ [More quotes...](#)



## TweetWatch

Follow:

American Association of Law Libraries, Annual Conference, Denver, July 10–13, at: [#aall2010](#)

National Diversity in Libraries Conference, Princeton University, July 14–16, at: [#ndlc2010](#)

research, continuous learning, and member recruitment and engagement. All current YALSA members and official member groups are eligible to apply ([Word file](#)). The deadline for submissions is July 15....

YALSA

### **Become a YALSA Friend**

Pam Spencer Holley writes: "Since 2005 the [Friends of YALSA](#) donors have given more than \$25,000 to support YALSA initiatives and services that help the profession and teens. They have sponsored Spectrum Scholars and Emerging Leaders, created advocacy materials for members to use, and sent five YALSA members to ALA's Library Advocacy Day. At Annual Conference, Financial Advancement Committee members were easily spotted wearing their 2010 sparkly glasses (above) as they passed out information about becoming a FOY in addition to accepting donations."...



YALSA Blog, July 12

### **New LITA officers**

Colleen Cuddy (right), interim director of New York University Health Sciences Libraries, is the new LITA President. Cuddy has experience in programming, having served on the LITA National Forum Program Planning Committee, and in governance, having served as the Bylaws Committee chair and Board parliamentarian. Adriene Lim, associate university librarian at Portland (Oreg.) State University, began her term as LITA councilor....



LITA, July 13

## **Round Table News**

### **ERT silent quilt auction winners**

During ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., the Exhibits Round Table sponsored a silent quilt auction to raise money for its Christopher J. Hoy Scholarship. The ALA BiblioQuilters donated the quilts, and the winners were Lee Bennett Hopkins, Susan Cook, and Regina St. John. The quilts brought in \$1,425 for the scholarship fund.



Exhibits Round Table

## **Awards**

### **Graphic novels: Why baby needs a new ALA award**

Betsy Bird writes: "Illustrated elements, when incorporated into a book's structure, serve to increase the reader's appreciation of the book itself. Unfortunately, by choosing to add such details the books are less likely to be serious contenders for awards like the Newbery and Caldecott. Why? Well, a Newbery Award has to go to the most distinguished work of American children's 'literature.' A Caldecott must go to a 'picture book for children' with 'distinguished' illustrations. So it is that many a fine graphic novel is shot down in the course of

*American Libraries* news stories, videos, tweets, and blog posts at:  
[amlibraries](#)

## **Calendar**

### **July 19:** **Effective Partnerships Between the Public Workforce System and Libraries.**

webinar cosponsored by the U.S. Employment and Training Administration and the Institute of Museum and Library Services, 2 p.m. Eastern time.

### **July 25–27:** **Church and Synagogue Library Association.**

Annual Conference, J. W. Marriott Hotel, Houston.

### **July 26:** **Public Library Funding and Technology Access Study 2010.**

webinar sponsored by *American Libraries*, 3 p.m. Eastern time.

### **July 27:** **The One Thing That Always Works in Getting Policymakers to Listen.**

webinar sponsored by the ALA Washington Office, 4 p.m. Eastern time.

### **July 30–Aug. 2:** **Cape Town Book Fair.**

South Africa. "Where Books Mean Business."

### **Aug. 4–6:**

award discussions each and every year.”...

*School Library Journal: A Fuse #8 Production, July 8*

### [Reforma supports Spectrum](#)

Reforma, the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking, has announced its support of the Spectrum Presidential Initiative with a contribution of \$10,000. In recognition of this gift, the ALA Spectrum Scholarship Program has named Nancy Gallegos as Reforma’s 2010 Spectrum Scholar. Gallegos is attending Dominican University’s Graduate School of Library and Information Science....

Office for Diversity, July 12



### [ACRL funds Spectrum Scholar](#)

As part of its commitment to furthering diversity in librarianship, ACRL is supporting JaTara Barnes as its 2010–2011 Spectrum Scholar. Barnes will attend the Syracuse University School of Information Studies. Following her studies, Barnes hopes to serve as a systems librarian in an academic library setting....

ACRL, July 12



### [CALA supports Spectrum](#)

The Chinese American Librarians Association has announced its support of the Spectrum Presidential Initiative with a contribution of \$6,500. In recognition of this gift, the ALA Spectrum Scholarship Program has named Christopher Kyauk as the 2010 CALA Spectrum Scholar. Kyauk is attending San Jose State University School of Library and Information Science....

Office for Diversity, July 13



### [University libraries dine for Spectrum](#)

Librarians at the [University of Michigan Library](#) raised more than \$1,000 and librarians at [Drexel University Libraries](#) and the Drexel iSchool raised more than \$1,600 for the Spectrum Presidential Initiative through recent dinners for Spectrum Scholars. The UM dinner was organized and sponsored by Karen Downing, Helen Look, Martin Knott, Sue Wortman, and Shevon Desai. More than 40 guests attended the Michigan event, while more than two dozen attended Drexel’s June 10 event....

Office for Diversity, July 8

### [Nominate your Día](#)

If your school or library hosted a fantastic celebration of El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children’s Day/Book Day), consider nominating it ([PDF file](#)) for Reforma’s 2010 Estela and Raúl Mora Award, which is presented annually to the most exemplary program celebrating Día. The deadline is August 15. The Estela and Raúl Mora Award was established by author and poet Pat Mora and her siblings in honor of their parents....

Reforma

### [Google awards first grants for Google Books research](#)

Google welcomed scholars into its virtual stacks July 14, announcing \$479,000 for the start of a new digital humanities research program. The 12 university-based projects mark Google’s first foray into supporting humanities text-mining research on its corpus of more

### [Eastern CONTENTdm,](#)

annual meeting, U.S. Military Academy Library, West Point, New York. Sponsored by OCLC, Lyrisis, and Nylink.

### **Aug. 4–8:**

[National Conference of African American Librarians](#), Sheraton Conference Center, Birmingham, Alabama. “Culture Keepers VII: Bridging the Divide with Information Access, Activism, and Advocacy.” Sponsored by the Black Caucus of the ALA.

### **Aug. 10–15:**

[World Library and Information Congress](#), 76th IFLA General Conference and Assembly, Gothenburg, Sweden. “Open Access to Knowledge: Promoting Sustainable Progress.”

### **Aug. 10–15:**

[Society of American Archivists](#), Annual Conference, Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, D.C. “Archives\*Records.”

### **Aug. 11–13:**

[Pacific Northwest Library Association / Washington Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Victoria, B.C.

### **Aug. 11–23:**

[Bogotá International Book Fair](#), Bogotá, Colombia.

### **Aug. 12–22:**

[São Paulo International Book Fair](#), São Paulo, Brazil.

than 12 million digitized books. The grants are the first installment of nearly \$1 million available over the two-year program....

Wired Campus, July 14

### [Big Read grants total \\$1 million](#)

Kicking off the program's fifth year, the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the National Endowment for the Arts have announced that [75 not-for-profits](#)—including arts and cultural organizations, libraries, and universities—will receive grants totaling \$1 million to host a Big Read project between September 2010 and June 2011. The Big Read brings communities together to read, discuss, and celebrate one of 31 selections from United States and world literature....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, July 10



### [2010 Campbell and Sturgeon Award winners](#)

A dystopian novel about a near-future of energy shortages and bioengineering and a long satirical story that mixes the beginning of nuclear destruction with Japanese monster films have won the 2010 Campbell and Sturgeon Awards, which will be presented at the University of Kansas July 16 at the annual Campbell Conference. *The Windup Girl* by Paolo Bacigalupi won the John W. Campbell Memorial Award for best science fiction novel of the year, and "Shambling Towards Hiroshima" by James Morrow won the Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award for the best SF short story of the year....

Center for the Study of Science Fiction, July 9



### [2009 Shirley Jackson Awards](#)

The 2009 Shirley Jackson Awards winners were announced July 11 at the Readercon 21 Conference on Imaginative Literature in Burlington, Massachusetts. The awards honor "outstanding achievement in the literature of psychological suspense, horror, and the dark fantastic." The winner in the Novel category was Victor LaValle's *Big Machine* (Spiegel & Grau)....

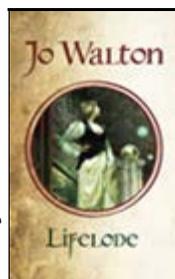
Shirley Jackson Awards, July 11



### [2010 Mythopoeic Awards](#)

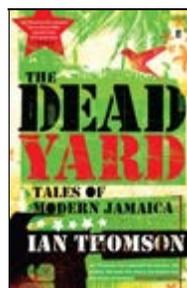
The Mythopoeic Society has announced the winners of its 2010 Mythopoeic Awards, presented for the best in myth and fantasy writing and scholarship in the spirit of the Inklings. The winner for adult literature is Jo Walton's *Lifelode* (NEFSA Press) and for children's literature it is Grace Lin's *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* (Little, Brown)....

Mythopoeic Society, July 11



### [Dolman Travel Book of the Year](#)

Ian Thomson's insight into modern-day Jamaica has been awarded the 2010 Dolman Travel Book of the Year. *The Dead Yard* (Faber, May 2009), won Thomson the £2,500 (\$3,755 U.S.) prize at a July 6 ceremony at the Arts Club in London. His title was chosen from more than 70 titles submitted to the prize. Yet this book is less a sunny travel narrative than a [bleak look](#) at the island's history and culture....



### **Aug. 13–14:**

[Chicago Antiquarian Book Fair](#), Chicago  
Journeyman Plumber's Union Building.

### **Aug. 14:**

[Nevada Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Green Valley Ranch Casino, Henderson. "Thinking Outside the Buck."

### **Aug. 30–**

**Sept. 3:**  
[Beijing International Book Fair](#), China.

### **Sept. 1–6:**

[Moscow International Book Fair](#), Russia.

### **Sept. 15–18:**

[Kentucky Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Louisville. "In These Extraordinary Times: Libraries Now More Than Ever."

### **Sept. 22–24:**

[South Dakota Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Siouxland Libraries Main Library, Sioux Falls.

### **Sept. 29:**

[Ebooks: Libraries at the Tipping Point](#), a full-day virtual conference sponsored by *Library Journal* and *School Library Journal*.

### **Oct. 6–10:**

[Frankfurt Book Fair](#), Frankfurt, Germany.

### **Oct. 14–16:**

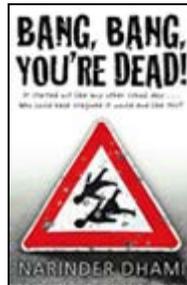
[Association for Rural and Small Libraries / Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services](#), Joint Conference,

*The Bookseller*, July 7; *The Guardian* (U.K.), May 16, 2009

## [2010 Bolton Children's Book Award](#)

The winner of one of Lancashire's leading children's literary prizes, the 2010 Bolton Children's Book Award, was announced July 2 as *Bang, Bang, You're Dead* by Narinder Dhama. Sponsored by the University of Bolton in Manchester, England, the award is aimed at 11–14-year-olds. The shortlist authors came to the university to answer young readers' questions, and the following day the winner was announced at an awards ceremony....

University of Bolton, July 6



## Seen Online

### [Civil Rights pioneers recall library sit-in](#)

Four of the original "Greenville 8"—Rev. Jesse Jackson, Dorris Wright, Elaine Means, and Margaree Crosby—reunited at the Hughes Main Library in Greenville, South Carolina, July 11 to remember their 1960 sit-in at the whites-only Greenville Public Library. "In this place of hope, 50 years ago, we found rejection and degradation," Jackson said. "We persevered—and now America is better off for it." Two months after the eight African-American students were arrested, the library became an integrated facility....

WYFF-TV, Greenville, S.C., July 11



### [Artist's videos raise preservation questions](#)

The archives of the proto-Pop artist Larry Rivers (1923–2002), will arrive at New York University in a few weeks, filled with correspondence and other documents. But one part of the archive, which was purchased from the Larry Rivers Foundation for an undisclosed price, includes films and videos of his two adolescent daughters, naked or topless, being interviewed by their father. The daughters want the footage back. NYU Libraries Dean Carol Mandel is willing to consider "reasonable privacy issues."...

*New York Times*, July 7

### [New Jersey library loans painting to the Met](#)

The large oil painting donated by a prominent local family hung in the main reading room of the Dover (N.J.) Library for more than six decades. The gilded, plaster-framed artwork, *Emigrant Train Attacked by Indians* by Emanuel Leutze, valued at \$2.5 million, shows pioneers crossing a prairie in covered wagons. On July 2, it was packaged and tucked into a large moving container to spend the next five years at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City....

*Morristown (N.J.) Daily Record*, July 2



### [Los Angeles library parcel tax defeated](#)

As expected, the Los Angeles City Council opted on July 13 not to put a parcel tax on the November 2010 ballot to restore library funding. It would have cost the city \$4.2 million to place the measure on the ballot, which is money the city doesn't have. Under the current budget, libraries have been cut to five-day service. LAPL Director

Crowne Plaza Denver–Airport.

**Oct. 15–17:**

[Sheboygan Children's Book Festival](#), Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

Cosponsored by Mead Public Library, University of Wisconsin in Sheboygan, and Bookworms Garden.

**Oct. 25–27:**

[Internet Librarian Conference](#), Monterey Conference Center, Monterey, California.

Sponsored by *Information Today*. "Insights, Imagination, and Info Pros: Adding Value."

**Nov. 28–**

**Dec. 1:**

[Library and Information](#)

[Association of New Zealand Aotearoa](#),

Centennial Conference, Dunedin, New Zealand. "At the Edge."

@ [More...](#)

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George M. Eberhart,  
Editor:  
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Martin Gómez said he'd rather wait until November 2012, because polling experts have advised that the tax will need a high voter turnout to pass....

*L.A. Weekly*, July 13

### [LAPL a source for one Hollywood researcher](#)

Although Christopher Nolan's big-budget psychological action movie *Inception* was shot in six countries, art department researcher Dominique Arcadio found much of what she needed to do her job within the aisles of the Los Angeles Public Library. "For every film I've worked on, I've gotten at least 50 books out of the L.A. Public Library," she said. For her, a day's work can include collecting source images of rust to inspire the art department, looking into table etiquette circa A.D. 200, or interviewing employees of the U.S. Geological Survey....

*Los Angeles Times*, July 11



### [Seattle seeks alternative funding plan](#)

In 2009, the Seattle Public Library cut its budget midyear. It slashed 5% more for 2010, then in June it cut another \$1.2 million. With bleak revenue forecasts for Seattle, the library has been asked to plan for another 10–15% cutback next year. The system is running out of things to eliminate, so it has come up with [seven different funding options](#) that range from a local-option sales tax to a merger of the Seattle libraries into the King County Library System....

KUOW-FM, Seattle, July 9; *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*: Strange Bedfellows, July 9

### [Watsonville librarian skates in Santa Cruz roller derby](#)

By day, Susan Nilsson is the children's librarian at Watsonville (Calif.) Public Library, where her infectious energy and passion for literature have inspired many children to pick up books for the simple pleasure of reading. But at night, she dons roller skates, knee and elbow pads, and a helmet festooned with a "Reading Is Sexy" sticker and does her best to knock down other women as she blazes around a skating rink as [Dewey Decibel](#)....

*Watsonville (Calif.) Register Pajaronian*, July 10



### [Scott found guilty of handling stolen Folio](#)

An eccentric would-be international playboy is facing a lengthy prison sentence, despite being cleared of stealing a priceless Shakespeare volume from Durham University. A jury at Newcastle Crown Court found self-styled rare book dealer Raymond Scott not guilty of stealing the Shakespeare First Folio from Palace Green Library in December 1998. But he was found guilty of handling stolen goods and smuggling stolen property. The folio has been returned to Durham. The *Sunday Sun* [profiles](#) Scott, described as a "spoiled child in a 53-year-old man's body."...

Darlington (U.K.) *Northern Echo*, July 10; *Sunday Sun* (U.K.), July 11



### [Manga-induced psychotherapy](#)

A Japanese graphic novel genre popular with teens has raised the ire of a mother whose teenage son read an adult manga book at the



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Crestview (Fla.) Public Library. Margaret Barbaree, founder of a citizens' group called Protect Our Children, presented examples from a manga novel to the city council. "My son lost his mind when he found this," Barbaree said. "Now he's in a home for extensive therapy."...

*Walton (Fla.) Sun, July 7*

### [Stanford Health Library helps the community](#)

In the Stanford Shopping Center in Palo Alto, California, is a small space filled with books and people eager to help those who step inside. It is the Stanford Health Library, a vast collection of up-to-date resources and information that is free to the public and staffed with a team of almost 80 expert volunteers—including several retired doctors and nurses—offering research assistance....

*San Francisco Chronicle, June 28*



### [Mall locations aim for convenience](#)

People streamed into a storefront on a recent summer day at an upscale Dallas mall, but they weren't drawn to a heavy discount on designer clothes. It was story sing-a-long time for babies at one of the city library's newest branches. PLA President Sari Feldman said putting libraries in malls is one of many efforts by public libraries to become more convenient. With about 5,000 items, the Bookmarks branch (above) in the NorthPark Center checks out as many items as branches eight times its size....

*Associated Press, July 6*



### [Library responds to Lexington's shifting demographics](#)

In the children's section of the Cary Memorial Library in Lexington, Massachusetts, near the Dr. Seusses and the Harry Potters, there is also *Yi zhi hui kai qiang de shi zi*, a Shel Silverstein book about a lion translated into Chinese. The library's small but growing Chinese collection, and the addition of a few books in Bengali, reflects a town's population in flux....

*Boston Globe, July 8*

### [Obama Africana at Northwestern University](#)

Three years ago, the Herskovits Library of African Studies at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, embarked on a project to gather and categorize hundreds of artifacts and publications related to President Barack Obama from across Africa.

The library continues to receive items each day, and is now one of the largest of its kind in the world. The growth and popularity of the Obama collection has spawned another collection at the library: World Cup items....

*Voice of America News, July 10*



### [Skateboarders welcome](#)

A sign on the brick exterior of the Gardner branch of the Johnson County (Kans.) Library may read "No skateboarding allowed," but inside, skaters are certainly welcome. A group of teens recently brushed acrylic paint onto wooden skateboard decks as part of the library's "skateboard deck design contest." Branch manager Terry

Velasquez said the event was one of several recent attempts Gardner librarians have made to attract patrons of all ages and interests....

*Olathe (Kans.) News, July 6*

### [Libraries praised as info clearinghouses](#)

Libraries such as the San Marcos branch of San Diego County (Calif.) Library are evolving to offer such services as free passes for museums, e-book loans, housing clinics, and live performances. Branch Manager Angelica Fortin (right), who carries around a paperback, downloads e-books into her laptop, and keeps audiobooks in her car, said, "If technology's changing and the way people access information is changing, we have to change, too."...



*Escondido (Calif.) North County Times, July 10*

### [Milwaukee inches back towards qualifying for federal grants](#)

City officials have made significant headway toward easing state sanctions against the Milwaukee Public Library for city budget cuts. The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction [moved against the library](#) in June after the city sliced \$1.2 million in property tax support from the 2010 city budget. Because of the cuts, DPI officials barred the library from applying for certain federal library grants for 2011. But now it is back to 99.6% of the state target....

*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, June 22, July 8*

### [Controversy haunts proposed Arlen Specter library](#)

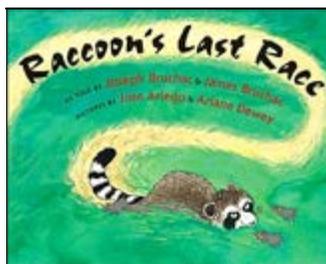
A green light for \$10 million in state aid to build the Arlen Specter Library at Philadelphia University is drawing unfavorable comparisons to a 9% cut in aid to libraries in the new Pennsylvania state budget. Funding for the Specter library and \$10 million for the John P. Murtha Center for Public Policy in Johnstown were tapped by Gov. Ed Rendell for priority under the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program. Rendell said he wishes local libraries received more state aid, but a budget with revenue shortfalls and no tax hikes led to many program cuts. Specter himself will have an [office](#) in the library, which will be built in the historic Roxboro House (above)....



*Scranton (Pa.) Times-Tribune, July 7; Philadelphia Inquirer, July 8*

### [Raccoon reserves Brooklyn library basement](#)

Maintenance workers for the Brooklyn (N.Y.) Public Library's central library were recently startled by the sight of a raccoon rustling around in the basement, where older materials that aren't often in circulation are stored. BPL closed off the area to workers and the public for the time being even though the masked maurader hasn't been seen since July 9. In the meantime, library spokesperson Malika Granville jokingly suggested, the raccoon might enjoy a copy of *Raccoon's Last Race* by Joseph and James Bruchac....



*New York Daily News, July 13*

[Go back to the Top](#)

## Tech Talk

### [The top 100 free apps for your smartphone](#)

Whatever brand you are toting, it's the apps that make your smartphone brilliant. And the app scene is booming. The iPhone still leads the app race with more than 225,000, but developers are churning out apps for other platforms as well. Google's Android Market now has over 60,000 apps. Here are the top free apps for the [iPhone](#), [Android](#), [BlackBerry](#), [Palm](#), [Symbian](#), and [Windows](#) platforms....

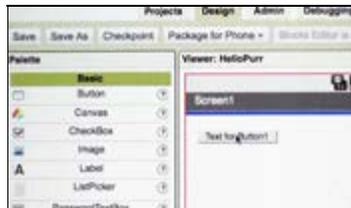
*PC Magazine*, July 14



### [Do-it-yourself Android apps](#)

Got an idea for a smartphone app? If you have an Android phone, you might be able to build it yourself, thanks to [App Inventor for Android](#), a new Google Labs program for Windows, OS X, and Linux that's designed to make building Android programs as easy as piecing blocks together. Steve Lohr's [story](#) in the *New York Times* makes it sound sensational. App Inventor is in closed beta at the moment, and Google says it will let folks in "soon"—you can [sign up here](#). Some early glitches were [noted](#). Meanwhile, watch the [video](#) (1:14)....

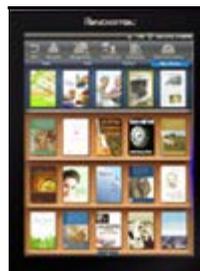
*PC World*, July 12; *New York Times*, July 11; *Network World*, July 12; YouTube, June 30



### [The iPad has a competitor](#)

Mike Cane writes: "It's not an iPad. Not even *close* to the smoothness and sleekness of one. However, consider these points: It's *less than half the price* of the least expensive iPad; it's Android—which you can now make your own apps for; it's in the price point of a crappy eInk device—yet it combines the features of three of them; and it will be on sale all over the place. It's called the [Pandigital Novel](#)."...

Mike Cane's iPad Test, July 12



### [The iPad for academics](#)

Alex Golub writes: "After having used an iPad shortly since its release I can safely say that the device—or another one like it—deserves to become an important part of the academic's arsenal of gadgets. Choosing to plop down the money for an iPad is like Ingrid Bergman's regret over leaving Casablanca with Humphrey Bogart. You will do it: not today, not tomorrow, but soon—and for the rest of your life. The iPad is the long, long-awaited portable PDF reader that we have hoped for."...

*Inside Higher Ed*, July 12

### [Top 10 iPad apps for librarians](#)

Andy Burkhardt writes: "I've had an iPad for a number of weeks now and I find it's really helping me organize information better. With the help of a few select apps I've downloaded, I'm able to connect from anywhere, catch up on videos and reading, and maintain a social media presence. It was really useful at ALA Annual Conference. These are a few of the apps that I think are essential for librarians."...



Information Tyrannosaur, July 7

### [How to buy a desktop PC](#)

Joel Santo Domingo writes: "Prices for desktop PCs start as low as \$250 and range all the way up to \$5,000, but most of us would be more than happy with an \$800 box. You still need to make some choices when it comes to CPUs, memory, hard drive capacity and graphics technology, but the good news is your money has never gone further. And a PC you buy today could very well last you for four to six years."...

*PC Magazine*, July 7



### [Picnik in Picasa](#)

Ian Paul writes: "Google recently added some new features to Picasa Web Albums, the search giant's photo-sharing site, thanks to the company's recent acquisition of the photo-editing site Picnik. Picasa users can now tweak images right inside a web browser without leaving Picasa by using Picnik's tools for functions like color correction, cropping, resizing, adjusting the exposure, and adding frames. Here is a look at some of the new things you can do inside Picasa Web Albums."...

*PC World*, July 14



### [Schools save money with refurbished computers](#)

At less than half the cost of purchasing new computers, buying high-quality refurbished machines is cheaper and more efficient, some education technology directors say—and that's a big deal with school budgets stretched so thin. McNairy County Schools in Tennessee bought 300 used Dell laptops for its one-to-one computing initiative from CDI, Computer Dealers Inc., one of the largest computer resellers in North America. The district plans to buy 300 more from CDI when more funding comes....

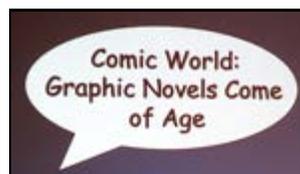
*eSchool News*, July 13

## **Publishing**

### [Graphic novels and libraries: A publisher's perspective](#)

Rich Johnson writes: "Over the years, a lot of hard work by many publishers went into establishing graphic novels in libraries: dozens of panels and meetings and discussions and account visits and the trade shows. There was a group of publisher representatives who banded together in spirit and worked together to expand into this new market. What I found sad at this year's ALA Annual Conference was that DC Comics no longer exhibits; there was a graphic novel pavilion, but it seemed like it was quieter than in years past."...

*The Beat*, July 8



### [Drowning in a flood of scholarly papers](#)

Kent Anderson writes: "Scholarly publishing's reputation is that it uses peer review and editorial judgment to separate the wheat from the chaff. The reputation authors garner by being published in a scholarly journal is that he or she has fit through the tight filter on scholarly communications, where only the best of the best gets published. But that reputation is no longer deserved. Scholarly publishing, under pressure to conform to a 'publish or perish' academic culture, is

failing.”...

The Scholarly Kitchen, July 8

### [NYPL's e-book lending program](#)

The New York Public Library offers 33,000 e-books, compared with roughly 4.8 million paper books. But the nation's largest public library and the Brooklyn Public Library are helping write the book on the future of reading in the age of the iPad and Kindle. "I would not have thought, 10 years ago, that I would be comfortable with reading digital books," said Anne Thornton, NYPL director of reference and research services. But e-book reader technology has advanced enough to pass her test of the "three B's"—beach, bath, and bed...

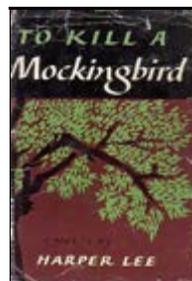
*New York Daily News*, July 11



### [To Kill a Mockingbird: Enduring at 50 years](#)

July 11 was the 50th anniversary of the publication of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the endearing and enduring story of racism and redemption and growing up in a small Southern town during the Depression. It is Lee's only book and one of the handful that could earn the title of Great American Novel. "It has 'book charisma,' a term I rarely use," said Karen MacPherson, children-and-teens librarian at the public library of Takoma Park, Maryland. The Westport (Conn.) Public Library [celebrated](#) with a showing of the film version....

*USA Today*, July 8; *Westport (Conn.) Patch*, July 12

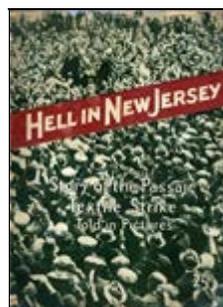


### [Ephemera studies](#)

Rebecca Rego Barry writes: "I could not pass up the opportunity to share this striking Image of the Week from [ephemerastudies.org](#). (Sorry, I grew up in N.J., actually quite close to the city featured in this 1926 booklet, so I found it particularly amusing.)

Ephemera Studies is a rather new website, curated by Saul Zalesch of Louisiana Tech University. He posts all kinds of amazing American ephemera. Take a gander at his [gallery](#)."...

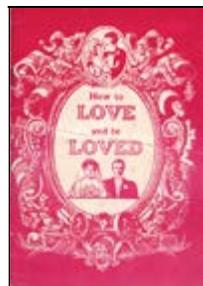
Fine Books Blog, July 12



### [Obscure tracts and pamphlets](#)

Gilbert Alter-Gilbert writes: "Today, despite the inroads of rival media, pamphlets and tracts still make the rounds of shopping malls, parking lots, and other public concourses, because of the need to reach the man in the street. As a conveyance for exchanging animadversions, as a platform for socioeconomic argument, as a substitute for soapbox or pulpit, as a megaphone through which to decry the wreckage and carnage of civilization, as a conduit for sermon, sanction, gospel, grimoire, ad hoc credo, or instant ideology, the tract or pamphlet has no rival." Here is a sampling, arranged by topic....

A Journey Round My Skull, July 12



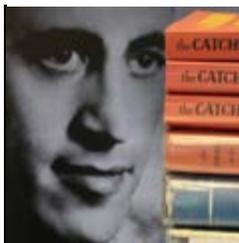
## **Actions & Answers**

### [Libraries must protect the freedom to](#)

## [read](#)

Freedom to Read Foundation President Kent Oliver writes: "Attempts to censor books like J. D. Salinger's *Catcher in the Rye* often focus on the issues of sexuality and profanity, about which young adults are apparently not supposed to read, despite the fact that we all live through those issues. Herein lies the dichotomy and absurdity of the censor's viewpoint: While the First Amendment guarantees Americans the freedom of speech and press, the censor asserts an urgent need for protection from our own ideas about the very lives we live."...

*Forbes*: Booked, July 8



## [We still need libraries in the digital age](#)

Ian Clark writes: "With the government [axing public services](#), librarians are being forced to defend their existence against accusations of irrelevance in modern society. As one advisor on *Newsnight* put it during the BBC's recent [mini-consultation](#) on the proposed cuts: Why do we need libraries when everyone has broadband and can access information without recourse to a librarian? There are a number of problems with this argument."...

*The Guardian* (U.K.), July 13; BBC News, June 8

## [Librarian enlivens research for American Indian students](#)

Growing up, Paulita Aguilar developed a love for books and a reliance on librarians that she now grooms among American Indian and other college students who lacked the resources she had available.



Aguilar is curator of the University of New Mexico's Indigenous Nations Library Program, mandated to increase information literacy and research skills among tribal students, who make up 6% of the flagship campus in Albuquerque....

*Diverse Issues in Higher Education*, July 7

## [Seattle flash mob catches patrons by surprise](#)

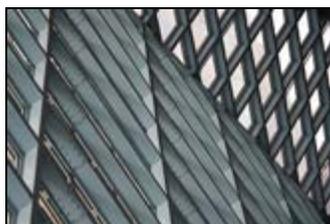
J. T. Oldfield writes: "There I was last week, on the third floor of the Seattle Public Library's central location downtown, taking advantage of their subscription to OED.com and chatting with my husband online, when I look up and notice an inordinate amount of people hanging around. No sooner had I mentioned this to my husband than music comes on and a girl with purple streaks in her hair throws up some papers and starts dancing." Watch the [video](#) (4:55)....



*Bibliofreakblog*, July 10; YouTube, July 3

## [Praise for Seattle Public Library architecture](#)

Iván Meade writes: "Last weekend I had the opportunity to visit the Seattle Public Library for the first time. I was mesmerized by its supreme architecture and clever design. The simplicity of the materials and the complexity of its construction have made it an architectural icon in



the United States. The library was designed by Rem Koolhaas and Joshua Prince-Ramus. Next time you are in Seattle, this is a must-see building.”...

Meade Design Group blog, July 8

### [Library design inspired by pine cones](#)

Serero Architects’ winning design for a library and auditorium for the University of Amiens in France incorporates a wooden “smart skin” that controls the internal space ambiance and frames views. The design responds to the sun in an effort to supply the most comfortable interior environment. The wooden façade, inspired by a pine cone, consists of wooden scales that open or close according to the level of humidity. The glass-curtain wall is protected by the wooden sun shading that can be adjusted throughout the day....

Arch Daily, July 9



### [An old-fashioned bibliographer](#)

Jennifer Howard writes: “On paper, R. Carter Hailey’s scholarship is exceptional. A leading expert on papermaking and early modern printing, Hailey (right) just spent a year as a research fellow at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, studying the paper stocks used in early editions of Shakespeare. Yet Hailey hasn’t found a permanent job in academe, raising the question of whether bibliography is now judged too specialized or old-fashioned to be rewarded with tenure and promotion.”...

Chronicle of Higher Education, July 11



### [Helping job seekers](#)

Barbara Bibel writes: “Public libraries are full of people looking for work. Many of them have few or no computer skills and there are too few of us to sit down and spend lots of time helping. [www.indeed.com](http://www.indeed.com) is a website that is easy to use. It provides access to over a million open positions culled from newspapers, company websites, job search sites, and associations. The home page has two boxes labeled ‘what’ and ‘where’ for users to enter job titles, keywords, or company names along with a city, state, or zip code.”...

Booklist Online: Points of Reference, July 13



### [7 ways to use Wikipedia as a movie search tool](#)

Saikat Basu writes: “Do a Google search for a film and Wikipedia crops up just below IMDB.com in the top tier of results. It’s not only an encyclopedic reference point for films and movies but also a launching pad for much more. If you have the patience, Wikipedia links can take you into new waters. A Wikipedia search for movies can serve as a compass for film buffs, or you can just lose yourself and discover films that you never knew before.”...

MakeUseOf, July 12

### [Happy ending for Chicago Book Bike](#)

Marcus Gilmer writes: “After [all the drama](#) last week over [the fate](#) of Gabriel Levinson’s Book Bike, cooler heads have prevailed and we now have a happy ending. The Chicago Public Library reached out to Gabriel and the two parties [have now become partners](#), allowing Gabriel to



continue doing what he's been doing without having to pay any steep fees."...

*Chicagoist*, July 6–7, 12

### [Survey on library blog use](#)

Stewart Baker is conducting a [survey](#) on the use of blogs as a tool for professional development and sharing emerging library trends. He is offering a \$10 Amazon.com gift certificate to one random participant. The survey will close on August 6....

ALA Connect, July 7

### [Students can explore the cosmos from a PC](#)

In a project that aims to pull a new generation of students toward science and technology, Microsoft and NASA have teamed up to create [Terapixel](#)—the largest seamless, spherical map ever made of the night sky—as well as a true-color, high-resolution map of Mars ([WWT|Mars](#)) that users can explore on their computers in 3D. In studying photos of Mars taken by a NASA spacecraft, a group of 7th graders in California earlier this year [discovered](#) a previously unknown cave, as well as lava tubes that NASA scientists hadn't noticed....

*eSchool News*, July 13; *Space.com*, June 21



### [Elementary library routines](#)

Joyce Valenza writes: "The wonderful elementary librarians out there are getting very *wiki*. [Elementary Library Routines](#) is a new space for this particular community of practice to engage in knowledge sharing related to effective practice. The wiki already contains a wealth of practical wisdom that would be welcome to newbie professionals and veterans alike. Interestingly, one of the richest pages is not about routines at all; it is a collection of [curricular resources](#)."...

*School Library Journal*: NeverEndingSearch, July 7



### [Is your library making milkshake mistakes?](#)

Buffy J. Hamilton writes: "One of the most interesting ideas I've discovered so far in my reading of Clay Shirky's new book, *Cognitive Surplus: Creativity and Generosity in a Connected Age*, is 'milkshake mistakes.' Shirky relates how McDonald's wanted to improve the sales of its milkshakes; with the exception of Gerald Berstell, all of the researchers focused on the qualities and characteristics of the product itself. Berstell, however, chose to focus on studying the customers, observing who bought milkshakes, and the times of day in which they made their purchases."...

The Unquiet Librarian, July 12

### [University libraries move to the mobile web](#)

Alan W. Aldrich writes: "The commercial sector has taken the lead in creating mobile websites that leverage the capacities of smartphones, and the academic community has begun to follow suit. This study examines the mobile websites of large research universities and their libraries in the United States and Canada. The services available on different mobile websites are compared and



contrasted with the literature identifying what mobile web users desire.”...

*Educause Quarterly* 33, no. 2

### [Sex and drugs and bibliothèques](#)

Will Manley writes: “I get amused when I read what some library advocates give as solutions to our current funding problems. Here is Joan’s three-point plan to raise money for libraries: 1) tax online companies, 2) legalize marijuana and tax it like crazy at cigarette-level taxes, and 3) legalize prostitution and tax each person using the service. As much as I admire Joan’s courage and creativity, I disagree with her completely. Here is my rebuttal to Joan’s three points.”...

Will Unwound, July 13

### [The library: Not what you think](#)

David Votta and Heidi Gustad of the Capital Area District Library in Lansing, Michigan, did a short stand-up presentation (7:27) at [Ignite Lansing!](#) on March 5 to dispel eight myths about libraries and inform the community about how cool librarians are....

YouTube, Apr. 6



### [Old Spice guy talks about libraries](#)

Former NFL player and current Old Spice commercial actor Isaiah Mustafa has a few words to say (0:34) about libraries, thanks to the efforts of librarian Andy Woodworth. “Books are often composed of many many words. And words are the non-pictures that convey many things to other minds, [like] ‘Let’s eat peanut butter.’”...

YouTube, July 14



[Go back to the Top](#)

# american. libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 28, 2010

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How much money will you save?  
Find out and win an iPad!



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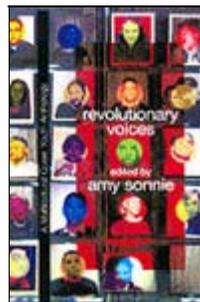
american  
libraries  
BUYERS GUIDE

## American Libraries Online

### [Gay-anthology ban engulfs Burlington County](#)

Some six months after Burlington County, New Jersey, resident Beverly Martinelli appeared before the Rancocas Valley Regional High School Board of Education seeking the removal of *Revolutionary Voices: A Multicultural Queer Youth Anthology* from the school library collection, a Freedom of Information Act request has revealed that the Burlington County (N.J.) Library System has removed the book at Martinelli's informal request—and indeed may have done so several weeks before the school board's May 4 vote to ban the book from the district...

*American Libraries news*, July 28



### [In Practice: Guided by barcodes](#)

Meredith Farkas writes: "Whenever I've created an instructional handout for students, I've struggled with what to include. I include the URL to a web page with more content, but URLs are often long and I wonder if students will take the time to enter a long URL into their browsers. Imagine if students could simply scan a barcode at the bottom of your handout with their cell phone and be taken to a website or tutorial you'd created. This sort of seamless access is now possible with QR codes."....

*American Libraries column*, Aug.



### [Will's World: Surveying my sex appeal](#)

Will Manley writes: "On a cheery morning in late April 1992, I had a flight of whimsy. I woke up to the sounds of birds chirping outside and thought, 'Wouldn't it be fun to do a tongue-in-cheek survey on the subject of librarians and sex for my monthly column in the *Wilson Library Bulletin*?' I can't think of a column that I've had more fun doing. Among the questions: 'What

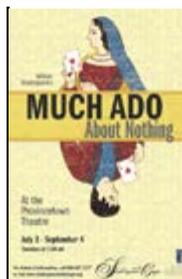


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Whenever teachers, parents and students ask you for help with schoolwork, answer their requests with Thinkfinity.org. Thousands of premium lesson plans, interactive activities, remarkable resources and more... all from leading educational organizations.

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Shakespearean title best describes your first sexual experience?"...

American Libraries column, Aug.

### Next Steps: Unquiet Library has high-schoolers geeked

Brian Mathews writes: "Welcome to the Creekview High School Media Center in Canton, Georgia, or as it is commonly known around the halls, [The Unquiet Library](#). The school opened its doors in 2006 and its library services were conceived during the Web 2.0 boom. This is evident in its design as a highly participatory learning environment embedded with interaction and technology from the beginning....



American Libraries column, Aug.

### Review, remove, replace, reveal

Laura Bruzas writes: "Like homes and offices across America, libraries need to be cleaned on a regular basis. But keeping toxins out of the cleaning process can be a bit challenging—unless one knows the basics. I've outlined a simple, four-step approach that your library might want to implement to ensure it is exhibiting conscious green behavior in this area."...

AL: Green Your Library, July 23



### Public Library Funding and Technology Access webinar

Sponsored by *American Libraries*, the July 26 Office for Research and Statistics webinar offered an hour-long look at the 2009–2010 Public Library Funding and Technology Access Study, published in the [Spring 2010 AL digital supplement](#). Available for free, the [archived webinar](#) can help librarians use these statistics to support local funding and advocacy initiatives....

AL: Inside Scoop, July 27

### The National Library Symbol

*Q. I've seen the [web page](#) about the National Library Symbol, but you only have a small jpeg file there. Do you have any large, high-resolution images?* A. Yes, we do now! ALA Publishing Technology created a large, high-resolution version of the National Library Symbol, in a couple of file types, including EPS, which can be freely downloaded from that [same page](#)....

AL: Ask the ALA Librarian, July 28



[ALA Midwinter Meeting](#) in San Diego, California, January 7–11, 2011, Here is the [Midwinter FAQ](#).



In [Building Science 101](#), authors Lynn M. Piotrowicz and Scott Osgood provide a tour of the library building from foundation to roof. In a time of rapidly inflating energy prices and tight public

Click International Career Opportunities at the King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture Saudi Aramco

## ALA News

### [Authors as advocates](#)

ALA got a brand-new president June 29, when Roberta Stevens of the Library of Congress entered the ballroom at the Renaissance hotel in Washington, D.C., dancing to the tune of "Celebration," along with the incoming presidents of the 11 ALA divisions and four of her favorite authors: Marie Arana, Brad Meltzer, Sharon Draper, and Carmen Agra Deedy. Stevens promptly turned over the mike to the authors, as the launch of her "Our Authors, Our Advocates" presidential initiative....

*American Libraries* feature



### [Annual Conference wrap-up](#)

Nearly 20,000 conference attendees participated in more than 2,400 sessions and meetings during the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., June 24–29. Securing the future of libraries through advocacy was a central theme this year as librarians focused on ways to get their messages across. Watch the [video wrap-up](#) (3:46), and don't forget the *Cognotes* [highlights issue](#)....

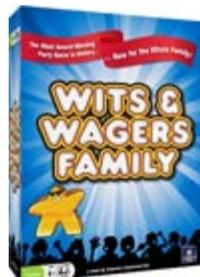
*American Libraries* feature: AL Focus, July 27; AL: Inside Scoop, July 28



### [National Gaming Day registration is open](#)

Libraries can now [register](#) for National Gaming Day 2010, which will take place on November 13. This year, North Star Games is donating a free copy of [Wits & Wagers Family](#) to the first 1,000 U.S. libraries that register. This new version removes the betting chips and includes questions that can be used in any library or school. National Gaming Day is an ALA initiative to connect communities around the educational, recreational, and social value of all types of games....

National Gaming Day @ your library



### [Honorary Spectrum Cochair Charles Ogletree](#)

Harvard Law Professor and Honorary Spectrum Presidential Initiative Cochair Charles Ogletree talks (9:02) to *American Libraries* Associate Editor Pamela A. Goodes about the importance of diversity in libraries, the role of libraries in his life, and what he'd like to say to former students Barack and Michelle Obama....

AL Focus, July 22



### [ALA replies to FCC's proposed e-rate rule](#)

ALA submitted reply comments ([PDF file](#)) July 26 to the Federal Communications Commission on its recent E-rate Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. The comments focus on the agency's proposal to add leased dark fiber to the Eligible Services List and request the FCC to clarify a number of issues to ensure that applicants can make

budgets, many libraries are faced with older physical facilities that are not up to modern standards of efficiency. This manual offers many tips on preventive maintenance and energy efficiency. **NEW! From ALA Editions.**



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**New this week**  
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[Authors As Advocates](#)

[Annual Conference Wrap-Up](#)

[In Practice](#)

[Next Steps](#)

[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Green Your Library](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

[Librarian's Library](#)

[AL Focus](#)

informed decisions....

District Dispatch, July 27

### [Has your library stepped up to the plate?](#)

The Campaign for America's Libraries is looking for stories showing how libraries are promoting the fifth season of Step Up to the Plate @ your library. From now until August 17, libraries are encouraged to submit stories, photos, and videos of their activities. Send an [email](#) for possible posting to the [website](#). Materials can include footage and photos from events, examples of signage, Step Up to the Plate public service announcements, clips from local media or scans of publicity materials....

Campaign for America's Libraries, July 27



### [2010 ALA Student Chapters survey](#)

Don Wood writes: "The [2010 ALA Student Chapters Survey](#) is now online. By completing this 20-minute survey, you will provide us with invaluable information that will result in a better ALA student chapter experience for you and for future student chapter members. Please help publicize this survey widely to student chapter members, elected officers, and faculty advisers."...

ALA Student Membership Blog, July 28

### [Elizabeth Gilbert and John Grisham love libraries](#)

Elizabeth Gilbert (right), author of the bestselling *Eat, Pray, Love*, talks about her experiences with librarians—and her love of libraries—in this [video](#) (2:36). John Grisham, author of *The Pelican Brief* and *The Firm*, also [talked](#) (3:10) about libraries prior to his presentation at the 2010 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C....

Visibility @ your library, July 22, 27



### [Workshop: Building the Digital Branch](#)

Join David Lee King for a 90-minute online workshop on how to build an effective, user-friendly website that will expand and enhance your library's presence in its community. King is the digital branch and services manager at the Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library, where he plans for, implements, and experiments with emerging technology trends.

Sponsored by ALA TechSource, the workshop will be held August 3 at 2:30 p.m. Eastern time. [Sign up](#) here....

ALA TechSource



### Career Leads from JobLIST

#### [Fearless Librarian.](#)

Rutland Free Library, Rutland, Vermont. Library in midst of 21st-century transitions is looking for fearless librarian who loves the outdoors, is interested in community/library connections, and who dreams of making a difference. Yes, there are some traditional responsibilities, but think larger and send your resumé and three references....



@ [More jobs...](#)

### Digital Library of the Week



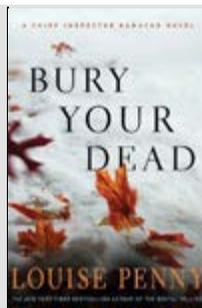
[The Lunar Sample Atlas](#) of the Lunar and Planetary Institute in Houston contains

# Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Crime fiction](#)

Penny, Louise. *Bury Your Dead*. October 2010. 384p. Minotaur, hardcover (978-0-312-37704-5).

Penny's first five crime novels in her Armand Gamache series have all been outstanding, but her latest is the best yet, a true tour de force of storytelling. When crime writers attempt to combine two fully fleshed plots into one book, the hull tends to get a bit leaky; Penny, on the other hand, constructs an absolutely airtight ship in which she manages to float not two but three freestanding but subtly intertwined stories. Front and center are the travails of Gamache, chief inspector of the Sûreté du Québec, who is visiting an old friend in Quebec City and hoping to recover from a case gone wrong. Soon, however, he is involved with a new case: the murder of an archaeologist who was devoted to finding the missing remains of Samuel de Champlain, founder of Quebec....



### The hyphenate: Our newest fiction genre

Joyce Saricks writes: "Recently, one of the members of RUSA's



Reading List committee suggested that perhaps we need an award for the best hyphenated genre. The suggestion was offered facetiously—we were discussing into what genre we might slot a title in order to consider it for the list—but librarians face this issue every day as we decide where to catalog, sticker, or shelve these intriguing and often very popular genre blends. Of course, genres have never been static. Michael Chabon, a wonderful storyteller who consistently and elegantly blends elements from several genres in his novels, alludes to this process in "Trickster in a Suit of Lights: Thoughts on the Modern Short Story," the opening essay in his collection *Maps and Legends*. He argues that the best writers play with rules and conventions, and that's how genres change, grow, and stay fresh. He's right, of course, and the playfulness he and other authors display creates the novels that delight and haunt us as readers and readers' advisors. There's no denying that these genre hyphenates are a boon for readers, but these titles are also great for readers' advisors—if we can get beyond the shelving issues....

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

laboratory images of moon-rock samples from the Apollo missions. Containing full-color views in microscopic thin-sections, the digital library offers cutting views and diagrams that illustrate how the samples were subdivided for scientific analyses and in situ views of the samples on the lunar surface. The Lunar Sample Atlas contains information about type of sample (e.g., rock, soil), lithology (e.g., basalt, norite), and a description of the sample. Links to additional information about each sample are provided for those that have been previously described in *The Lunar Sample Compendium* and *Lunar Sample Catalogs*.

**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

**"He had tears in his eyes as he said he wanted to save the library. Don't shortchange him by being shortsighted now."**

—Library supporter Lillian Neenan on seeing a 7-year-old boy take a penny out of his mother's purse to help save the Centennial Park branch of the Pasco County (Fla.) Library System, St.

## Division News

### Registration open for two RUSA online courses

Registration is now open for the fall 2010 offerings of Business Reference 101 and The Reference Interview, two popular classes offered by RUSA. All courses will be administered using Moodle, an online course management tool. [Online registration](#) is now open for all of these opportunities, with significant cost savings for RUSA members....

RUSA, July 27

### [Register for ALCTS web courses](#)

[Register](#) now for the popular Fundamentals web courses, beginning in August, offered by ALCTS. Included are the Fundamentals of Acquisitions course, the Fundamentals of Collection Development and Management, the Fundamentals of Electronic Resources Acquisitions, and the newest course, the Fundamentals of Preservation....  
ALCTS, July 28

### [Submissions sought for ASCLA newsletter](#)

August 2 is the submission deadline for the Summer 2010 issue of *Interface*, ASCLA's quarterly newsletter. Potential contributors are encouraged to submit their articles promptly to the ASCLA office. The issue theme is service to special populations....  
ASCLA, July 27

### [Think big \(\\$500\) about advocacy](#)

YALSA members who have hosted a successful advocacy program, activity, or event can enter the division's Thinking Big about Advocacy Contest and win up to \$500 for advocating for their young adult or school library program. The contest is part of Kim Patton's 2010-2011 presidential theme, "Think Big." Applications ([Word file](#)) are due February 1....  
YALSA, July 23

### [Michigan librarian loves WrestleMania Reading Challenge](#)

Bambi Mansfield (right, flexing), director of the Crawford County (Mich.) Library, writes: "A young girl emailed me a few weeks ago and asked if I would consider the [WrestleMania XXVII Reading Challenge](#) for 2010. I must admit, I was reluctant to get involved. But because of the overwhelmingly positive community reaction, we are taking this challenge further than we had originally intended. And guess who is the most inspired and excited? Me, the reluctant librarian!" [Registration](#) closes July 31....



Over the Ropes, July 8; YALSA

### [Help YALSA whip up a sweet fundraiser](#)

Pam Spencer Holley writes: "Cookbook author and librarian Amy Alessio has volunteered to compile a cookbook of dessert recipes for the Not So Silent Auction, to be held at the 2011 ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego. Perhaps if it's a big seller, we can print more copies, but until then, if you're the lucky bidder, you'll have a great dessert cookbook, which can include everything from cookies, cupcakes, cakes, and pies to tortes and puddings. If it's sweet, it's a dessert. Each submitter will be cited in the cookbook for his/her recipe. Use this template ([Word file](#)) by September 30."...  
YALSA Blog, July 12

## Awards

### [Five Friends groups win Baker & Taylor Awards](#)

Five Friends of the Library groups received ALTAFF Baker & Taylor Awards at ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. The winners are Friends groups of the Johnson County (Kans.) Library, the Seattle Public Library, the Nederland (Colo.) Community Library, the Castro Valley (Calif.) Library, and the Fitchburg (Wis.) Library. Each group

*Petersburg (Fla.) Times*, July 28.

**"In an hour I'm off to The Readers Resort again for two delicious weeks by Lake Bellelettre in Reading, Pennsylvania. . . . I'm going to be healed by books. The Readers Resort is the only vacation resort in the country that's designed for people who love books. The tables in the dining room have little bookstands alongside your plate so you can read at dinner. The terraces are well-shaded so you never have sun in your eyes. They have books with plastic pages you can read in the swimming pool—or the shower."**

—The fictional "Ruth Harrison, Reference Librarian," [A Prairie Home Companion](#), July 3, broadcast ([mp3 file](#), 7:74).

@ [More quotes...](#)



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### Calendar

received a \$1,000 check and a plaque to honor their achievements....  
ALTAFF, July 22

### [Serving on the Printz committee](#)

Melissa Rabey writes: "When I was elected to the 2011 Michael L. Printz Award Committee, I was excited and nervous. I was excited to have such a great opportunity, to help recognize the book that made the highest contribution to young adult literature. But I was nervous because, wow, that's a big responsibility, picking the best book of the year. Yet I've been surprised at what serving on the Printz Committee is actually like. So here are some things to know, if you ever consider standing for election to the Printz Committee."...

YALSA Blog, July 22

### [Ohio Library Foundation supports Spectrum](#)

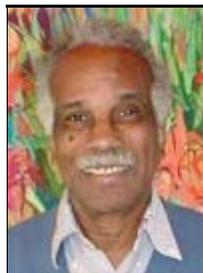
The Ohio Library Foundation, on behalf of all types of libraries in Ohio—public, school, and academic—has announced its support of the Spectrum Presidential Initiative with a contribution of \$1,500. The contribution will allow ALA to continue to support master's level Spectrum Scholarships and build the Spectrum Endowment....

Office for Diversity, July 27

### [Ashley Bryan wins Regina Medal](#)

Children's author Ashley Bryan has been named the 2010 winner of the Regina Medal, awarded by the Catholic Library Association's Children's Library Services Section for a continued, distinguished contribution to children's literature. Bryan has also won three Coretta Scott King Awards (most recently for *Let it Shine* in 2008) and the Laura Ingalls Wilder Medal from ALA....

Catholic Library Association, July 21



### [Clay County staffer wins advocacy award](#)

The Clay County (Fla.) Public Library's newly hired information technology specialist has received the Florida Association of Counties 2010 Advocate of the Year award. Paul Clark joined the library in July after serving as systems librarian for Wilderness Coast Public Libraries. He earned the recognition by going to Tallahassee, meeting with legislators, and spreading the word about the importance of libraries, especially in rural communities....

Jacksonville *Florida Times-Union*, July 27



### [Richmond's seed-lending library wins recognition](#) (PDF file)

The Richmond (Calif.) Public Library was [selected](#) in mid-July by the *East Bay Express* as having the best [Seed-Lending Library](#). A project of the Richmond Rivets in collaboration with the RPL, the Richmond Grows Seed-Lending Library opened May 5 and allows the public to borrow seeds for free, hoping that borrowers will return seeds back to the library after harvest....

Richmond (Calif.) Public Library, July 15



### [2010 Eisner Awards](#)

The winners of the 2010 Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards were announced July 23 at Comic-Con

### **Sept. 19:**

[International Talk Like a Pirate Day](#).  
Some library ideas [here](#).

### **Sept. 23–24:**

[Art Museum Libraries Symposium](#). Morse Auditorium, Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, Massachusetts.

### **Oct. 1–2:**

[Georgia Conference on Information Literacy](#). Coastal Georgia Center, Savannah.

### **Oct. 7:**

[E-Resource Management: From Start to Finish \(and Back Again\)](#). Forum, Holiday Inn Chicago Mart Plaza. Sponsored by the National Information Standards Organization.

### **Oct. 27–30:**

[Museum Computer Network](#), Annual Conference, Sheraton Austin at the Capitol, Austin, Texas. "I/O: The Museum Inside-Out, Outside-In."

### **Nov. 5–7:**

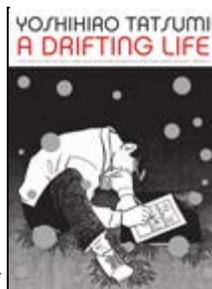
[YALSA Young Adult Literature Symposium](#). Albuquerque Marriott, Albuquerque, New Mexico. "Diversity, Literature, and Teens: Beyond Good Intentions."

@ [More...](#)

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American Libraries

International in San Diego, California. *A Drifting Life* by Yoshihiro Tatsumi (Drawn and Quarterly) and *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* by Eric Shanower and Skottie Young (Marvel) were among the titles winning multiple honors. *Scott Pilgrim vs. the Universe* by Bryan Lee O'Malley (Oni Press) won in the category of Best Humor Publication....

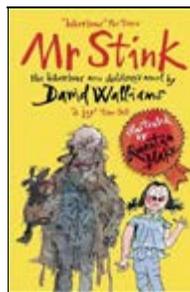
Comic-Con International, July 24



### [The People's Book Prize](#)

The winners of the People's Book Prize were announced July 21 in London. The prize is a new national literary competition in Britain aimed at discovering talented authors. Winners are voted for exclusively by the public. *A Kind of Vanishing* by Lesley Thomson was announced as the winner in the Fiction category, and *Mr. Stink* by David Walliams took the Children's Award....

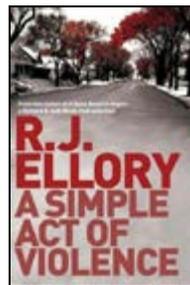
People's Book Prize



### [Theakstons Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year](#)

After winning four literary awards in France and one in the U.S., British author R. J. Ellory has finally been rewarded in his own country, taking one of the U.K.'s top crime-writing prizes July 22—the £3,000 (\$4,670 U.S.) Theakstons Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year award—for his novel *A Simple Act of Violence*. He also wins a handmade Theakstons Old Peculier beer barrel....

*The Guardian* (U.K.), July 23



### [LC Talking-Book Program receives APEX award](#)

The 20-page booklet published in 2009, *Talking Rooms: Walking Through History at the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped Headquarters*, has received an APEX 2010 Award of Excellence in the One-of-a-Kind Government Publication category. The publication highlights the program's development from the use of phonographs to digital talking-book players. This is the fourth APEX Award that NLS has received since 2006....

Library of Congress, July 21

### [Museum Computer Network conference grants](#)



First-time attendees of the Museum Computer Network conference this October 27–30 in Austin, Texas, are invited to apply for one of nine grants that will cover free conference registration and hotel stay, as well as a \$50 stipend for additional expenses. Applicants must have less than two years' experience in the field and work for an institution with less than 20 full-time staff....

Museum Computer Network

## Seen Online

### [Librarian of Congress broadens DMCA](#)

Direct



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



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## [exemptions](#)

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington issued a [statement](#) July 26 that broadens the exemption for creating film-clip compilations for educational use to all college and university faculty, regardless of academic discipline. The exemption was granted as part of a statutorily prescribed [rulemaking](#) process, conducted every three years to mitigate the dangers the Digital Millennium Copyright Act poses to noninfringing uses of copyrighted materials. Billington's ruling also [permits](#) reading e-books aloud to visually impaired persons and installing on smartphones legal but nonapproved software or programs that enable use on alternate networks ("jailbreaking")....

District Dispatch, July 27; Library of Congress, July 26; Electronic Frontier Foundation, July 26; CrunchGear, July 26



## [U.K. moves to abolish library policy bodies](#)

The United Kingdom's Advisory Council on Libraries (ACL) and the Museums, Libraries, and Archives Council (MLA) would be abolished under new proposals put forward July 26 by Culture Secretary Jeremy Hunt in order to cut the number of public bodies the government funds. The two organizations have roughly the same function as the Institute of Museum and Library Services in the United States. Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals Chief Executive Bob McKee [said](#) the move "simply dismantles the existing leadership framework and puts nothing in its place." ...

*The Guardian* (U.K.), July 26; CILIP, July 27



## [Cities, counties face 481,000 job cuts](#)

Nearly half-a-million city and county government jobs could be eliminated nationwide in the next two years because of budget shortfalls, according to a new study ([PDF file](#)), which notes that the cuts would further worsen high unemployment numbers. The cuts will affect "not only parks, libraries, and public works projects, but also public safety, police, and fire services," said Ron Loveridge, mayor of Riverside, California, and president of the National League of Cities, which issued the report jointly with the National Association of Counties and the U.S. Conference of Mayors....

*Las Vegas (Nev.) Review-Journal*, July 27



## [Feds to create Online Learning Registry](#)

In a move to help rural schools keep pace with more developed districts, the U.S. Department of Education said it will create an Online Learning Registry that will provide access to historical, artistic, and scientific primary source materials. Education Secretary Arne Duncan made the announcement July 21 at the National Rural Education Technology Summit held at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C....

*eSchool News*, July 22

## [FTC considers do-not-track list](#)

The Federal Trade Commission is considering a do-not-track mechanism that would allow consumers to easily opt out of all behavioral targeting, FTC Chairman Jon Leibowitz told lawmakers July 27. Testifying at a hearing about online privacy, Leibowitz said the FTC is exploring the feasibility of a browser plug-in that would store

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users' targeting preferences. Either the FTC or a private group could run the system. Sen. John F. Kerry (D-Mass.) said he plans to [introduce](#) an online privacy bill that would create standards for how consumer information is collected and used for marketing....

Online Media Daily, July 28; *Washington Post*, July 28

### [Senators move to block FCC on net neutrality](#)

Sen. Jim DeMint (R-S.C.) and six other Republican senators introduced legislation ([PDF file](#)) that would dramatically limit the Federal Communications Commission's ability to regulate broadband providers. The new bill—called the Freedom for Consumer Choice Act—doesn't eliminate the FCC's power over broadband providers, but that power would be narrowed in scope....

CNET News: Politics and Law, July 21

### [The tale of an abandoned kitten](#)

Following in the paw prints of [Dewey](#), the world-famous Spencer (Iowa) Public Library cat, a male brown tabby thought to be no more than seven weeks old was discovered at the Cheltenham Township (Pa.) Library System's La Mott branch July 23 by a maintenance man who heard mewing from the library drop box. [Named Hemingway](#) by Conshohocken animal-shelter workers, the kitten is slowly recovering from multiple ailments, among them the overnight ordeal in the box, where the temperature may have reached more than 90 degrees....



*Philadelphia Inquirer*, July 27; WCAU-TV, Philadelphia, July 23

### [Google touts encrypted search fix](#)

Responding to concerns from education technology officials, internet search giant Google has moved its encrypted search feature to a new domain name. The move is intended to let schools block Google's encrypted search feature without having to block the company's other services, too—but some ed-tech officials say it's not a viable solution to the problem....

*eSchool News*, July 26

### [Group to study Charlotte library's future](#)

A potential merger of the Charlotte Mecklenburg (N.C.) Library with county government is among the ideas to be considered by a task force that has been given \$75,000 to cover its expenses by the Community Catalyst Fund. The Future of the Library Task Force will spend six months studying every aspect of the cash-strapped system to come up with ways it can be more efficiently paid for, governed, and operated. The task force is headed by former University of North Carolina at Charlotte Chancellor Jim Woodward (right), and will hold its first meeting October 10....



*Charlotte (N.C.) Observer*, July 27

### [Prison books bring plot twist to Cheshire killings](#)

As the trial approaches for one of the men charged in the triple-homicide home invasion in Cheshire, Connecticut, in 2007, the defense team has suggested that prison librarians might have lent to Steven J. Hayes books that provided a blueprint for the crime. The titles have not been made public. Some people hypothesize that Hayes had access to lurid crime novels. Others have said they may have included Stieg Larsson's *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* or Truman Capote's *In Cold Blood*. Now State Sen. John Kessel (R-

Enfield) [wants some answers](#) about prison library policy....

*New York Times*, July 21; NBC Connecticut, July 22

### [Minnesota school seeks help for tornado-hit library](#)

The Wadena–Deer Creek (Minn.) High School got hit hard during the June 17 tornadoes. Not only did the building suffer damage from winds, but the sprinklers also went off and soaked the library. Now the district is asking for donations to replenish the shelves. The district has teamed with an online donation site to help raise cash to buy new materials for the library....



Minnesota Public Radio, July 27

### [Santa Clarita bids for L.A. County branches](#)

Santa Clarita's proposal to take over three branches of the County of Los Angeles Public Library could cost much more than city officials think and wouldn't guarantee better libraries for residents, County Librarian Margaret Donnellan Todd said July 20. The Santa Clarita city council will consider taking over Valencia, Canyon Country, and the new Newhall branches, currently run by the county, during a meeting and public hearing August 24....

*Santa Clarita Valley (Calif.) Signal*, July 20

### [Ottawa library offers books by vending machine](#)

Two new kiosks in the foyer of the Hunt Club–Riverside Community Centre in Ottawa are the first of their kind in Canada. They work like regular vending machines, except that users swipe their Ottawa Public Library cards to borrow a library book or DVD. The selections are chosen by library staff from the most popular titles. Some 1,700 items have been checked out since the program began in April....



*Ottawa (Ont.) Citizen*, July 25

### [Public libraries must be public](#)

Colleen Foster writes: "The county board of supervisors recently released a Request for Proposals from private companies to manage operations of the Stockton–San Joaquin County (Calif.) Public Library. The goal of a public library is to improve quality of life by advancing literacy and a lifelong love of learning, while the goal of a private company is to create profit for its owners or shareholders. In my opinion, these goals are fundamentally incompatible."...

*Stockton (Calif.) Record*, July 24

### [The web means the end of forgetting](#)

Jeffrey Rosen writes: "It's often said that we live in a permissive era, one with infinite second chances. But the truth is that for a great many people, the permanent memory bank of the web increasingly means there are *no* second chances—no opportunities to escape a scarlet letter in your digital past. Now the worst thing you've done is often the first thing everyone knows about you. All this has created something of a collective identity crisis." As a follow-up, the *New York Times* ran a Q&A series on internet privacy in [two parts](#)....

*New York Times Magazine*, July 25; *New York Times*: Bits, July 26–27

### [Queens Library union votes down benefit cuts](#)

Members of the union representing Queens Library workers have

overwhelmingly rejected a plan to cut their benefits to save the jobs of 46 fellow employees facing layoffs in August. At a July 20 meeting, the Queens Library Guild voted 297–50 against a package of concessions proposed by the library administration. Officials said the layoffs are necessary to close a \$2.4-million budget gap....

*New York Daily News*, July 22

### **Thieves hitting libraries for small change**

Police have two men in custody after they tried to steal the change machine from the Old Hickory branch of the Nashville Public Library on July 21. Police estimate the change machine was holding about \$50. Police said robberies at libraries are not uncommon. In the past six months, there have been additional break-ins at the Hadley Park and North branches. Watch the [news video](#) (1:54)....

WSMV-TV, Nashville, July 22



### **Tarantula thief to serve four years**

A man who stole a pet tarantula from the library in Westminster, Maryland, will serve 90 days in jail for the theft but will serve four years for violating his probation in a 2007 assault case. Randy Humple was sentenced July 26. In the May 19 incident at the Westminster branch of the Carroll County Public Library, police were called after library staff discovered that Chili Rose (right), a Chilean Rose tarantula kept at the library's information desk, was missing....

*Carroll County (Md.) Times*, July 27



### **Tales of a library book sale**

Over the years, Jim Repko has been "bin-emptier-in-chief," setting aside donated items deemed unsuitable for the July book sale at the Pequot Library in Southport, Connecticut. At a recent book-sale volunteer party, Repko unveiled some of those items—including a brass saxophone, recorder, flute, belly-dancer's kit, and Russian wooden nesting dolls. And then there is the story of a book by Jimmy Carter that is making Pequot book-sale history....

*Greenwich (Conn.) Time*, July 21

### **Mauritania's desert libraries are disappearing**

The bone-dry wood creaks as the book opens. It contains 132 pages of Arab astronomy bound in well-worn leather, a 15th-century treasure stored, with similar items, in a cardboard box in a traditional dwelling in Chinguetti, Mauritania. Such manuscripts, some dating from the 10th century, still belong to families and are dispersed around Chinguetti, Ouadane, Oulatane, and Tichitt. "Until the colonial era they were the only form of reading matter, often consulted and sometimes copied. But with our modern ways they are increasingly regarded as mere relics," said Jiyid Ould Abdi, the head of Mauritania's Scientific Research Institute....

*The Guardian* (U.K.), July 27



### **Hungarian library-pub lets**

### [patrons drink between the lines](#)

At the Gyopár, a small Communist-era pub in Nagykovács, Hungary, nine miles northeast of Budapest, customers can quench their thirst not only for ales and spirits but enjoy some intellectual refreshment as well. Three years ago, manager Péter Maurer (a former librarian) came up with the idea of this communal hybrid of a public library inside a pub, and, if customer satisfaction is any measure, the project has been a success....

Reuters, July 26; *Népszabadság*, June 10



[Go back to the Top](#)

## Tech Talk

### [New chip uses laser to send data](#)

In a development that could revolutionize how PCs and other tech gadgets communicate, Intel announced July 27 that it had made the first chip that sends and receives information using beams of light. The fingernail-sized research prototype already can move 100 hours of digital music or 45 million tweets in a second from one device to another. And the company expects to make one eventually that can transmit a laptop's hard drive in one second and the entire print collection of the Library of Congress in less than two minutes....

*San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News*, July 27



### [Death grip tests on iPhone competitors](#)

Gregg Binder writes: "The infamous [death grip](#) has stirred up quite a debate among iPhone 4 users. But does the signal loss also occur with other phones? The answer is yes, but with shades of gray. By using different death grips we showed that all the phones used deal with this issue depending on how they are held—with some signals dropping lower than others." [Video footage](#) (2:36) is included to demonstrate the results firsthand....

*PC Magazine*, July 21



### [Tab Candy: Making Firefox tabs sweet](#)

Aza Raskin writes: "The power of the browser has grown substantially in the last 10 years. We now use the web to multitask the activities we juggle every day. It's hard to keep everything straight with dozens of tabs all crammed into a little strip along the top of your browser. How many of us keep tabs open as reminders of something we want to do or read later? We need a way to get back control of our online lives. Enter Tab Candy." Watch the [video](#) (6:40)....

Aza Raskin, July 22; Vimeo, July 22



**Tab Candy**  
alpha prototype

### [Putting a human face on search](#)

Ken Varnum writes: "When you do a search on the University of Michigan Library's website, you get not only results from the catalog, website, online journal, and database collections, you also get a librarian who is a subject specialist related to your search term. For example, if you search for Kant, in addition to books and databases, you also get the subject specialist librarians for humanities and philosophy. Here's how the matching works."...

Blog for Library Technology, July 26

### [Laptop "media centers" have all the fun](#)

Cisco Cheng writes: "For any laptop enthusiast who thirsts for speed and the ultimate cinematic experience, 'media centers' are the fastest, most mediacentric laptops money can buy. Nothing is off-limits when it comes to these devices, which is why their features are usually over the top. A year ago, you would be lucky to find a media center with batteries that lasted more than two hours. In this roundup, all but one either approached four hours or lasted beyond that."...

PC Magazine, July 23



### [How to send an audio tweet](#)

Amy-Mae Elliott writes: "When Twitter's 140-character limit just isn't enough to get your message across or you want to give a tweet the personal touch, why not add some audio? Whether you want to sing happy birthday to someone, rant, or make a heartfelt apology, we've found five services that can help you out. They are all completely free, they don't require a phone, and they are all easy to use."...

Mashable, July 26



### [10 tools for getting web design feedback](#)

Jacob Gube writes: "One of the most critical parts of a project is getting critiques and advice on how to improve designs. Getting an outside perspective helps spot issues and validate design choices. This list of 10 tools will enable you to share your work and receive reviews. You'll find websites dedicated to offering free design critiques as well as tools for conducting usability testings with real people in order to benchmark your design's efficacy in the wild."...

Mashable: Dev & Design, July 22



## **Publishing**

### [Amazon e-book venture stirs a fuss](#)

Literary agent Andrew Wylie announced July 21 that he had started his own publishing venture and would produce e-book editions available exclusively on Amazon.com for 20 titles, including those by Philip Roth and Vladimir Nabokov. Now Random House, which had staked a claim for the e-book rights to most of those books, has issued a forceful response: It will stop doing business with the Wylie Agency. The move signals a [power shift](#) in the e-book industry. The Author's Guild has [responded](#)....

*New York Times*, July 23; Seeking Alpha, July 23; Author's Guild, July 26

### [Newspaper Kindle sleeve](#)

As the publishing world debates Amazon.com's controversial deal with Wylie, it might be safer to camouflage your electronic reading device. With the new [Newspaper Kindle Sleeve](#), you can completely disguise your electronic reader as a newspaper—a cloth sleeve with a newsprint design. It was created by Etsy-based fabric artist Sakizome...



GalleyCat, July 23

### [The true costs of digital publishing](#)

Kent Anderson writes: "A premise of the internet publishing revolutionaries has been that because distribution is ubiquitous, the marginal cost of content approaches zero, meaning that information should become much cheaper. You still hear this argument, even though real-world economics seem to defy the logic. However, digital publishing seems to be getting more expensive while we wring costs out of print as we draw it down."...

The Scholarly Kitchen, July 28

### [The Cat: A Log: Feline-friendly folios](#)

Steven J. Gertz writes: "Online bookseller [Between the Covers](#) has issued *The Cat: A Log* ([PDF file](#)), a collection of old and rare books on the most popular pet in the United States, the domestic cat. It is, to the best of our research, the world's first rare-bookseller catalog exclusively devoted to volumes about our friends of the feline persuasion. If anyone has ever been intimidated by rare books, their collection, and cost, *The Cat: A Log* should provide calm, satisfaction, and a sigh of relief."...



BookTryst, July 21

### [Re-illustrate that sucker](#)

Betsy Bird writes: "Any time a publisher chooses to rerelease a picture book or children's novel with brand-new illustrations, it is a cause for curiosity and interest. So what books are out there that are deserving of a new illustrator's touch but haven't gotten one yet? I'm not saying that these are books that have *bad* illustrations to begin with, but rather are books that might be able to earn an entirely new audience and appreciation if they just acquired a new look. Here are some of my thoughts."...

*School Library Journal*: A Fuse #8 Production, July 21



### [Digital comics: Nemesis or sidekick?](#)

Alex Pham and John Horn write: "Technology, which has already upended the music, television, and movie businesses, is now gripping the comic book world. There's a torrent of digital comic books across smartphones, devices, game consoles, and e-readers; some come with choreographed presentations that zoom or pan across panels, full-color animated characters, audio from professional voice actors, and heart-thumping soundtracks. Traditionalists argue that such experiments threaten to undermine the



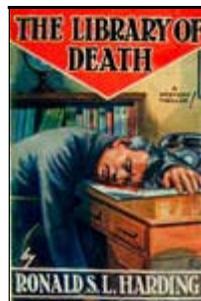
aesthetic foundation of comics—in other words, to do what iTunes did to record shops.”...

*Los Angeles Times*, July 23

### [Books and bookstores that are out to get you](#)

Avi Abrams writes: “Do you know that there is a certain subgenre of murder mysteries concerned with the world of authors, manuscripts, and rare and deadly books—with the emphasis on *deadly books*? Typically, they feature an indefatigable hero leaping around libraries in a race against time, unearthing cyphers, ancient manuscripts, and clues hidden in old books. Thrillers like this belong to a popular sub-genre called bibliomysteries, and as the name suggests, they all concern some sort of bookish skull-duggery.”...

Dark Roasted Blend, July 16



## Actions & Answers

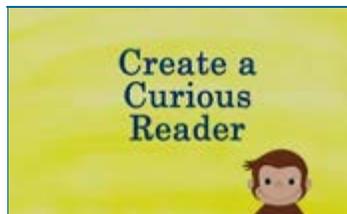
### [Numbers vs. meaning](#)

Meredith Farkas writes: “Librarians keep statistics on a lot of things: gate count, reference transactions, instruction sessions, website hits, visits to a specific tutorial or research guide, e-resource usage, etc. We are *big* on numbers. I have no problem with measuring things like this and in many cases I think it’s essential. The thing I do have a problem with are the unsupported interpretations we often make based on these numbers and the direction they’re going in.”...

Information Wants to Be Free, July 21

### [LC’s new Curious George campaign](#)

The Library of Congress and the Ad Council launched a new series of public service advertisements July 26 to encourage parents to [read with their children](#) and inspire them to become lifelong learners.



The new PSAs feature the iconic children’s literary character Curious George. The TV, print, and outdoor ads feature George and his best friend and mentor, “The Man with the Yellow Hat,” reading books together. The ads direct audiences to LC’s [Read.gov](#) website....

Ad Council, July 26; *New York Times*, July 26; Library of Congress

### [A librarian at Comic Con](#)

Eva Volin writes: “It was early July 23 and the VIZ Kids invitational was my first panel of the day at San Diego Comic Con. Senior Editors Beth Kawasaki and Traci Todd made a handful of announcements, the most exciting being the new publishing partnership between VIZ Media and Mameshiba. VIZ will be launching an original graphic novel series based on the line of Japanese mascot characters and their accompanying commercials.”...

*School Library Journal*: Good Comics for Kids, July 25

### [Food posters on display at National Agricultural Library](#)

“When Beans Were Bullets,” an exhibit of food and agriculture posters from World Wars I and II, is on display at the National Agricultural Library in



Beltsville, Maryland, through August 30. An [online version](#) has also been posted. The featured posters—which delve into a wide variety of issues, ranging from food rationing to food safety—examine the evolution of poster styles, propaganda messages, and advertising history during the two time periods....

*Food Safety News*, July 27; Cory Bernat

### [Getting permission](#)

David Lee King writes: “Last week, Emily Lloyd at Shelf Check posted [What Would You Do If You Didn't Need the Approval of 15 Committees?](#) and mentioned me: ‘What ultimately matters most, it seems to me, is lots of permission. David has that, I think, and most of us don’t.’ She’s right: I *do* have a boatload of permission. How do I get it? I don’t think there’s an easy answer to that, but I’ll try. Here is what I do to get that permission.”...



David Lee King, July 22; Shelf Check, July 16

### [Connect your book group to your community](#)

Neil Hollands writes: “In this cyber age, we often forget how much more centered we can feel if we develop a sense of place. When you ground your book group in its local setting, then participants will develop that strong sense of community. What may have been mere meetings have a better chance of becoming life events. In that spirit, here are 20 ideas for connecting an upcoming book group to the community.”...

Book Group Buzz, July 23

### [Librarians share with StoryCorps](#)

Naomi Greene writes: “StoryCorps Facilitator Susan Lee and I had the privilege of recording stories at the American Library Association’s Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., this summer. JoAnn Jonas (left) and Lisa Von Drasek were two lovely ladies who shared with us why they love their jobs as librarians. Lisa inspired Jo Ann to become a librarian, and she used the interview to ask her mentor Lisa about what had inspired her to become a librarian.”...



StoryCorps Facilitator Weblog, July 22

### [Janet Fitch’s 10 rules for writers](#)

Carolyn Kellogg writes: “Janet Fitch is the author of *White Oleander* and *Paint it Black* and she teaches writing at the University of Southern California. She has posted a list of [10 writing tips](#) that can help almost anyone on her blog. The list is intended for fiction writers but is still good for many of us. In 2001, Elmore Leonard published his [10 Rules of Writing](#) in the *New York Times* (he later expanded it to a book). Many of his and Fitch’s rules coincide, but she’s a much bigger fan of description than he is.”...

*Los Angeles Times*: Jacket Copy, July 13

### [Scottish photos on Flickr Commons](#)

The National Library of Scotland has released more

than 2,000 [archived images](#) to Flickr under its no-restrictions Commons license. They are mostly from the library's Field Marshall Douglas Haig collection of World War I images, but they also include more than 100 evocative photographs of tenements on the south side of Edinburgh taken in 1929. The library plans to add 3,000 more by the end of 2010....

*The Scotsman* (U.K.), July 21



### [First look at Siegfried Sassoon papers](#)

Siegfried Sassoon's handwritten account of the first day of the Battle of the Somme went on display July 21 at Cambridge University Library in the U.K. It is just one of many personal papers, never before seen by the public, that were bought by the library in 2009 for £1.25 million (\$1.9 million U.S.). The exhibition includes his wartime diaries, which reveal first-hand accounts of the major battles of World War I....

BBC News, July 21



### [Borges, the universe, and the infinite library](#)

Marcelo Gleiser writes: "In the 1941 short story 'The Library of Babel,' the great Argentine writer Jorge Luis Borges constructs a metaphorical replica of the universe, both celebrating and teasing the cosmologists of his time. His irony is timeless and has much to say about current efforts as well. The Library of Babel is different from any other library. In it, we find all books that have been written and those that will be written."...

NPR: 13.7, Cosmos and Culture, July 23

### [Move your library's value to the Twitterstream](#)

Bill Drew writes: "More than ever before, libraries are leveraging Twitter to broadcast everything from new books and library hours to special interest groups and local community events. But I think it's important to keep in mind that the quality of the guidance we provide in every post is amplified. Each communication is an opportunity to demonstrate our value and expertise. Even if a tweet or a post is directed at an individual, your entire community can see it, and many more could benefit from the information you provide."...

Baby Boomer Librarian, July 22

### [Top 20 sites to improve your Twitter experience](#)

Vadim Lavrusik writes: "In many ways, Twitter's functionality hasn't exactly kept up with user interactions. Its interface has remained simple, which is why a lot of tweets take place through third-party sites and applications that make the experience more useful. We've compiled a list of the top 20 third-party websites for making your Twitter experience more useful and easier to manage."...

Mashable, July 25



### [Know your computer icons, Part 1: A brief history](#)

Kate McInnes writes: "As with great works of art, you must look into the

past to appreciate the future. With roots as far back as the 1970s, the humble icon has come a long way. Following is a collection of icons though history. Although there have been many other operating systems in the time between 1981–2010, I've hand-picked the ones of the most significance to modern icon design. These designs show just a small fraction of the icons in the many and varied user interfaces throughout the years.”...

Psdtuts+, July 18



### [15 ways to create a horrible nonprofit website](#)

Selected tips from Monique Cuvelier: “Tip 4: Make your mission statement about six paragraphs long and put it front and center on the homepage. Tip 7: Make sure you don't look ‘too polished,’ because no one will give you money unless the site looks like it was built on a shoestring.”...

Talence Friendly Web Tools Blog, June 30

### [Library-related Etsy arts and crafts](#)

Amy DeCicco writes: “Growing up, I loved to visit my local library. In college, I maintained this little affair with libraries, leading to my career as a librarian. While today I see libraries as places of organization, scholarly research, and intellectual discovery, they still haven't lost their romance in my book, connoting style and a little mystique. In today's Etsy Finds, meet me in the back, between the folios and the 17th-century satire.” Many have already been sold....

The Storque, July 27



### [Tillman the skateboarding dog](#)

Tillman, an English bulldog from Southern California who set the world dog-skateboarding record in 2009 by rolling 100 meters in 19.6 seconds, lent his bark on a recent visit to the city to help save New York Public Library from the worst cuts in its history. Named after the late football player Pat Tillman, the skateboarding pooch is featured in this NYPL public service [video](#) (1:50) in the style of an old-time newsreel....

YouTube, May 10



### [Masters of Library Science croquet tournament](#)

This dramatic play-by-play (5:17) of the 87th MLS croquet tournament at the New Hanover County Public Library in Wilmington, North Carolina, serves as a clever introduction to the library's services and staff. Library Assistant Bratis Roseboro (right) comes out the winner against Director Harry Tuchmeyer, Library Associate James Hudson, Reference Librarian Susan Wood, and others. A Melville Dewey Production....

YouTube, July 19



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