

american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | November 3, 2010

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american libraries
BUYERS GUIDE

American Libraries Online

[Post-election musings](#)

American Libraries Senior Editor Beverly Goldberg writes: "Maybe 'musings' isn't the right word. Perhaps 'head-scratching' would be more apropos, since the spectrum of victories and defeats for Libraryland defy a big-picture understanding (for me at least) the morning after the 2010 Midterm Elections. So, without editorializing, here are the nuggets of information we have as of noon Central time about the outcome of library-related issues that were up for a vote on November 2."...

AL: Inside Scoop, Nov. 3



[Chicano librarianship](#)

Elizabeth Martinez writes: "August 29 marked the 40th anniversary of the Chicano Moratorium in East Los Angeles, and it brought back many memories. I was part of a library contingent marching in 1970 in protest of the disproportionate number of Mexican Americans dying in the Vietnam War; some 30,000 other Chicanos were marching too. After the police tear-gassed the peaceful youth and families listening to music and speakers in Laguna Park (now Salazar Park), we fled to the nearest library, the Stephenson branch (now the El Camino Real branch of the County of Los Angeles Public Library)."...

American Libraries feature



[Former AL Senior Editor Edith McCormick dies at 76](#)

Edith McCormick, an editor for *American Libraries* from 1968 when it was still known as the *ALA Bulletin* until her retirement in 1999, died of natural causes in Chicago October 31 after battling failing health for several years. McCormick was a stalwart member of the ALA staff for 34 years, beginning as an assistant for the Knapp




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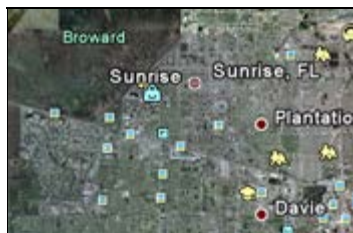
School Library Project and then serving under five different AL chief editors and enduring through a period in 1974 when the rest of the editorial staff resigned during a dispute over editorial independence....

AL: Inside Scoop, Nov. 1

[Internet Librarian: Sunrise, sunset](#)

Joseph Janes writes: "The good people of Sunrise, on the east coast of Florida, want you to know that they do exist, still, and have not been wiped off the map by a hurricane, or supervillain, or Godzilla. This is despite the fact that on three—*three*—separate occasions, Google has failed to return any results for a search for Sunrise: The town didn't appear on maps, and no Sunrise businesses, addresses, or phone numbers came up. Nothing. We all know that most things break down or mess up. Things, yes . . . but not Google."...

American Libraries column, Nov./Dec.



[Dispatches from the Field: Bridging IF and technology](#)

An excerpt from the Nov./Dec. *Library Technology Reports*: "A dual focus on intellectual freedom issues and technology issues is surprisingly rare in the professional literature today. Too often, intellectual freedom is given only short shrift in critical commentary on libraries' choices and uses of technology. Similarly, in-depth consideration of specific technologies tends to fall by the wayside when library authors focus on vital issues around our core value of intellectual freedom. Some of librarianship's best and brightest writers focus on either technology or intellectual freedom issues. Yet why do we see so little inquiry that bridges the divide between the two?"...

American Libraries column, Nov./Dec.



[Tube-free toilet paper](#)

Laura Bruzas writes: "An innovation in toilet paper has the potential to eliminate millions of pounds of garbage that would otherwise be sent to landfills. Alyson Gomez, a spokeswoman for Kimberly-Clark, said cardboard toilet-paper tubes account for 160 million pounds of waste in the U.S. every year. The company introduced a new line of tube-free Scott toilet paper in the Northeast as part of its Naturals line."...

AL: Green Your Library, Nov. 2



[One more way to print green](#)

Beth Filar-Williams writes: "Print less, save paper, cut back. You've heard it before. But with the US continuing to generate about 77 million tons of paper and paperboard a year and a recycling rate of only about 71% ([PDF file](#)), we still have a way to go on this front. A new resource, [Print What You Like](#), gives you the option of printing only the information you need or want from a web page versus the entire page."...

AL: Green Your Library, Nov. 3; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Nov. 2009



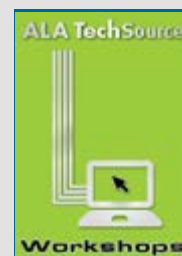
[Libraries in Pakistan](#)

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, American Libraries Editor Leonard



[ALA Midwinter Meeting](#)

in San Diego, California, January 7–11, 2011. The [ALA JobLIST Placement Center](#) will be open Saturday and Sunday. There will be an orientation on Saturday, January 8, at 8:30 a.m. in the Placement Center. Job seekers should register and search for jobs on the [JobLIST website](#). Registration will give registered employers access to your résumé information and will allow for direct communication between job seekers and employers.



Librarians and social software experts [David Lee King and Robin Hastings](#) will discuss best practices and share ideas for using social networking sites as an essential part of library outreach and patron services. Join us for this two-part interactive learning experience, "Using Social Software in Library Marketing: Facebook, Twitter, and More," December 1 and 8. **NEW! From ALA TechSource.**

Kniffel attended and keynoted the 21st Century Vision for Libraries conference October 13–14 in Islamabad, Pakistan, and visited libraries and librarians in Islamabad, Lahore, and Karachi. In this video (3:01), he interviews Shazia Ali, head of the information resource center at the U.S. Consulate in Karachi, about the conference and the state of library science in Pakistan....

AL Focus, Oct. 28



ALA News

[Keith Fiels signs on for five more years](#)

During the ALA Executive Board's fall meeting October 22–24 at ALA Headquarters in Chicago, Keith Michael Fiels signed on for five more years as ALA executive director, through FY 2015. Fiels said that he hoped five more years at the helm would help give the Association the stability it needs to come through these tough financial times a stronger and more vital organization....

AL: Inside Scoop, Oct. 29



[The games are on the way](#)

If you are one of the 1,500 libraries (count them on the [updated map](#)) in the United States that requested a free copy of *Wits and Wagers Family* when [registering](#) for National Gaming Day, it is now on its way to you. Start watching the mail and let your colleagues know so that you can have the game ready on November 13. In this [video](#) (7:18), Scott Nicholson (right) explains how the game works and how you can use the extra materials on National Gaming Day. The New Hanover County (N.C.) Public Library is [ready](#) (1:01)....

National Gaming Day @ your library, Nov. 2–3; YouTube, Oct. 7



[Hall of Famer steps up to the plate for libraries](#)

Hall of Fame relief pitcher Richard "Goose" Gossage (right) was on hand to catch the ceremonial first pitch at the World Series Gala in Cooperstown, New York, on October 30. The pitcher was 13-year-old Josh Smith, the grand prize winner of this year's Step Up to the Plate @ your library contest. Smith, who had always dreamed of going to the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, not only got to throw a pitch to a Hall of Famer, but landed the trip after 2010 Hall of Fame inductee Andre "The Hawk" Dawson drew his name in the program's national grand prize drawing....

Public Information Office, Nov. 2



[ALA opens new Facebook page](#)

ALA is moving from the ALA Member Group to a new American Library Association Page between November 1 and the close of Midwinter 2011 on January 11. Feel free to like and share the new



"Like" [American Libraries](#) on Facebook.

New this week in American Libraries



[Chicano Librarianship](#)

[Internet Librarian](#)

[Dispatches from the Field](#)

[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Green Your Library](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

[Librarian's Library](#)

[AL Focus](#)

Great Libraries
of the World

page....

ALA Facebook Page

[It's final: No joint ALA-Reed conferences](#)

Noting that "many are aware that we have been talking with Reed Exhibitions/BookExpo America about the possibility of co-locating the ALA Annual Conference and BookExpo," ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels announced October 29 that "current arrangements work best at this time." Instead, conference management firm Hall-Erickson is taking on a greater role in managing ALA conferences....

AL: Inside Scoop, Oct. 29

[Four new CPLA graduates](#)

The Certified Public Library Administrator Program review committee has granted certification to four CPLA candidates, making a total of 36 who are now officially Certified Public Library Administrators. The newest graduates are from Florida, Massachusetts, New Mexico, and Oregon. In addition, the committee approved three new candidates in its fall review. The program now has 127 candidates representing public libraries of all sizes across the nation. The next quarterly deadline to [apply](#) for this program is November 5....

ALA-APA, Nov. 3



[ALA-APA seeks volunteers for committees](#)

Applications and nominations are welcomed for appointments to 2011–2012 ALA–Allied Professional Association committees on: Certification Program, Certified Public Library Administrator, Certification Review, Library Support Staff Certification Review, Promotion and Fundraising, Publishing, and Salaries and Status of Library Workers. The deadline is November 19 to submit an [electronic committee volunteer form](#) and appointees will be notified after the 2011 ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego....

ALA-APA, Oct. 29

[Support staff certification: The webinar](#)

Are you wondering about the benefits and the requirements of the [Library Support Staff Certification Program](#)? The ALA–Allied Professional Association is offering an hour-long webinar, 3–4 p.m. Eastern time, November 9, to introduce you to this new program and help you understand its value to support staff, their employers, and library users. This is also your opportunity to ask questions. [Register](#) for this informative webinar....

ALA-APA, Nov. 2



[One advocacy action per month can change the world](#)

Frankly, it's sometimes all we can do to manage the work of our library while providing the quality service we must give to our community. So the idea of adding advocacy activities to your long "to do" list might seem a little overwhelming. In this interactive online



[John Crerar Library.](#)

University of Chicago, Illinois. Industrialist John Crerar died in 1889, leaving \$2.5 million to establish a free public library in Chicago. His executors decided to make it a science collection that would not duplicate the holdings of other Chicago libraries. The library functioned independently from 1897 until 1984, when it was consolidated with the University of Chicago's science collection. Although the Crerar's rare books were transferred to the university's special collections center, the current facility, still open to the public under some restrictions, has extensive holdings in [science, medicine,](#) and technology.



[Newberry Library.](#)

Chicago. A private, noncirculating collection that is open to the public, the library was established in 1887 through a bequest by businessman [Walter](#)

session, the ALA Washington Office will look at one simple action you can take each month to get elected officials to not only understand library issues, but to actually do something about them. Sign up for this [free webinar](#). 2–3 p.m. Eastern time, November 9....

District Dispatch, Oct. 29

[The American Dream in northern Colorado](#)

In October, John Amundsen of the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services visited High Plains Library District in Greeley, Colorado, to discuss plans (5:04) to hold U.S. citizenship classes with the library's American Dream Starts @ your library coordinator, Cindy Welsh (right). Specifically, they talked about the challenges, successes, and big-picture goals of providing badly-needed citizenship resources to Greeley's growing immigrant population....

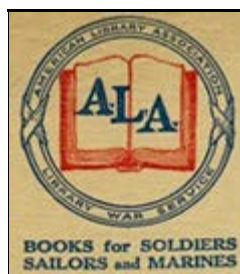
American Dream blog, Nov. 3



[ALA World War I bookmark](#)

Larry Nix writes: "One of the benefits of maintaining a blog that features librarianship is that people sometimes contact me to find a home for artifacts that they have retained over the years. Such is the case with this ALA Library War Service bookmark, basically a plea for books or money to assist ALA in its war work, along with a list on the back of all the activities undertaken." And check out ALA's [War Library Bulletin](#) from May 1919....

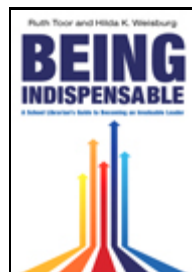
Library History Buff Blog, Oct. 29–30



[A school librarian's survival manual](#)

Facing a severe economic downturn and budget cuts, school librarians run the risk of becoming an endangered species. ALA Editions has published [Being Indispensable: A School Librarian's Guide to Becoming an Invaluable Leader](#), by Ruth Toor and Hilda K. Weisburg, which takes a proactive approach to survival as a school librarian. In clear, simple, and practical language, this book empowers school librarians to understand what other school stakeholders need and want; demonstrate their importance; and plan strategically in their professional and private lives....

ALA Editions, Oct. 28



[Loomis Newberry](#). The current building opened in 1893 and was designed by its first librarian, William Frederick Poole, and architect Henry Ives Cobb. The library's holdings span the history and culture of Western Europe from the Middle Ages to the mid-20th century and the Americas from the time of first contact. It is particularly strong in [cartography](#) and [Native American history](#).

This *AL Direct* feature showcases 250 libraries around the world that are notable for their exquisite architecture, historic collections, and innovative services. If you find yourself on vacation near one of them, be sure to stop by for a visit. The entire list will be available in [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart, which is scheduled for publication in 2011 by ALA Editions.



Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Business reference](#)

Career Cruising database. Nov. 2010. www.careercruising.com.

A comprehensive online career-planning, vocational guidance, employment-seeking reference database, *Career Cruising* assists all levels of users in planning a path that will lead to a desired career. Its several modules



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LATEST
CONTENT

[Daniel Radcliffe Talks Harry Potter and His Other Favorite Books](#)

represent the major types of career guidance: self-assessment, career exploration, and education and training. Explore Assessments includes a Career Matchmaker and a Learning Styles Inventory. Explore Careers contains detailed job descriptions that are searchable by, among other things, school subject. The Education and Training module offers school and financial aid selectors, a side-by-side school comparison, and more. A new Employment module includes a job search engine that looks for current job postings and an Employment Guide with content related to résumé writing, interviewing, and other job-search skills....

[Fall e-reference database update](#)

Mary Ellen Quinn writes: "We asked reference database publishers 'What's new?' and they responded with the following information about new databases as well as significant updates and enhancements to existing databases. Information is effective August 2010 through January 2011."...



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

San Diego Update

[Have a child with you?](#)

Check out the New Children's Museum, 200 West Island Avenue, a dynamic, playful, public space and community center that opened in 2008 for children, teens, and families to experience exciting art exhibitions, hands-on studio projects, performances, birthday parties, in-depth classes, camps, and educational programs. Across the street is a beautiful park, extending the museum visit outdoors with space for running, climbing, family picnics, and a view of the trains and trolley going by....

New Children's Museum



[Tips from a flight attendant](#)

Taylor Kenny writes: "Long gone are the days of simple air travel. Now it's a challenge just to get to your destination as planned. When things go wrong, it can be a complete nightmare. Here are some tips: Fly smart. If your flight has been delayed multiple times, chances are that it will be canceled. Make sure you book a hotel room before everyone else figures out they aren't going anywhere. If weather caused the problem, the airline is under no obligation to compensate you in any way. Airlines frequently try to hide the real cause of delays, so press for answers."...

Lifehacker, Oct. 29

Division News

[New edition of Academic Library Trends](#)



[Houdini: Art and Magic](#)

[Cathy Cassidy Crowned: The Popular Young Adult Author was Named Queen of Teen 2010](#)

[Boston Area Library Creates Youth Art Gallery](#)

[Resources for Animal Adoption](#)

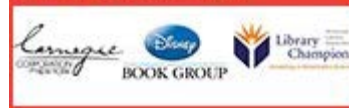
[The Fantastic World of Jim Henson \(slideshow\)](#)

[Gold: Exhibit Reveals Art and Science Behind this Dazzling Icon of Wealth](#)

[Donna Seaman Interviews Writer Junot Díaz](#)

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JobLIST

[Government Information and Instruction Librarian.](#)

Southern Oregon University, Ashland. The Hannon Library seeks a not so mild-mannered superhero librarian to work effectively in a collaborative and collegial environment as Government Information and Instruction Librarian. We are looking for a creative individual with excellent

[and Statistics](#)

The three-volume [2009 Academic Library Trends and Statistics](#) is now available—the latest in a series of annual ACRL publications describing the collections, staffing, expenditures, and service activities of academic libraries in all Carnegie classifications. The 2009 survey includes data from 1,533 academic libraries in six major categories: collections; expenditures; electronic resources; personnel and public services; PhDs granted, faculty, and student enrollment; and faculty rank, status, and tenure for librarians....

ACRL, Nov. 1



[Julie Todaro to reveal the mysteries of mentoring](#)

Do you have what it takes to be an effective mentor? Julie Todaro (right) will help you answer these questions and many more during “The Mysteries of Mentoring: The Perfect Mentor and Perfect Mentee.” This one-day institute will be presented by LLAMA on January 7 in conjunction with the ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego....

LLAMA, Nov. 2



[Free webinar on job hunting for new librarians](#)

Applying and interviewing for a professional library position can be fraught with anxiety and frustrations. But the right information and strategies can put you a step ahead. In the free November 18 webinar from LLAMA’s Human Resources Section, “Job Hunting for the Recent or Future MLS Graduate,” Brian Keith, assistant dean of human and financial resources at the University of Florida’s Smathers Library, reveals what libraries are seeking and how libraries conduct searches and make hiring decisions. [Registration is open](#)....

LLAMA, Oct. 28

[YALSA to unveil its own mixed drink](#)

Linda W. Braun writes: “Did you know that YALSA has an official drink? As of the 2011 ALA Midwinter Meeting, the division definitely does. It’s the YALSAtini and ingredients include Stolli Orange and white cranberry juice. However, the full list of ingredients won’t be unveiled until the Silent Auction when you’ll be able to taste YALSAtinis as well as bid on a YALSAtini Kit, which includes a shot glass, martini glasses, a gift certificate for the alcohol required, snacks to go along with the drink, and the secret YALSAtini recipe.”...

YALSA Blog, Nov. 3



[Create the ultimate teen-friendly library](#)

Today’s teens are tech-savvy, smart, curious, and more diverse than previous generations. So how do you build a library experience that appeals to teens and turns them into regular library users? And how do we, as teen services librarians, get the entire library to help us do that? The answers can be found at YALSA’s pre-Midwinter workshop, “[Teens and the Whole Library Experience](#),” on January 7, prior to the ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego....

YALSA, Nov. 2

[Support teen needs with technology](#)

communication skills who places students at the center of the educational experience and has unique powers to teach and inspire students—in particular, first-year students—using government information. This successful superhero will have an excellent knowledge of the Federal Depository Library Program and the capacity to lead the transition from print to electronic government information....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



Guided by an initiative of the Washington State Library, [Washington Rural Heritage](#) is an ongoing project of small, rural libraries and partnering cultural institutions that hold collections of historic

By integrating technology with standard teen services, librarians can better serve and support teens' learning needs. Find out how in "[Connect, Create, Collaborate: Support Teen Needs with Technology](#)," a new YALSA online course offered this winter. The self-paced course takes place from February 7 to March 21. Registration closes February 1. For more information, visit the [YALSA website](#)....

YALSA, Nov. 2

[Books for Babies kits go to 4,000+ newborns](#)

In partnership with Nordstrom, ALTAFF is awarding 16 selected Friends groups, libraries, and other nonprofits grants of \$500 each to match \$1,075 the recipients raised toward the purchase of Books for Babies kits. The grants enable a total of 3,575 English-language kits and 625 Spanish-language kits to be distributed to parents of newborns in the grant recipients' communities....

ALTAFF, Nov. 2

BOOKS FOR BABIES



[AASL and LITA select four Emerging Leaders](#)

Alicia Blowers of Alexandria, Virginia, and Sara Kelley-Mudie (right) of Litchfield, Connecticut, have been [selected by AASL](#) as 2011 Emerging Leaders. Blowers and Kelley-Mudie will have their expenses defrayed to attend the ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego and the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans, where they will participate in project planning workgroups, network with peers, and gain an inside look into ALA structure. [LITA has selected](#) two Emerging Leaders as well: Bohyun Kim (left) of Miami, Florida, and Andreas Orphanides of Raleigh, North Carolina....

AASL, LITA, Nov. 2



Round Table News

[Staff development on a budget](#)

Bobbi Newman writes: "Here in Georgia, public librarians are required to renew our licenses each year, and this requires us to submit a number of continuing education credits. In this post, I thought I'd share some of the free, no-travel-required ways we get our continuing education credits."...

ALA Learning Round Table, Nov. 2

[How to broaden the scope of your potential employers](#)

Janel White writes: "The New Members Round Table's President's Program at the 2010 Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., in June featured a panel discussion about innovative career choices. NMRT President Courtney Young's presidential theme was 'challenges and opportunities.' New librarians and library school students are feeling challenged by the current economic situation as they plan for positions in public and academic libraries."...

ALA Student Membership Blog, Oct. 27

[Find out about careers in federal libraries](#)

Add the Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table to your ALA membership and network with federal librarians. The job market in federal libraries is competitive—knowing where to find job

materials documenting the early culture, industry, and community life of Washington State but that lack staffing, expertise, and resources to make these treasures widely available to the public by themselves. The collaboratively digitized collections include: old photographs, historical texts, memorabilia and ephemera, scrapbooks, maps, artwork, artifacts, and video and audio files (e.g., oral histories, lectures, interviews). Washington State Library houses the digital collections, while the physical collections are housed locally by owning institutions around the state, such as Whatcom County Public Library's Lummi Island Public Library, which documents the fishing traditions in [Lummi Island Heritage](#), and Roslyn Public Library's Roslyn Heritage Collection of the mining and logging industries.

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

"If you think your local library shouldn't be funded because you haven't used it in a while,

announcements and how to apply is essential. Here's how to learn more....

ALA Student Membership Blog, Oct. 27

Awards

[Stonewall Award joins Youth Media announcements](#)

The Stonewall Children's and Young Adult Literature Award will join the ALA Youth Media Award announcements January 10 at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego. Administered by the Stonewall Book Awards Committee of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table, the Stonewall Children's and Young Adult Literature Award, now in its second year, is given annually to English-language works for children and teens of exceptional merit relating to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered experience....

Public Information Office, Nov. 1



[Deadline next week for travel grants to the ACRL conference](#)

The deadline for ACRL 2011 scholarship applications is fast approaching. The division is offering more than 80 scholarships exceeding \$40,000 in value to support participation in the ACRL National Conference in Philadelphia, March 30–April 2, for librarians, students, Spectrum Scholars, and support staff. There are five scholarship categories, and all [applications](#) must be received by November 9....

ACRL Insider, Nov. 3



[Apply for children's services awards, grants](#)

ALSC is accepting nominations and applications for more than \$84,000 in awards and grants that recognize outstanding library service to children through creative programming ideas and dedication to librarianship. Applications for all awards and grants are now [online](#) and due December 1, except for the Frederic G. Melcher Scholarship and the Bound to Stay Bound Books Scholarship, which are due March 1....

ALSC, Nov. 2

[Nominations sought for international librarianship award](#)

ALA is accepting nominations for the 2011 John Ames Humphry / OCLC / Forest Press Award for International Librarianship. The award, given to a librarian or person who has made significant contributions to international librarianship, consists of a prize of \$1,000. The deadline for nominations is January 1....

International Relations Office, Nov. 3

[Attend an international conference](#)

ALA is accepting applications for the 2011 Bogle Pratt International Library Travel Fund, sponsored by the Bogle Memorial Fund and the Pratt Institute School of Information and Library Science. An award of \$1,000 will be given to an ALA personal member to attend his or her first international conference. The application deadline is January 1....

International Relations Office, Nov. 3

[Can a photographer win a](#)

**think of it this way:
Would you want the
government to close
your local hospital
because you've been
healthy for a while?"**

—U.K. researcher John Kirriemuir, "[Are UK Public Libraries Expensive to Run?](#)" in *Use Libraries and Learn Stuff*, Oct. 31.

"My paean of praise for the physical library included some of the familiar lines.... You go also for the people, the other readers, and the librarians. And you go for the sheer pleasure of having space and quiet to think—not to mention the pleasures of transgression. And on this topic I had a little nostalgic reflection on all the things we used to do in libraries . . . eat, drink, smoke substances legal and illegal, have sex. I was tempted to ask for a show of hands from those who had ever made love in a library bookstack, a bibliophile's Mile High club, but thought embarrassment might produce a misleadingly low score."

—Cambridge University Classics Professor Mary Beard, "[Bedding Down in the Library](#)," a post in the *Times* (U.K.) blog *A Don's Life*, Oct. 30.

"You see, as the CEO of Hartford (Conn.) Public Library, I have one of the best jobs in America, because I am

Caldecott?

Betsy Bird writes: "It's a simple enough question: Can a picture book illustrated entirely with photographs ever win a Caldecott Medal? In the history of the Caldecott, a long and distinguished history spanning some 72 years, there has never been a Caldecott Award or Honor book comprised solely of photographs. Let us take a gander at ye olde [Caldecott criteria](#) here, just to see if there is some stipulation in there that specifically precludes photographs."...

School Library Journal: A Fuse #8 Production, Nov. 2



2010 Whiting Writers' Awards

The Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation named 10 recipients of the 2010 Whiting Writers' Awards. The awards, which are now set at \$50,000 each, totaling \$500,000, have been given annually since 1985 to writers of exceptional talent and promise in early career. The 2010 recipients were announced at a ceremony at the Morgan Library and Museum in New York City on October 27. Michael Dahlie, Rattawut Lapcharoensap, and Lydia Peelle won awards in the fiction category.... Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation, Oct. 27

Business Book of the Year

Raghuram Rajan, one of the few economists to see the financial crisis coming, has won the *Financial Times* and Goldman Sachs Business Book of the Year. Raghuram Rajan collected the £30,000 (\$48,155 U.S.) prize for *Fault Lines* (Princeton University) in New York. The book identifies the flaws that helped cripple the world financial system, prescribes potential remedies, but also warns that unless policymakers push through painful reforms, the world could be plunged into renewed turmoil....

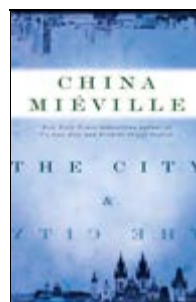
Financial Times, Oct. 28



2010 World Fantasy Awards

The prestigious World Fantasy Awards for fantastic fiction were announced October 31 at World Fantasy Con in Ohio. The winner for best novel was *The City & The City* by China Miéville (Macmillan UK / Del Rey), and for best anthology was *American Fantastic Tales: Terror and the Uncanny: From Poe to the Pulps/From the 1940s to Now*, ed. by Peter Straub (Library of America)....

io9, Nov. 1



Best Canadian books of 2010

In Toronto's Isabel Bader Theatre on November 2, the Writers' Trust of Canada announced winners of six literary prizes and presented \$147,000 (Can.) to authors at the 10th annual Writers' Trust Awards, one of the richest literary prizegiving events in Canada. Novelist Emma Donoghue was awarded the \$25,000 Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize for *Room* (Little, Brown), while journalist James FitzGerald won the \$25,000 Writers' Trust Non-Fiction Prize for *What Disturbs Our Blood: A Son's Quest to Redeem the Past* (Random House)....

Writers' Trust of Canada, Nov. 2



participating in creating a sustainable 21st-century urban public library, one of the last remaining truly democratic institutions in our nation. And the quintessential public option. Who could ask for more!"

—Matt Poland, CEO of Hartford (Conn.) Public Library, in a [guest editorial](#) in the *Huffington Post*, Oct. 28.

@ [More quotes...](#)



TweetWatch

Follow:

Digital Library Federation, Fall Forum, Palo Alto, California, Nov. 1–3, at: [#dlf2010](#)

Open Education Conference, Barcelona, Spain, Nov. 2–4, at: [#opened10](#)

Charleston Conference, Charleston, South Carolina, Nov. 3–6, at: [#chsconf10](#)

New York Library Association, Annual Conference, Saratoga Springs, Nov. 3–6, at: [#nyla10](#)

AASL Fall Forum, Portland, Oregon, Nov. 5–6, at: [#fallforum](#)

[Booktrust Teenage Prize](#)

A debut novel has won the Booktrust Teenage Prize, beating established names in children's fiction. *Unhooking the Moon* (Quercus) by Gregory Hughes is an extraordinary story of two orphaned siblings—the precocious, fascinating, and infuriating 10-year-old Rat and her older brother Bob—who take a road trip from Canada to New York to look for their uncle on the strength of knowing his name and that he is a “drug dealer.” Canadian author Hughes said he wrote the book in Iceland over a period of eight months....

The Guardian (U.K.), Nov. 1



[2010 Meggendorfer Prize](#)

Artist Marion Bataille has won the 2010 Meggendorfer Prize for her pop-up book, *ABC3D* (Roaring Brook/Porter, 2008). The prize, awarded biennially by the Movable Book Society to an outstanding pop-up book, was announced at the organization's conference in September. Bataille is the first European paper engineer to receive the award....

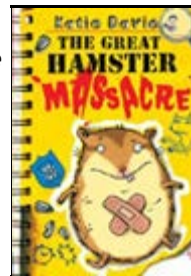
Publishers Weekly, Oct. 28



[New Horizons Book Award](#)

The first winner of the New Horizons Book Award is *The Great Hamster Massacre* (Simon & Schuster) by Katie Davies. The award, administered by Dorset's School Library Service, is for a novel for 9–13-year-olds published in the last two years by a debut author. Davies will receive a sculpture containing a 119-million-year-old fossil from Dorset's Jurassic Coast as her prize....

Dorset for You, Oct. 21



Seen Online

[Unruly Delray Beach senior group to meet at church](#)

A senior group that has been homeless since October 26—after the Delray Beach (Fla.) Public Library canceled its discussions—has found a new home at the Church of the Palms. Louise Cammarata, a member of the group, said it was unfairly booted from the library, where it had met for the [past 10 years](#). But as many as 150 seniors had begun to attend, taxing the meeting room space as well as the patience of the library staff when the weekly political discussions grew heated. Library Director Alan Kornblau [said](#), “Unlike any of the 300 other programs, the current events group has a long history of unacceptable behavior.” Watch the [video](#) (2:08)....

Fort Lauderdale (Fla.) Sun-Sentinel, Oct. 31; *Palm Beach Post*, Oct. 30; UPI, Oct. 27; WPTV-TV (West Palm Beach), Oct. 27



[OSU law student stole, sold library books](#)

A second-year law student at Ohio State University in Columbus is believed to have stolen books from the school. Campus police say he took more than 200, one at a time, from the university law library

YALSA Young Adult Literature Symposium, Albuquerque, New Mexico, Nov. 5–7, at: [#yalsalit10](#)

ARMA International, Annual Conference, San Francisco, Nov. 7–10, at: [#arma10](#)

Michigan Library Association, Annual Conference, Traverse City, Nov. 9–12, at: [#mla10](#)

Research Libraries UK Conference, Edinburgh, Nov. 10–12, at: [#rluk10](#)

National Gaming Day @ your library, Nov. 13, at: [#ngd10](#)

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

Calendar

Nov. 12–15: [California Library Association/California School Library Association](#), Joint Conference, Sacramento Convention Center, Sacramento, California. “Navigating the New: Charting the Future Together.”

Nov. 15–16: [Taxonomy Boot Camp](#), Renaissance Hotel, Washington, D.C. “Making It Real: Getting Value, Support, and Usage from Taxonomies.” Sponsor:

and sold them online for more than \$10,000. Police, who have been tracking the thefts since the beginning of August, say they will seek an indictment soon....

Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, Oct. 30

[Warbler becomes a library star for one week](#)

For birders, the great prothonotary warbler show has ended. It played outside the New York Public Library on Fifth Avenue for seven days after Matthew Rymkiewicz, the manager of development information at the library and a bird watcher, went out at lunchtime on October 21. Along the wall past Patience, the lion at the south edge of the steps leading to the main entrance, he saw a brilliant blue-and-gold bird....

New York Times: City Room, Oct. 31



[After sit-in, no site yet for Whittier school library](#)

"They're finally talking to us," Aracelli Gonzalez said October 27 of officials from the Chicago Public Schools as she and other disgruntled mothers of Whittier Elementary School students ended a month-long sit-in October 27 over the slated demolition of a Chicago field house that the moms had envisioned as housing a library for the school next door. Two days later, they began negotiating with board officials about the library's location: inside the school or in the field house that the moms have saved from the wrecking ball....

Chicago Tribune, Oct. 29

[Santa Cruz to restore school librarians' hours](#)

Full-time librarians will be restored in Santa Cruz, California, elementary and middle schools, thanks to a recent vote by school board members. The district restored \$132,494 for salaries of certificated librarians after the October state budget did not contain the anticipated cuts to the class-size reduction program for K-3 students. Librarian hours had been cut to 70% of full-time at the district's four elementary schools and 80% at the two middle schools....

Santa Cruz (Calif.) Sentinel, Nov. 1

[San Diego librarian's pension caught up in antitax campaign](#)

Liam Dillon writes: "If you live in San Diego, there's a good chance you've seen this giant roving billboard (right) from the anti-Proposition D campaign. The claim is startling. The annual pension for a four-star general: \$149,000. The pension for a San Diego city librarian: \$227,000. The billboard is riddled with problems. It distorts the career of former San Diego City Librarian Anna Tatár, the comparison between the two pensions isn't exactly apples-to-apples, and leaves out important details about the retirement income for both." Proposition D [failed](#) on November 2....

Voice of San Diego, Oct. 29; San Diego (Calif.) Union-Tribune, Nov. 3



[Teacher lacks First Amendment right on curriculum](#)

An Ohio teacher has no right to make assignments about book-banning or to select particular books for her students, a federal appeals court panel ruled October 21. The legal dispute ([PDF file](#)) began in 2001

Information Today.

Nov. 15-17:

[Indiana Library Federation](#), Annual Conference, Indianapolis Convention Center, Indianapolis. "Libraries Rock!"

Nov. 16:

[Building Community: From Distribution to Engagement](#), free ALA TechSource webinar, hosted by WebJunction.

Nov. 18-21:

[Theatre Library Association](#), Joint Conference with the American Society for Theatre Research and the Congress on Research in Dance, Renaissance Seattle Hotel, Seattle. "Embodying Power: Work over Time."

Nov. 28-

Dec. 1:
[Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa](#), Centennial Conference, Dunedin, New Zealand. "LIANZA 1910-2010: At the Edge."

Dec. 1-2:

[Enhancing the Culture of Reading and Books in the Digital Age: Copyright As a Means to Foster Creativity and Access](#), Symposium, Tokyo Main Library Auditorium, Tokyo, Japan. Sponsor: IFLA.

Dec. 6-8:

[6th International Digital Curation](#)

when Shirley Evans-Marshall gave her students at Tippecanoe High School in Tipp City, Ohio, a copy of ALA's "100 Most Frequently Challenged Books" and asked them to pick a book on the list and explain why it was challenged. Controversy flared after parents objected to the gay-positive material in *Heather Has Two Mommies* and the explicit language and sexual themes in *Siddhartha*....

First Amendment Watch, Oct. 25



[Residents rally for Spokane's East Side branch](#)

More than 100 people attended a Spokane (Wash.) Public Library board meeting October 27 to back the retention of the East Side branch (right), which officials have proposed closing because of its low gate count to narrow a \$500,000 deficit. Sheridan Elementary School library media teacher Susan Burnes said that her students find East Side to be "a safe place that they can come to" in the low-income, high-crime area. Director Pat Partovi said the alternative was cutting yet more hours systemwide, which was unsustainable. A decision is due by year-end....

Spokane (Wash.) Spokesman-Review, Oct. 28



[Keith Richards on Life and libraries](#)

"Dartford Public Library is nothing like this," said Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards (right), who compared the library of his old hometown in England to the New York Public Library's Stephen A. Schwarzman Building where he was October 29 to talk about his new memoir, *Life*. "I still owe fines from 50 years ago," he joked. [Interviewed](#) by *Rolling Stone* contributing editor Anthony DeCurtis, Richards touched on topics surrounding his personal life and career from his book....

Spinner (AOL), Nov. 1; Tom Watson, Oct. 30



[Vancouver branch shut down after flooding](#)

Vancouver (B.C.) Public Library's busy Kensington branch (right) will be shut down through December to repair flood damage caused by a backed-up storm drain. The library confirmed November 1 that restoration of the relatively new branch—which opened in 2008 in King Edward Village—will be more extensive than first estimated. The library was damaged during the major rain storm October 25 that overwhelmed some city streets and sewers. The collection was not damaged in the flood....

Vancouver (B.C.) Sun, Nov. 2



[Arts librarian solves the mystery of the unknown painter](#)

Since Abby Aldrich Rockefeller acquired it in 1935, an 18th-century watercolor has

[Conference](#), Chicago Mart Plaza.

"Participation and Practice: Growing the Curation Community through the Data Decade." Cosponsors: Digital Curation Centre, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign GSLIS.

Jan. 7–11:

[American Library Association](#),

Midwinter Meeting, San Diego (Calif.) Convention Center.

Jan. 19–22:

[Special Libraries Association](#),

Leadership Summit, Renaissance Washington Hotel, Washington, D.C. "Future Ready: Building Community."

Feb. 2–5:

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

Feb. 9–12:

[Music Library Association](#), Annual Meeting, Philadelphia. "Born Digital: A New Frontier for Music Libraries."

Feb. 23–24:

[Handheld Librarian Conference IV](#), online.

Mar. 10–11:

[Conference for Entrepreneurial Librarians](#), Wake

stymied scholars, historians, and art enthusiasts who hoped to identify his artist. Now, thanks to the efforts of Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Decorative Arts Librarian Susan P. Shames, the painter has been identified as John Rose. Shames used primary documents and existing scholarship to revisit *The Old Plantation* (above), which depicts slaves playing music and dancing....

Williamsburg Yorktown (Va.) Daily, Nov. 2



[Gift makes beautiful music for New Jersey library](#)

Fort Lee (N.J.) Public Library held a dedication concert October 24 to celebrate the addition of a brand-new Kawai grand piano. The piano was a gift from the estate of Mary Elizabeth Meehan, a longtime resident who left more than \$200,000 to the library when she died in 2000; it replaces a Steinway that was also a gift to the library—in this case from lifelong Fort Lee resident Arthur Imperatore in the 1970s. The new wing of the upper level is now the “Mary Meehan Room.”...

Fort Lee (N.J.) Suburbanite, Oct. 28



[North Beach branch is not a landmark](#)

Clapping and cheering sounded at the San Francisco Board of Supervisors Land Use and Economic Development Committee November 1, following the unanimous vote against designating the North Beach branch (above) a landmark. The existing building is the “least representative and most lacking of architectural characteristics” of the seven libraries designed by the firm Appleton & Wolfard between 1951 and 1969, said Supervisor David Chiu. The San Francisco Public Library has proposed a new structure to replace the existing building that many have called dark and dingy and others call historic....

San Francisco Chronicle: City Insider, Nov. 1



[Teen gets 3 years for sexual assault inside a library](#)

A teen who tied up, molested, and threatened to kill a library worker inside the Ottawa (Ont.) Public Library's Metcalfe branch during its closing minutes on December 29, 2009, has been sentenced to 21 months in prison and 15 months of parole, the maximum sentence allowed by Canada's Youth Criminal Justice Act. The teen, who was 16 when the assault occurred, pleaded guilty to aggravated sexual assault, robbery, intimidation, and breach of probation. The woman remains too traumatized to return to the small village where the library is located....

Ottawa (Ont.) Citizen, Oct. 27

[School librarian charged with sexual assault of student](#)

A 48-year-old school librarian in Calgary, Alberta, has been charged with sexual assault for allegedly having a six-month affair with a 15-year-old student. Agnes Kooy has been removed from her post, but the school board will not clarify whether she has been suspended or

Forest University,
Winston-Salem, North
Carolina.

[June 27–30: International Evidence Based Library and Information Practice Conference.](#)

University of Salford,
Greater Manchester,
United Kingdom.

**June 24–
July 14:
Nye Memorial
Children's Literature
Study Tour**, a literary
journey to meet
authors, illustrators,
and libraries in New
Zealand and Samoa.
Contact tour leader
[Susan H. Fox](#), (925)
462-2404, for details.

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

dismissed. Jailed in August, Kooy was released on condition that she not contact the boy. The teen refuses to cooperate with authorities....
CFCN-TV, Calgary, Alberta, Oct. 28

[Guam forced to shutter four out of six branches](#)

The Guam Public Library System announced October 29 ([PDF file](#)) that an undisclosed amount of inadequate funding for FY2011 was forcing the closure until further notice of branches in Agat, Barrigada, Merizo, and Yona as of November 1. The Main Library (right) remains open six days and the Dededo branch five days a week....



Guam *Pacific Daily News*, Oct. 30

[Two Scottsdale branches haunted, group declares](#)

The Arabian and Civic Center branches of the Scottsdale (Ariz.) Public Libraries are haunted, according to Sonoran Paranormal Investigations, which undertook an electronic spook survey in September and October. Electronic voice phenomena were recorded in both locations. Other haunted libraries in the news this week were the [Yarmouth Port \(Mass.\) Library](#), [Crown Point \(Ind.\) Community Library](#)'s old Carnegie building, and the University of Tennessee's [Hoskins Law Library](#). The Lilac Room in Marquette, Michigan's [Landmark Inn](#) is said to be haunted by the ghost of a librarian. For others, see George Eberhart's [Haunted Libraries](#)....



Phoenix *Arizona Republic*, Oct. 28; *Barnstable (Mass.) Register*, Oct. 28; *Merrillville (Ind.) Post-Tribune*, Oct. 31; *University of Tennessee Daily Beacon*, Oct. 29; *WLUC-DT2, Republic, Mich.*, Oct. 31; I Love Libraries

[British Shakespeare Folio fence becomes prison librarian](#)

A flamboyant British book dealer who was jailed for handling a stolen Shakespeare First Folio has clinched a new job in a prison library. Raymond Scott was sentenced at Newcastle Crown Court in August to prison for eight years after a jury found him guilty of handling stolen goods and taking the book out of the country. A prison source said Scott applied for a job in the library and got it, and he "loves finding books for the other prisoners to read because he thinks he is a bit of an authority on literature."...

Newcastle (U.K.) Journal, Nov. 1

[Sri Lanka's historic Jaffna library vandalized](#)

The historic Jaffna Public Library in Sri Lanka has been closed to tourists a week after a large group of tourists from the ethnic majority Sinhalese community arrived in buses from the south and asked permission to enter the facility on October 23. Guards tried to turn them away but the visitors ran amok. The library has emotional significance for the island's Tamil minority, as it serves the city regarded as their cultural capital. Its burning by mobs in 1981 helped trigger the Tamil Tiger insurgency....



BBC News, Nov. 1



Beverly Goldberg,
Senior Editor:
bgoldberg@ala.org



Greg Landgraf,
Associate Editor:
glandgraf@ala.org



Leonard Kniffel,
Publisher,
American Libraries:
lkniffel@ala.org

Jennifer Henderson,
Contributing Researcher

To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:



Brian Searles:
bsearles@ala.org



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Tech Talk

[iPad vs. the world: Ultimate tablet battle](#)

Wendy Sheehan Donnell writes: "Finally, the tablet market is getting exciting. Since Apple's tablet was introduced, it's been pretty much all iPad, all the time, but now we have some viable alternatives. The most fierce competition comes from Android-based devices that can do everything an Android smartphone can, but on a bigger screen, such as the [Galaxy Tab](#) from Samsung, which will be available on all four major cellular carriers. This 7-incher impresses with solid, well-designed hardware, an excellent browser, and support for Flash, something that the iPad notoriously lacks. The only thing it's missing is tablet-specific applications."...

PC Magazine, Oct. 29



[Two new mobile apps from Gale](#)

Gale has made available two additional [AccessMyLibrary \(AML\) mobile apps](#)—an Android app for public libraries and an iOS app (iPhone, iTouch, and iPad) for academic libraries. AML apps allow students and patrons instant access to information from over 20,000 magazines and journals and thousands of encyclopedias covering many topics. Android AML apps from Gale are already available for school and academic libraries, as well as an iOS app for school libraries....

Gale Cengage Learning, Oct. 28



[10 Facebook pages every techie should follow](#)

Brian Ward writes: "Technology websites are an excellent place for those in the field to stay current, for those looking to buy an electronic device, to get reviews and do research, and to keep us informed about all the latest gadgets. There are many excellent technology websites and Facebook can be a great place to keep up with them. We have rounded up 10 excellent technology-related websites, blogs, bloggers, and publications on Facebook."...

All Facebook, Oct. 29



[Blekkio: The newest search engine](#)

John Dvorak writes: "Blekkio.com, a new search engine that uses human input to help it sort out the world, is getting a lot of press. Yes, Google is the greatest search engine as of now, but that doesn't mean it cannot be beaten by some new algorithm or a better idea. In fact, Blekkio adds so much weird dimensionality that out of all the recently hyped search engine ideas, such as Cuil, I find it the most interesting. I do not say this often." ResearchBuzz has another [favorable review](#)....

PC Magazine, Nov. 1; ResearchBuzz, Nov. 2



[Best video creation tools for the classroom](#)

Richard Byrne writes: "Every day, YouTube draws millions of viewers for one reason: People love watching videos. For students, it can be a good learning experience, and creating videos? Even better. There



was a time, not too long ago, when making a video required expensive video equipment and software. That's no longer true. Now, without spending a dime on cameras or software, your students could craft the next great documentary or YouTube sensation."...

School Library Journal, Nov. 1

[Spam drops after Russian crackdown](#)

You may not have noticed, but since late last month, the world supply of Viagra ads and other email spam has dropped by an estimated one-fifth. With 200 billion spam messages in circulation each day, there is still plenty to go around. But police officials in Russia, a major spam exporter, say they are trying to do their part to stem the flow and have cracked down on a suspected spam kingpin, Igor A. Gusev of SpamIt.com....

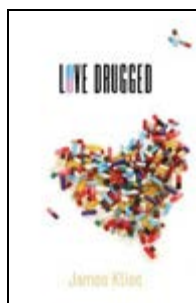
New York Times, Oct. 26

Publishing

[Gay librarian's debut novel explores high-school trauma](#)

James Klise, librarian at the Northtown Academy in Chicago's North Park neighborhood, has written a fictional comedic thriller that captures what it's like to be a gay teen in high school. *Love Drugged* arrives at a time when the LGBT community is dealing with issues on several fronts. Klise said it wasn't until he began working at the high school in 2002 that memories of his own youthful struggles with identity resurfaced....

Chicago Tribune, Nov. 1



[Libraries say "No DRM"; Springer agrees](#)

"We're not concerned about piracy," said George Scotti, Springer Verlag's director of channel marketing, when asked about the Springer e-book program, which allows institutional customers to lend Springer e-books without DRM protection. 70% of Springer's business comes from big academic and research libraries, Scotti said, and they are adamant that they don't want DRM or other such restrictions on the e-books they buy from Springer....

Publishers Weekly, Oct. 29



[Inside the Google Books algorithm](#)

Alexis Madrigal writes: "How does Google Books work? What makes it tick? It turns out that it's actually a great place for the company's engineers to learn how to function in a linkless, physical world. The system they've come up with has become increasingly sophisticated, as highlighted by their latest tweak, Rich Results, which began rolling out November 1. The feature selectively presents you with one extra-large result when it detects that you're probably searching for an individual title and not a specific mote of information or general topic."...

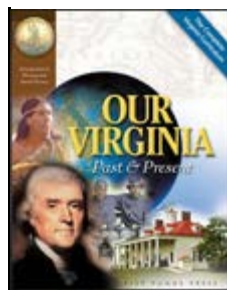
Atlantic, Nov. 1

[Textbooks even the Texas School Board could love](#)

Nancy Mattoon writes: "The controversy about what should and shouldn't be included in American

textbooks has been front-page news recently. Virginia students were being taught history from *Our Virginia: Past and Present* by Joy Masoff, a book that erroneously claimed: 'Thousands of Southern blacks fought in the Confederate ranks, including two black battalions under the command of Stonewall Jackson.' But the problem with this book goes beyond one factual error."...

Booktryst, Nov. 1



[Brilliant sci-fi books that got away](#)

From *The War of the Worlds* to *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, some science fiction goes down in history. But what about the brilliant books that got away? *New Scientist* asked scientists and writers to nominate their lost sci-fi classics. Astronomer Seth Shostak chose *The Listeners* by James E. Gunn, published in 1972, because it is credited with inspiring the real-life hunt for extraterrestrial life, and perhaps even Carl Sagan's more famous book *Contact*...

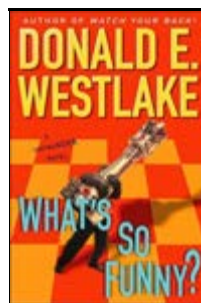
New Scientist, Oct. 25



[Capers: Criminal and otherwise](#)

L. D. Mitchell writes: "Some genres see so many books published that the only way to tackle the genre is to focus on one of the many subgenres. A case in point is the mystery. One of the most collectible of the mystery's many subgenres is the caper, which centers on the planning and eventual execution of a single daring crime. One of this subgenre's most prolific authors is Donald E. Westlake, the three-time Edgar Award winner who penned some 90+ titles."...

The Private Library, Oct. 28



Actions & Answers

[Placements and salaries survey, 2010](#)

Stephanie L. Maatta writes: "'Jobs? What jobs?'" asked many of the 2009 LIS graduating class, following another year of stagnating salaries and rising unemployment. There was strong participation in the [annual survey](#), with 1,996 respondents representing 38.7% of the approximately 5,160 LIS graduates.

Interestingly, the [LIS programs](#) reported a 7% decrease in the total number of graduates between 2008 and 2009. [Participants relayed](#) many tales of triumph and travail, illustrating another struggling job market with a few glimmers of hope and achievement."...

Library Journal, Oct. 15



[Library work experience](#)

Rachel Bicchichi writes: "If you're currently in library school, you've probably already discovered one of the profession's dirty little secrets. That promise that there would be plenty of jobs available soon? Yeah, it's all a myth. I'm going to focus on what you can do to improve your chances of landing a job by sharing some of the things that made me successful. And I'll start with the single most important item—library

work experience.”...
The Noisy Librarian, Oct. 31

[Dealing with a job you hate during a recession](#)

Amy Armstrong writes: “It’s hard to find much to be happy about when you think about the news for job seekers now. In theory, it seems like the rotten economy would turn that annoying job you took to pay the bills right out of college into the best thing ever if you’re still ‘lucky’ enough to have it. The unfortunate reality is that most workers are trudging through the day doing the same work they were doing before, in addition to the work of colleagues who had their positions cut.”...



New York Public Library blog, Sept. 28

[The librarian, waiting: A ghost story](#)

Leigh Anne Vrabel writes: “I’m not sure how the rest of the country celebrated Halloween, but the spookiest thing I had going on, though, was a trip down memory lane as I copied Word files from floppy disks to USB. If you really want to scare yourself, hunt up a piece of writing from about eight years ago and take a good, hard look at how your brain was working back then. Especially if the document you’ve unearthed is . . . your library school application essay. Aieeeeeee!”...

Library Alchemy, Nov. 2

[Networking is a two-way street](#)

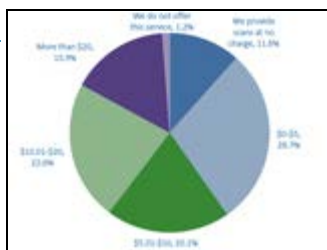
Meridith Levinson writes: “Are you reluctant to make networking a bigger part of your job search because you’re scared that no one will want to meet with you? Think giving, not taking. Viewing networking as an imposition demonstrates several common misconceptions—that only one person benefits from the exchange; that job seekers have nothing to give to the people with whom they’re networking; and that the people being contacted don’t want to meet or see the job seeker.”...

CIO, Oct. 26

[OCLC survey of special collections and archives](#)

Taking Our Pulse, a new report ([PDF file](#)) by OCLC Research, provides the detailed findings from a 2009 survey of 275 institutions across the U.S. and Canada to determine norms across the community. This survey updated and expanded a similar survey administered by the Association of Research Libraries in 1998, the outcomes of which catalyzed the special collections community. Jackie Dooley offers a [summary and some insights](#)....

OCLC Research, Oct. 27; HangingTogether, Nov. 1



[Indiana library students create library advocacy page in Wikipedia](#)

The increased need for library advocacy served as the perfect backdrop for students in Andrea Copeland’s public library management class at Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis as they created two Wikipedia entries on [public library advocacy](#) and the [history of public library advocacy](#) as a class project. Utilizing 21st-century technology and sharpening media literacy skills



were the tasks for students in Copeland's class...
Indiana University Bloomington SLIS, Oct. 28

[Getting the most from your museum/library partnership](#)

Terrilyn Chun writes: "Benefits of a partnership include resource sharing, outreach to new audiences, access to expertise in a different discipline, and the potential for increasing goodwill and support between the organizations and the broader community. However beneficial though, partnerships should not be undertaken lightly, as they require sufficient time and attention to cultivate and manage. And when considering partners, the best partners are ones that have similar missions, values, and goals."...

Programming Librarian, Nov.



[How to get people to support your good ideas](#)

Steven Bell writes: "There's a lot being written about good ideas these days. If you follow what's been written here about design thinking, creativity, and innovation, chances are you are already improving at coming up with and capturing good ideas. But that isn't enough. How do you get others—mostly your work colleagues—to buy into your good idea? That's where most of our ideas tend to run into the proverbial brick wall."...

Designing Better Libraries, Nov. 2

[Optimized-for-mobile views on WorldCat](#)

Alice Sneary writes: "We've had a WorldCat mobile pilot going since January 2009. Recently, however, we've evolved the mobile site to now run on a mobile web browser. That's right. No app to download, no prompting to update the latest app each time you go to the app store—it just 'works' when you use the browser of your phone. And the experience is similar to the browser on your big screen."...

WorldCat Blog, Nov. 3



[Author events made easy](#)

Chapple Langemack writes: "Ah, author events at the library. Is there anything more fun? Author events can also be perplexing, frustrating, and sometimes hair-raising, but mostly when I think of author events I'm primed for a good time—both for myself and my patrons. If you're ready to give author events a whirl, here are a few things to think about."...

Programming Librarian

[The great librarian hobbies survey](#)

Stephen Abram writes: "We had great participation in the librarian hobbies survey, with more than 1,500 responses.

It turns out that librarians do align quite nicely with the hobbies of our users. What can that mean? It could mean that you have enormous talent right on staff to do programs and make resource selections for your users."...

Stephen's Lighthouse, Oct. 31



[26 ways to enhance your tweets](#)

Debbie Hemley writes: "Almost anyone these days can throw together

140 characters and call it a tweet. But to use Twitter for maximum business impact there are many tried and true content sources ready to be used. In this post I'll introduce practical ways to use good content for your tweets, everything from A to Z (from Answers to Zippy Writing Style)."

Social Media Examiner, Oct. 27

[Is it better to retweet the new way? Pros and cons](#)

Heather Mansfield writes: "Whether it is better and more productive to Retweet old-school style or with just one-click using Twitter's Retweet function is a question I have been asking myself for months now, and the truth is, I just don't know the answer yet. Both methods have their pros and cons, and without asking my followers, it's hard to say with conviction which is the better Retweet method."

Nonprofit Tech 2.0, Oct. 31



[OCLC lawsuit moves to Ohio](#)

Karen Coyle writes: "The judge in San Francisco's Ninth Circuit court has agreed to OCLC's request to transfer the proceedings in the SkyRiver/OCLC suit to the Southern District Court of Ohio. In an impressively thoughtful 10-page [document](#), the judge weighs the various arguments by the parties relating to the request to transfer. In the end, the decision was based on two things."

Coyle's InFormation, Oct. 29

[Kansas City makes history with history](#)

Public screenings at the Kansas City (Mo.) Public Library in September and October of all four televised debates between 1960 presidential candidates Richard Nixon and John F. Kennedy brought a record-breaking 1,055 program attendees to KCPL over five weeks. The screenings comprised the core of the Great Debates Revisited series, which also included special book group discussion sessions examining the race on its 50th anniversary....

Kansas City Public Library, Nov. 2



[LC streamlines finding aids for special collections](#)

Thanks to a completely redesigned [search system](#), 1,100 finding aids will now smoothly lead remote and onsite researchers to more than 32 million archival items in the Manuscript, Music, American Folklife, Prints and Photographs, Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound, and other Library of Congress research centers. Each finding aid progressively describes the parts of an individual collection, summarizes the overall scope of the material, conveys details about the individuals and organizations involved, and notes the conditions under which the collection may be accessed or copied....

Library of Congress, Oct. 28

[Hand clapping as a cognitive tool](#)

Would you encourage children to engage in an activity if you knew that it could reduce the risk of dyslexia and dyscalculia; improve cognitive abilities, social integration, handwriting, and spelling; and make both you and them feel more focused and less tense? [Idit Sulkin](#), a researcher at Israel's Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, conducted a study of hand-clapping songs, revealing a direct link between those activities



and the development of important skills in children and young adults, including university students....

Israel21c, Aug. 10; Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Apr. 28

[Creative play at the library](#)

Abby Johnson writes: "Of course our Children's Department has books. We also have early literacy computers, internet computers, CDs, and DVDs. But one of my favorite things that we have in my department is a wooden box filled with foam blocks. What I love about them is that they inspire kids to be creative. Almost every day, I walk past castles, cities, towers, and other wonderful creations."...

ALSC Blog, Oct. 28



[Library changes lives in Ukraine](#)

Meaghan O'Connor writes: "When schoolteacher Tetyana Nishkur (right) was laid off in 2005 after 33 years of service, she had difficulty finding a new job. With the help of the local public library, she learned to write a business plan and started a business renting kayaks and leading tours. Today her Water Labyrinth Tour Company is thriving, and the internet access provided by the library has become an essential part of her life." [Watch](#) (4:19) how Oksana Zolotukhina (left) of the Kherson Oblast Universal Scientific Library changed the lives of Nishkur and her family....

IREX Global Libraries, Sept. 15



[Zombies walk for libraries in New York City](#)

More than 50 zombies [converged](#) October 31 at Cadman Plaza in Brooklyn to moan about new [cuts to library budgets](#) in New York City. "More libraries, more brains!" they grumbled, shambling across the Brooklyn Bridge to City Hall in support of maintaining library funding at its current level for the remainder of the fiscal year. The local zombie community has been under threat of a severe brain shortage following recent cuts to library services, and they fear starvation if new cuts are allowed to go through....

Urban Librarians Unite, Nov. 1; Brooklyn Heights Blog, Oct. 27, 31



[Aussie Zombies @ the library](#)

A brainstorm by members of the South Australian Library and Information Network has spawned the "Zombies in the Library" calendar for 2011. "In 12 beautifully rendered scenes," declares SALIN member Benjamin Wheal, "the calendar covers such topics as the role of the Zombie in reference, the frustrations faced when the undead hog the photocopier, and for catalogers, poses the eternal question: 299.675 or 398.21?"...

South Australian Library and Information Network



[Go back to the Top](#)

american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | November 10, 2010

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american libraries BUYERS GUIDE

American Libraries Online

Hood River is resurrected, Troy is deep-sixed

Libraries in many parts of the country were heartened November 2 to see voters approve their operating levies and capital bonds after several years of struggling to make ends meet and keep their doors open.

In particular, a 52.8% yes vote for Hood River County (Oreg.) Library will enable it to reopen next year after lack of funds forced its closure July 1. However, in Troy, Michigan, the second library levy in less than a year was defeated by 689 votes, triggering preparations to shut down the entire system next summer....

American Libraries news, Nov. 10



Less ink, more words

American Libraries Editor Leonard Kniffel writes:

"With the November/December issue (right), *American Libraries* print moves permanently to bimonthly publication. Monthly print as a viable delivery vehicle for news is clearly limited, and publishing to the web allows for faster and more flexible dissemination and is a general industry trend. The annual content delivered to readers through *AL Direct* is already greater than the annual print output. With few exceptions, *AL* content is currently being published to the web first and then selectively collected or revamped for print. I hope this Q&A answers any questions you have."...

American Libraries column, Nov./Dec.



Chicago's Field Museum of Natural History library

Chicago's Field Museum is one of the foremost museums of natural history in the world. *AL Focus* recently visited the Field Museum library to learn about its role in the museum's research, exhibit development, and educational programs. Melissa Anderson and Diana




ALEXANDER STREET PRESS

Audio Drama:
The L.A. Theatre Works Collection

the world's best plays... online with mobile access!

CLICK HERE TO TRY IT NOW!

Duncan offer a brief tour (2:28) of the facility....

AL Focus, Nov. 8

[Starting a library](#)

Karen Muller writes: "Recently, a reader of our [I Love Libraries](#) website sent over an inquiry about how to set up a library in her community. The ALA Library has developed a [series of Fact Sheets](#) to serve as initial guide to those seeking to establish a library. For a new public library, the place to start is with the library development department of the [state library](#), as there may be a district library serving the area or plans already underway to enhance library service. The next steps, though, start being the same for any library."...

AL: Ask the ALA Librarian, Nov. 9



[Hawaii's recycling efforts](#)

Laura Bruzas writes: "As recycling becomes more and more prominent nationwide, Hawaii steps up to the plate with an interactive, educational display which garnered them an [Ilima Award of Excellence](#). Developed by Honolulu's Department of Environmental Services, the display features Hawaii's new curbside recycling carts and life-size representations of the cast of *Opalavision*, a series that presents entertaining and informative messages about recycling programs on Oahu."...

AL: Green Your Library, Nov. 9



ALA News

[More than 1,800 libraries to celebrate National Gaming Day](#)

Tens of thousands of people will be gaming together at their local libraries on November 13 to celebrate ALA's third annual National Gaming Day @ your library. Organizers expect to easily break last year's record of more than 31,000 people playing games on the same day. Libraries will offer board games, traditional games, and two national video game tournaments that will pit players at dozens of libraries against each other for bragging rights to the ultimate *Rock Band* and *Super Smash Bros. Brawl* crowns....

National Gaming Day, Nov. 9



[Public library survey extended through November 14](#)

Study managers have extended the participation deadline for the 2010-2011 Public Library Funding and Technology Access Study online survey to November 14. Funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and ALA, the survey provides an important opportunity for libraries to share information regarding computer and internet resources and infrastructure. Libraries are encouraged to [log on](#) now....

Office for Research and Statistics, Nov. 8



[ALA Midwinter Meeting](#)

in San Diego, California, January 7-11, 2011. View a **partial list** ([PDF file](#)) of discussion group and interest group meetings.



In [What They Don't Teach You in Library School](#),

long-time library administrator Elisabeth Doucett gives new librarians a full dose of practical advice and wisdom that remains between the lines of most library curriculum, while also teaching seasoned professionals a thing or two. Gleaned from years of hard-fought experience. **NEW!**
From ALA Editions.



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New this week
in *American*

[Not just your usual Midwinter networking](#)

An abundance of scheduled discussion opportunities to pick from at the [ALA Midwinter Meeting](#) in San Diego, January 7–11, sets the stage for rich and productive outcomes—in addition to the informal networking that is always a highlight. Almost 200 discussion and interest groups and forums offer attendees the chance to share ideas and explore solutions with colleagues. A more complete list ([PDF file](#)) of scheduled discussion and interest groups and forums is on the [ALA Midwinter Meeting wiki](#)....

Conference Services, Nov. 9

[Not halfway, but it could be a start](#)

Steven Bell writes: "Are you attending Midwinter? How about ACRL 2011 in Philadelphia? As I was making my Midwinter plans I came across John Berry's '[Half Way to ALA](#)' editorial in the October 1 *Library Journal*. Basically he is saying that administrators and senior librarians are much more likely to be subsidized for conference travel than their newer and possibly younger colleagues. I have a suggestion that might help. If enough of us senior folks helped out even to a small extent, it could provide subsidies to far more academic librarians to at least attend ACRL 2011."...

ACRLLog, Nov. 7; *Library Journal*, Oct. 1

[ALA seeks clarification on e-rate changes](#)

Since the FCC released the Sixth Report and Order on the e-rate program at the end of September, the library community has closely reviewed it to understand the specific changes made to the program, how they will be implemented, and their overall impact on applicants. ALA is seeking clarification on these items from the FCC to ensure that applicants are well equipped with correct information. One such issue is related to the Children's Internet Protection Act....

District Dispatch, Nov. 8

[ALA joins the Combined Federal Campaign](#)

ALA has joined the [Combined Federal Campaign](#) as a member charity of the Independent Charities of America and Educate America! The Education, School Support and Scholarship Funds Coalition. All federal, military, and postal workers can now give directly from their paychecks to ALA through participation in the CFC....

Development Office, Nov. 9

[Host a traveling exhibition on Jewish artists](#)

The Public Programs Office has announced three new traveling exhibits focusing on Jewish artists who have contributed to the culture of America and the world through their lives and work. Public, academic, and special libraries—including museum libraries and Jewish community centers—are invited to [apply](#) by January 24. The exhibits were developed by Nextbook, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting Jewish literature, culture, and ideas, and PPO....

Public Programs Office, Nov. 9

[Call for international paper sessions](#)

The International Papers Committee invites proposals for presentations to be made at the 2011 ALA Annual Conference in New

Libraries



[Less Ink, More Words](#)

[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Green Your Library](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

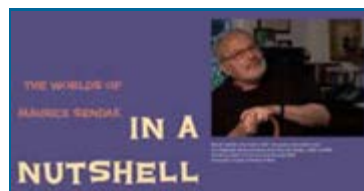
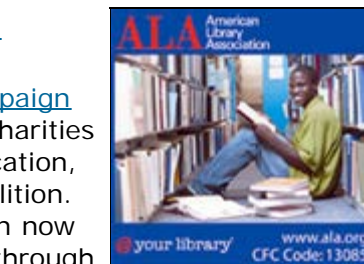
[Librarian's Library](#)

[AL Focus](#)

Great Libraries of the World



[Lilly Library](#), Indiana University, Bloomington. One of the largest rare book and manuscript libraries in the United States, the Lilly was founded in 1960 with the donated collection of Josiah K. Lilly Jr., former president of the Eli Lilly pharmaceutical company. Its holdings are particularly strong in strong in [British](#) and [American history and literature](#), [medicine and science](#), [food and](#)



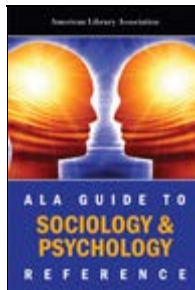
Orleans. Presentations will be delivered at the International Papers Session scheduled for Saturday, June 25. The program provides librarians with an opportunity to exchange information about library services, collections, and projects throughout the world. The deadline for submitting proposals is December 27....

International Relations Office

[A new guide to sociology and psychology](#)

ALA Editions has published the [ALA Guide to Sociology and Psychology Reference](#). Encompassing versions of traditional indexes, periodicals, scholarly journals, online statistical data sets, and websites maintained by a variety of institutions, this resource thoroughly covers reference works in the two disciplines. Under the direction of general editors Robert Kieft and Denise Bennett, many librarians have contributed their time and their knowledge of reference literature to this series....

ALA Editions, Nov. 8



[Tutorial on supervising shelveers](#)

ALA Editions is making available "[Hiring and Supervising Library Shelveers eCourse](#)," adapted from Patricia Tunstall's bestselling ALA Editions book. This web-based, self-paced tutorial quickly and easily familiarizes library managers with the ins and outs of working with library shelveers. The eCourse offers six lessons for an estimated three hours of instruction....

ALA Editions, Nov. 5

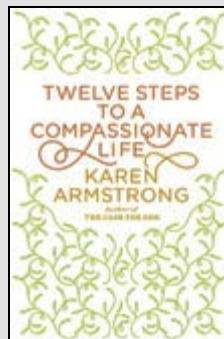


Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Religion](#)

Armstrong, Karen. *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life*. 248p. Jan. 2011. Knopf, hardcover (978-0-307-59559-1).

It takes courage for a religious historian and writer of Armstrong's stature (winner of the prestigious TED Prize), to step out from behind the scrim of scholarship and analysis to offer guidelines for a spiritual practice designed to make humanity a kinder and saner species. A revered genius of elucidation and synthesis, she turns to neuroscience and tracks the evolution of our brains and our natural capacity for empathy, and performs her signature mode of beautifully clarifying interpretation in a mind-expanding discussion of the history of the Golden Rule ("Always treat others as you would wish to be treated yourself"), the essence of compassion and the kernel of every religious tradition....



[Top 10 books in religion and spirituality](#)

Ilene Cooper writes: "The subtitle of one of the titles on this year's religion

[drink](#), [children's literature](#), [fine printing and binding](#), [popular music](#), [medieval and Renaissance manuscripts](#), and [early printing](#). It also has special collections of [comic books and graphic novels](#), books and periodicals on [puzzles](#), [documents of the French Revolution](#), [chapbooks](#), and [American sheet music](#).



[Iowa State Law Library](#), Des Moines.

Located in the Iowa State Capitol, the library provides lawmakers with a specialized collection of books. Ornate balconies and spiral staircases with wrought-iron railings lend it grandeur. The tile floor and stained glass ceiling date back to 1884.

This AL Direct feature showcases 250 libraries around the world that are notable for their exquisite architecture, historic collections, and innovative services. If you find yourself on vacation near one of them, be sure to stop by for a visit. The entire list will be available in [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart, which is scheduled for publication in 2011 by ALA Editions.



and spirituality top 10 captures the tone and theme of much of the list: *How Religion Divides and Unites Us*. It is a contentious era, especially in matters of the spirit, and these books, reviewed in *Booklist* from November 15, 2009, through November 1, 2010, attempt to make sense of that strife."...

Top 10 inspirational fiction

Bill Ott writes: "Whether they feature contemporary amateur sleuths or late-19th-century servants, the inspirational titles listed below handle their religious themes with great skill while also offering engrossing plots. All have been reviewed in *Booklist* during the past year."...



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

San Diego Update

San Diego information sources

The San Diego Public Library maintains a list of information sources about the city that includes the weather and environment, transportation, local services, history, business and government, education and health, and news and media....

San Diego Public Library

The library's secret treasure

Those who stumble into the [Wangenheim Room](#) on the third floor of the San Diego Central Library are often momentarily dazed and then enchanted, feeling as though they have been transported back in time to a well-appointed private library from the 19th century. The Wangenheim Room contains a collection of rare books, manuscripts, and artifacts illustrating the development of books through the ages in all its aspects—paper making, book binding, book illustration, and the history of printing—that spans more than 4,000 years....

San Diego (Calif.) Union-Tribune, Dec. 21, 2009; San Diego Public Library



The Urban Trees Project

Since 2003, the Port of San Diego has invited artists to design and create stylistic tree-like sculptures to add color, form, and interest to the waterfront. The latest set of 30 Urban Trees were selected in May 2010 by the Port's Public Art Committee and will be planted along the North Embarcadero in time for the Midwinter Meeting. The artist's sculptures are

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The Magnificent Seven](#)

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Up for Libraries \(video\)](#)

[Donna Seaman Interviews
Writer Junot Díaz](#)

[Houdini: Art and Magic](#)

[Cathy Cassidy Crowned: The
Popular Young Adult Author
Was Named Queen of Teen
2010](#)

[Resources for Animal
Adoption](#)

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mounted on steel poles in large concrete planters spaced 25 feet apart that serve as permanent bases for the changing installations....

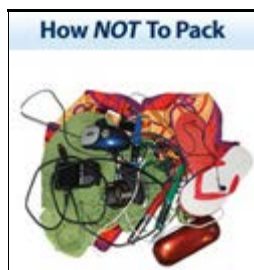
Port of San Diego



[What's new in airport security?](#)

Nicholas DeRenzo writes: "I consider myself an airport security line expert, yet I'm still often baffled by the near constant changes in TSA regulations. Let's check in with the TSA and see what they have in store for us the next time we go through security: No need to remove iPads, netbooks, or a MacBook Air. Full-body pat-downs are a possibility if you refuse to go through a body scanner. The name on your ticket must exactly match the name on your passport or government-issued ID." Here are some [TSA tips](#) on how to get through the line faster....

Newsweek: Budget Travel, Nov. 3; Transportation Security Administration



In the [November issue](#) of *College & Research Libraries News*, Robin Ashford describes what QR codes are and [how academic libraries](#) are using them; and Tom Ipri reveals [what transliteracy means](#) for academic librarians.

Division News

[School Libraries Count! personalized reports](#)

Personalized reports are now available for participants in the AASL School Libraries Count! longitudinal survey by visiting the [survey website](#). These personalized reports are part of AASL's suite of advocacy tools, including the latest tool for implementing the division's learning standards and program guidelines, "A Planning Guide for Empowering Learners."...

AASL, Nov. 9



[NCATE school librarian standards updated](#)

On October 24, the Specialty Areas Studies Board of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education approved the 2010 *ALA/AASL Standards for Initial Programs for School Librarian Preparation* ([PDF file](#)). All programs submitting program reports in Fall 2012 will be required to use the updated standards. Programs submitting prior to Fall 2012 may use either the 2010 standards or the 2003 standards ([PDF file](#))....

AASL, Nov. 9

[Registration is open for Teen Tech Week](#)

YALSA has launched its Teen Tech Week 2011 [website](#), opening registration and offering tools for librarians to plan the annual celebration of technology for teens in the library. It will be celebrated March 6–12, with the theme of "Mix and Mash @ your library," encouraging teens to take advantage of



Career Leads from JobLIST

[Learning Commons Librarian/Coordinator for Instruction and Assessment](#)

Mercy College, Dobbs Ferry, New York. Reporting to the director of libraries, this position will assume a leadership role in the improvement of student information management skills and the assessment of learning outcomes. This involves full participation in the library's instruction program including the development of face-to-face, blended, and online instructional modalities, along with assessment tools and

the many technologies available to them, free of charge, at their libraries....

YALSA, Nov. 8

[YALSA Lit Symposium: Wow!](#)

Karen Perry writes: "What an interesting group of presenters and authors. This symposium really brought the mind's focus around to incorporating diversity in all aspects of your collection—print, nonprint, and web-based. I particularly liked the fact that some of the authors gave us lists of their favorite diverse books (like [Cynthea Liu](#)) and that booktalks were everywhere. I came home with lots of lists to use in buying and creating my own more diverse resource lists and in making displays." See the [YALSA Blog](#) and [Librarified](#) for more feedback....

YALSA Blog, Nov. 9

[Gear up for summer reading in December](#)

Librarians looking for guidance as they begin their annual summer reading program planning process won't want to miss YALSA's December 16 webinar, Gear Up for Summer Reading, hosted by Shari Fesko, teen services librarian at the Southfield (Mich.) Public Library and VOYA programming columnist. The webinar will take place at 2 p.m. Eastern time. [Registration](#) is now open....

YALSA, Nov. 8

[Susan Hildreth to lead panel at PLA Midwinter institute](#)

Susan Hildreth, director of the Seattle Public Library and IMLS director nominee, will lead a panel of library administrators and consultants at "[Public Libraries Survive and Thrive in the 21st Century](#)," a day-long institute January 7 sponsored by PLA prior to the ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego. Presenters will discuss how public libraries can navigate the current economic environment and will share best practices to help libraries survive now and grow into the future....

PLA, Nov. 9



[Register for ALTAFF's Trustee Academy](#)

The ALTAFF Trustee Academy is a series of online courses to help trustees become exceptionally proficient in their roles on behalf of their libraries. Each course is a recorded webcast the trustee views on his or her computer any time of the day or night. All of the online courses are taught by a professional in the field and are priced both a la carte and as a full curriculum. Register on the [ALTAFF website](#)....

ALTAFF, Nov. 10



Awards

[ALSC offers Everyone Reads minigrants](#)

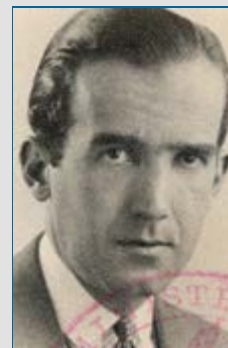
ALSC is accepting applications for minigrants intended to expand youth literacy programs by celebrating a variety of cultures in public libraries. They are part of ALSC's Everyone Reads @ your library grant and will be awarded to libraries that demonstrate a need to better address the diverse backgrounds within their communities. Up to 15 minigrants of \$4,000 or \$6,000 will be awarded. The deadline for [applications](#) is November 29....

strategies. Establish collaborative working relationships with library and other academic faculty and departments across the college. This position will also provide reference services, including teaching and training (some nights and weekends may be required), and will serve as a liaison to one or more of the schools. While this position is primarily located at the Mercy College Dobbs Ferry Library Learning Commons, travel to other campuses is an expectation....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The [Edward R. Murrow Collection](#), circa 1913–1985, housed at Tufts University Digital Collections and Archives, is the world's largest collection of material about the

ALSC, Nov. 8

[YALSA offers minigrants for Teen Tech Week](#)

Through funding from the Margaret A. Edwards Trust, YALSA will award up to 10 [Teen Tech Week](#) minigrants, consisting of \$450 in cash and \$50 worth of [Teen Tech Week products](#), to division members who create a reading program that incorporates technology. Teen Tech Week 2011 will be celebrated March 6–12, with the theme, “Mix and Mash @ your library.” Applications ([Word file](#)) are due by January 3....

YALSA, Nov. 8



[NLM, MLA support Spectrum Scholars](#)

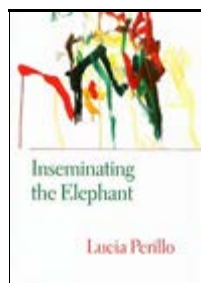
The National Library of Medicine and the Medical Library Association are supporting the Spectrum Presidential Initiative and are committed to funding two Spectrum Scholars with an interest in the field of medical or health sciences librarianship annually for 10 years, 2011–2020. NLM/MLA’s support of the Spectrum Scholarship began in 2001, supporting a single student, and expanded in 2006 to support two students annually....

Spectrum Scholarship Program, Nov. 9

[2010 Rebekah Johnson Bobbitt National Prize for Poetry](#)

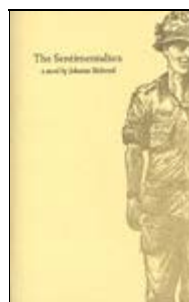
The Library of Congress will award the 2010 Rebekah Johnson Bobbitt National Prize for Poetry to Lucia Perillo for her book *Inseminating the Elephant* (Copper Canyon, 2009). Perillo will receive the award and read selections from her work at LC on December 13. The prize is awarded for the most distinguished book of poetry published in the preceding two years....

Library of Congress, Nov. 9



[Johanna Skibsrud wins Scotiabank Giller Award](#)

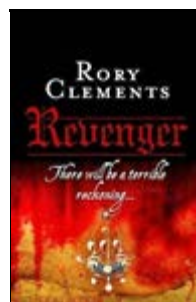
The author of *The Sentimentalists* became the youngest winner of the \$50,000 Scotiabank Giller Prize on November 9. Johanna Skibsrud, a Nova Scotia native who is currently a student at the University of Montreal (where she is working on a Ph.D. thesis about poet Wallace Stevens), based the debut novel on her late father’s experiences in the Vietnam War. The largest annual literary prize in Canada, the prize goes to the author of the best Canadian novel or short story collection published in English....

Quill and Quire, Nov. 10

[2010 CWA Ellis Peters Historical Award](#)

The Crime Writers’ Association announced the winner of the prestigious 2010 Ellis Peters Historical Award in London on November 4. The winner was *Revenger* by Rory Clements, a gripping story set in England in 1592, and published by John Murray. The award, which carries a prize of £3,000 (\$4,843 U.S.), is presented annually for the best historical crime novel by an author of any nationality....

Crime Writers’ Association, Nov. 4



internationally renowned journalist. The papers include correspondence, personal materials, work-related files, audiovisual materials, memorabilia, books, and tributes to Murrow. Digital objects from the Murrow papers include more than 320 photographs of Murrow, his family, and his associates, and include Murrow in action during World War II and the Korean War as well as images from his radio and television shows.

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

“Hey, times are tough, especially when your mansion isn’t worth what it once was. But before fighting taxes became the only American principle that mattered, all kinds of people, wealthy and not, recognized the public library as one of the inspiring ideas that makes us American.”

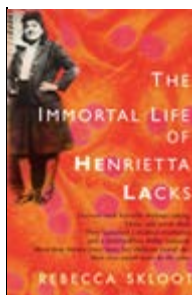
—Columnist Laura Berman, “To Some, Bloomfield Hills Is a Cheap Rich Town,” *Detroit News*, Oct. 23.

@ [More quotes...](#)

[2010 Wellcome Trust Book Prize](#)

Rebecca Skloot's *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* (Pan Macmillan) is the winner of the second Wellcome Trust Book Prize. Skloot's book tells the story of a poor Southern tobacco farmer whose cancer cells, taken without her knowledge, became one of the most important tools in medicine. The £25,000 (\$40,000 U.S.) prize is open to outstanding works of fiction and nonfiction on the theme of health and medicine....

Wellcome Trust Book Prize, Nov. 9



[Houellebecq wins France's top literary prize](#)

French novelist Michel Houellebecq, who has sparked controversy for explicit depictions of sex in his work as well as disparaging comments on women and minorities, has won France's most prestigious literary prize. The 2010 Prix Goncourt jury named Houellebecq its latest winner November 8 for his novel *La Carte et Le Territoire* (The Map and the Territory). The Paris-set story about a misanthropic artist who becomes a success also includes a reclusive, prickly writer character—named Michel Houellebecq—who becomes the victim of a grisly murder....

CBC News, Nov. 8



Seen Online

[Indianapolis lays off 37 library workers](#)

The Indianapolis–Marion County Public Library announced the layoffs of 37 positions November 4, but they were expected as part of efforts to close an anticipated \$4-million budget shortfall next year. The library did not release a list of affected positions, but said in a [news release](#) that the cuts affected employees across the management, support, and public service staffs. It also has reorganized its management staff....

Indianapolis Star, Nov. 5

[Delaware loses school librarians](#)

This year, eight schools in Indian River School District in Selbyville, Delaware, replaced six full-time and two part-time librarians with teachers' aides. Three of the four elementary schools in Seaford made the same move, as did two middle schools in the Cape Henlopen district. Marilyn Kulkarni, president of the Delaware School Library Media Association, said she has counted at least 20 librarian positions that have been cut recently....

New Castle (Del.) News Journal, Nov. 9

[Economic shifts make libraries more valuable](#)

ALA President Roberta Stevens writes: "Today's challenging economy demands strategic investments. While the job market continues to recover, one of the best uses of public and private funds is to help ensure that people are digitally literate and are improving their employment skills. Increasingly, the local public library serves as the community technology hub for training, digital literacy and, yes, even books."...

Washington Post: Commentary, Nov. 8

[Net neutrality another election loser](#)

Dan Gillmor writes: "There's no way to sugar-coat this: Since



TweetWatch

Follow:

Michigan Library Association, Annual Conference, Traverse City, Nov. 9–12, at: [#mla10](#)

Research Libraries UK Conference, Edinburgh, Nov. 10–12, at: [#rluk10](#)

California Library Association / California School Library Association, Joint Annual Conference, Sacramento, Nov. 12–15, at: [#calibconf](#), [#4csla](#)

National Gaming Day @ your library, Nov. 13, at: [#ngd10](#)

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

Calendar

Nov. 19:
[Wisconsin Distinguished Lecture Series in Library and Information Science.](#)
Golda Meir Library, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee. Presentation by Birger Hjørland.

Dec. 3–4:

November 2, network neutrality isn't quite dead, but it may well be in a coma. That's the only rational way to look at the results of the 2010 elections, which saw some of net neutrality's major backers go down in defeat. Among the most damaging congressional losses will take place with the departure of Rep. Rick Boucher (D-Va.), who lost his reelection bid. No one in that chamber has a better grasp of technology issues."...

Salon, Nov. 4

[Kannapolis library closes its history room](#)

After 18 years, the Kannapolis branch of the Cabarrus County (N.C.) Public Library is closing the book on its history room. That decision comes after budget cuts and calls for more space for programs at the library, Director Dana Eure said. The Kannapolis History Associates, a local group dedicated to preserving the records of the former mill town, will receive those books and records that the county doesn't decide to keep. The only problem is that they've got nowhere to put them....

Salisbury (N.C.) Post, Nov. 9



[NLRB: Facebook posts are protected speech, mostly](#)

In what labor officials and lawyers view as a ground-breaking case involving workers and social media, the National Labor Relations Board has accused a company of illegally firing an employee after she criticized her supervisor on her Facebook page. This is the first case in which the labor board has stepped in to argue that workers' criticisms of their bosses or companies on a social networking site are generally a protected activity and that employers would be violating the law by punishing workers for such statements....

New York Times, Nov. 8

[Most beautiful academic libraries](#)

On those nights when you're hunched over your books, over-tired, over-caffeinated, and counting down the hours until your work is done, take a break to look around—you might be in one of the most beautiful college libraries. Campus Grotto compiled a list of the [ultimate breathtaking study spots](#) in America. Click through to see if yours ranks in the top 10....

Huffington Post, Nov. 9



[Librarian will camp out for diaper drive](#)

Canton (Mich.) Public Library Director Eva Davis may get pretty cold November 17–18 when she camps out in the parking lot—but she expects the generosity of residents to warm her heart. It's all for the Stuff the Truck Diaper Drive, an effort that collected more than 17,000 diapers last year for the Detroit Area Diaper Bank, which collects donated diapers and distributes them to families and people in crisis through other agencies in Southeast Michigan....

Canton (Mich.) Eagle, Nov. 5



[Best spelling, best cheers](#)

Air horns. Pompoms. Cowbells. Clappers. Whistles. Nann fans. These were the tools 20 Zion-Benton (Ill.) Public Library fans used to

[New Jersey Antiquarian Book and Ephemera Fair.](#)

Ramada Inn and Conference Center, East Hanover.

Jan. 6–9:

[Modern Language Association.](#) Annual Convention, Los Angeles Convention Center.

Jan. 12–14:

[Educause Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference.](#) Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel. "Setting a New Course for the Future."

Feb. 1–3:

[Australian Library and Information Association.](#) Information Online Conference and Exhibition, Conference and Exhibition Centre at Darling Harbour, Sydney.

Feb. 9–12:

[Music Library Association.](#) Annual Meeting, Loews Hotel, Philadelphia.

Feb. 11–13:

[California International Antiquarian Book Fair.](#) Concourse Exhibition Center, San Francisco.

Feb. 18–20:

[Savannah Book Festival.](#) Telfair Square, Savannah, Georgia.

Feb. 20–25:

[Jerusalem International Book Fair.](#) ICC Jerusalem International Convention Center.

support the library's spelling bee team. Not only did the library take first place November 4 in the fifth annual Corporate Community Spelling Bee, but the fan base also won [best cheer section](#). Nann fans were the invention of library staffer Sara Torrez, who enlarged the face of Library Director Nann Blaine Hilyard and added it to fans for library supporters to wave...

Lake County (Ill.) News-Sun, Nov. 5

[Secret room at former San Antonio Public Library uncovered](#)

Construction workers retrofitting the former San Antonio (Tex.) Public Library and Hertzberg Circus Museum into the National Western Art Foundation's Briscoe Western Art Museum were recently able to access an abandoned and forgotten room on the third floor. When they did, they uncovered a cache of previously unknown and uncataloged library items, including World War II posters, a King James Bible dated 1615, and a Civil War-era photo album. The library, which occupied the site from 1930 to 1968, still owns the building. Watch the [video](#) (1:21)....

San Antonio (Tex.) Express-News: Downtown Blog, Nov. 5; KTHV-TV, Little Rock, Ark., Nov. 9



[Vatican Library exhibits earliest gospel](#)

For the first time in its history, tourists can stroll through the halls of the Vatican Apostolic Library in Rome and examine ancient manuscripts, thanks to a new exhibition. "Understanding the Vatican Library: A History Open to the Future" shows how the library works and tries to put an end to the notion of its mysteriousness and inaccessibility. On display is the Papyrus Bodmer XIV-XV (above), the earliest known gospel (Luke 3-18, 22-24; John 1-15) that dates from the late 2nd or early 3rd century. The Vatican is also holding a conference to publicize the library's holdings and recent renovation....

Rome Reports, Nov. 10



[British Library mulls videogame archiving](#)

The British Library is looking to work more closely with the videogame industry to help preserve gaming's 30-year history. Paul Wheatley, a specialist in digital preservation at the British Library, says it is keen to lend support, building on work already done by an initiative called the [National Videogame Archive](#). He believes games and related documents from the 1970s through the 1990s are already being lost....

The Independent (U.K.), Nov. 4

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[The web is reborn](#)

Bobbie Johnson writes: "The web has been showing its age. Superficially it appears healthy, but beneath the surface, the Web 2.0 era required a lot of tape and glue,

Feb. 22-24:

[Educause West / Southwest Regional Conference](#), Hilton Austin, Texas. "Leading IT into the Future in Transformative Times."

Mar. 10-13:

[National Science Teachers Association](#), National Conference, Moscone Center, San Francisco. "Celebrating the Joy of Science."

Mar. 31-

Apr. 2: [National Council for History Education](#), National Conference, Charleston, South Carolina. "The Causes and Consequences of Civil Wars."

Apr. 8-10:

[New York Antiquarian Book Fair](#), Park Avenue Armory, New York City.

Apr. 13-16:

[National Council of Teachers of Mathematics](#), Annual Meeting, Indianapolis. "Geometry: Constructing and Transforming Perspectives."

Apr. 21-23:

[Library Association of Ireland / CILIP Ireland Annual Joint Conference](#), Maldron Hotel, Tallaght, Dublin. "Smart Libraries."

Apr. 26-28:

[Catholic Library Association](#), Annual Convention, New Orleans. "Leadership, Direction, Service."



because video and other multimedia elements often didn't work smoothly on basic web pages. Fortunately, a handful of key people put aside the rivalries between them and led an insurrection in time to give the web another chance—HTML5."...

Technology Review, Nov./Dec.

[Delete all Facebook apps you are not using](#)

Ben Popken writes: "Here is a fun project to protect your privacy. Go through Facebook and delete all the apps you're no longer using. That way they'll no longer have access to your data, so they can't mine it or sell it. Here's how you do it. Go directly to the app setting page and under 'Applications you use' hit 'Remove unwanted or spammy applications.'"...

The Consumerist, Nov. 5

[Maximize engagement with Facebook Likes and Shares](#)



David A. Yovanno writes: "When it comes to Facebook, if you're uncertain where and when to place a Like button on your site and when to use Share, you're not alone. Social-sharing technologies have evolved significantly in the past several months, but it's not as complicated as it may seem. Used in concert, Like and Share are some of the best tools for driving referral traffic from social networks, opening new communication channels with patrons, and building relationships with advocates. Here are three best practices for applying them together."...

Mashable, Nov. 8

[A Chromium-based browser for social web addicts](#)



Jacqui Cheng writes: "The last thing the world needs is another spinoff browser with niche features, right? That's exactly what I thought when I learned about [RockMelt](#), which takes the average browsing experience and adds a number of social sharing layers so that you're always connected—digitally and mentally—to your Facebook and Twitter buddies no matter what you're doing on the web. That's not a joke: They're all right there in your right and left columns." Watch the [video](#) (2:29) or [sign up for the wait list](#) using your Facebook ID....

Ars Technica: Web, Nov. 9; PC World, Nov. 9

[Battle botnets before or after an infection?](#)

Matthew Lasar writes: "Botnets have penetrated most Fortune 500 companies, and the United States leads the world in PCs infected with bots. And Mac users beware—a new Trojan variant attacks Mac OS systems via social networking sites. So how do we stop these nefarious campaigns? We had the chance to hear a set of security presentations on botnets. Fabian Rothschild and Peter Greko of the HackMiami nonprofit and Tom Murphy from the Bit9 security group laid out different strategies for fighting botnets—data obfuscation and white lists."...

Ars Technica: Security, Nov. 8

[YouTube to test "smart topics" on](#)

@ [More...](#)

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



Beverly Goldberg,
Senior Editor:
bgoldberg@ala.org



Greg Landgraf,
Associate Editor:
glandgraf@ala.org



Leonard Kniffel,
Publisher,
American Libraries:
lniffel@ala.org

Jennifer Henderson,
Contributing Researcher

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[videos](#)

Tom Krazit writes: "At some point on the evening of November 10, YouTube will turn on an experiment in its [TestTube](#) lab, in which users will be able to see what the company is calling 'topics' above videos they find through search results or that are shared among friends. These topics are sort of like tags, but are the product of sophisticated analysis of comments, viewing patterns, and other signals that will automatically appear above videos. It's not clear when YouTube might be ready to bring this into wider distribution, but those interested in checking it out should be able to opt into the program."...

CNET News: Relevant Results, Nov. 9



[Extract embedded media from Office files](#)

jont999 writes: "Need to get one or more images out of a Microsoft Word .doc or .docx file? You'll need Word 2007 or later—or another .docx compatible program. If it's a .doc file, open it in Word and save as a .docx file. Make a duplicate of the file and rename the extension from .docx to .zip. Open the zip archive and you should see several folders. You're looking for the 'media' folder, which should be under the 'word' folder."...

Lifehacker, Nov. 10



[Tutor.com app will let students connect to a tutor](#)

Tutor.com has launched a new mobile strategy with [Tutor.com To Go](#). The first release, available in the Apple App Store, gives students mobile access to the company's library of 9,000 online lessons, worksheets, videos, and test-prep resources. In early 2011, the app will allow students to connect to online tutors for a homework review session from their iPhones or iPod Touches....

Tutor.com, Nov. 10



[Firefox add-on protects you on open networks](#)

Jolie O'Dell writes: "If you're concerned about using open Wi-Fi networks because of Firesheep, a bit of code that allows just about anyone to access your web accounts via session hijacking, you should check out BlackSheep, a Firefox add-on that makes surfing on open networks in cafés and airports safe once again. Cloud security firm Zscaler's add-on can detect Firesheep activity and places a warning in your current browser tab."...

Mashable, Nov. 8

Publishing

[And the most popular way to read an e-book is...](#)

John C. Abell writes: "Quick: What's the most popular e-book reader? You're probably wrong. Amazon's Kindle has become the breakthrough e-reader since it was introduced only three years ago, fueling a nearly \$1-billion business that Forrester Research says will triple in the next five years. But it is edged out by the humble laptop as the e-reader of choice, according to a [Forrester survey](#) released November 8. Laptops only slightly trump the Kindle, 35% to 32%. Coming in third was the iPhone, with 15%. Yet 38% said they had checked a book out of a library."...

Wired: Epicenter, Nov. 8

bsearles@ala.org



Katie Bane:
kbane@ala.org

Send feedback:
aldirect@ala.org

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

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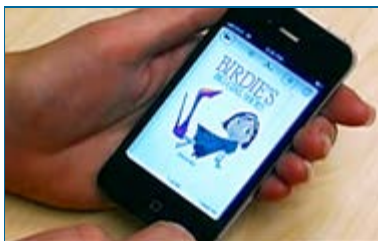
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Chicago, IL 60611
[Website](#)
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X

[Sneak peek: OverDrive e-book app for the iPhone](#)

In December, OverDrive customers will be able to enjoy e-books and audiobooks on the iPhone in a single app. The app will support OverDrive-supplied EPUB e-books on initial release and will continue to support OverDrive MP3 audiobooks like previous versions of the app for iPhone. Both iPad and Android apps are also coming soon. Watch the [video](#) (2:53)....

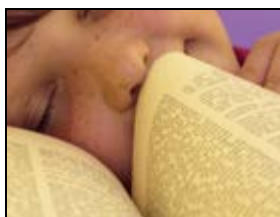
Digital Library Blog, Nov. 9



[Are books smelly?](#)

Stephen Abram writes: "I keep hearing people talking about how they love the feel and the smell of books and that sometimes this trumps the allure of e-books for them. Smell or scent is a powerful memory aid. When people are telling us they like the smell of books and libraries, are they actually recalling the sweet experiences of youth and visits to the library when life was fun and grand? Is this something we can tap? Here are the major components of the old-book smell."...

Stephen's Lighthouse, Nov. 9



[Must we have the digital vs. print battle?](#)

Gabrielle E. Miller writes: "As executive director of Raising a Reader, people frequently ask me what I think about digital books for children. Somewhere in the question is the usual implication that one is good and the other is bad. Do we really have to go down this road? Is it really going to be digital versus print? We absolutely need both. You cannot put a Kindle in a bathtub with a young child, but you can use a vinyl book. You do not always have room for 15 children's books on vacation, but you can take a Kindle."...

Washington Post: The Answer Sheet, Nov. 6

[Kindles arrive at the Unquiet Library](#)

Buffy Hamilton writes: "Roxanne and I unboxed our five new Kindles on November 9 (more are coming) and began the process of setting them up for circulation at the Creekview High School Library in Canton, Georgia. We also took a couple of hours to finalize our thinking on the procedures and protocols for cataloging the Kindle readers as well as the Kindle e-books. I also have created a [video update](#) (2:10), and we'll be posting more of these to chronicle our Kindle journey."...

The Unquiet Librarian, Nov. 9; YouTube, Nov. 9



[The library-friendly seal of approval](#)

Tim Spalding writes: "The idea arose from an [email](#) I wrote, which argued the rather dismal economics of e-books in libraries, and noted that if 'advocacy' was going to get anywhere, it had better happen soon. My one constructive suggestion was to start a public campaign to get publishers to commit to a slate of lending rights. Libraries (ALA?) should establish a 'Good Housekeeping'-style sticker that authors and publishers can slap on their books and webpages."...



Thingology, Nov. 7

[Do students really prefer print to e-books?](#)

Kent Anderson writes: "A recent [survey](#) from the National Association of College Stores is being cited in news reports, on Twitter, and in blogs as proof that students prefer print textbooks to e-book textbooks. But the survey is drawing the wrong conclusion by framing the question in terms of media choice. It's not about print versus electronic. It's about economics and selection."...

The Scholarly Kitchen, Nov. 3

[Interactive books](#)

A new genre of books for children is trying to tweak narrative norms. While not exactly creating an original form of user-generated content like the Choose Your Own Adventure books, they are using the internet to expand beyond print. Of the three considered here, *Spaceheadz*, by Jon Scieszka with Francesco Sedita, uses the internet in the most straightforward—but also the most entertaining—way. Various websites are mentioned in its pages, and in a few instances these sites provide information that helps propel the plot....

New York Times, Nov. 5



[Best illustrated children's books of 2010](#)

Annually since 1952, the *Book Review* has asked a panel of judges to select 10 winners from among the several thousand children's books published during the year. The judges this time around were Elizabeth Bird of the New York Public Library, Robert Sabuda, and David Barringer....

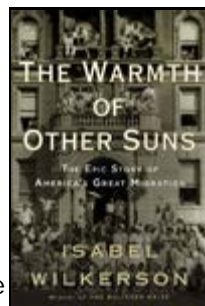
New York Times Book Review, Nov. 7



[Library Journal's top 10 of 2010 list](#)

For the first time, *Library Journal* has announced its top 10 best books list reflecting fiction and nonfiction titles that stood out as the very best in 2010. The list—compiled with the input of librarians and *LJ*'s stable of book reviewers—represents an assortment of books appropriate for a broad reading audience. Several of the book review editors chronicled their deliberations on Twitter under the hash tag [#bestbooks10](#). Compare with *Publishers Weekly*'s [choices](#)....

Library Journal, Nov. 4; *Publishers Weekly*, Nov. 8



[A primer on science fiction pulps](#)

Jess Nevins writes: "The pulps are enjoying a resurgence. DC Comics recently brought back several pulp heroes, including Doc Savage and the Avenger, in their First Wave comics. Marvel Comics is publishing *Incognito*, Ed Brubaker's pulp-inspired miniseries. But most people have never read many stories from the actual pulps (1900–1950) and only have a vague idea of what they actually were. The following is intended as a brief primer on the pulps and a guide to what they are and what they aren't."...

io9, Nov. 4

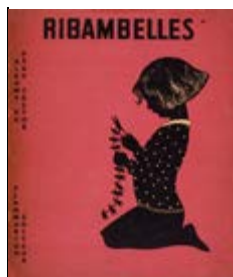


[Activity books go highbrow at](#)

Princeton

Nancy Mattoon writes: "Children's literature often doesn't get much respect from academia and university libraries. But the true Rodney Dangerfield of kid-lit has to be the activity book. Coloring books, puzzle books, dot-to-dot books, and paper-doll books are basically paper-bound [Highlights](#) magazines, minus [Goofus and Gallant](#). Meant to be written in, cut up, and thrown away, they are probably the most inherently disposable books ever printed. But even these pedestrian tomes can become high art in the right hands, and Princeton University's Cotsen Children's Library has created an [online exhibition](#) to prove it."...

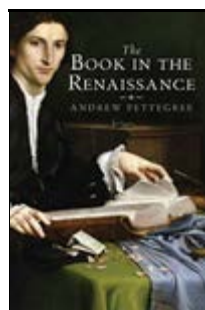
Booktryst, Nov. 8



50 books about books, 2009–2010

Rebecca Rego Barry and Jeremy Dibbell write: "We're offering this list of 50 remarkable nonfiction books about books from the past year. Some titles you will remember having read about in *Fine Books and Collections* magazine or on the [blog](#), while others may have slipped by unnoticed. It's hard to keep up. So we've composed an extensive list of recently published books that will appeal to readers and collectors. As a bonus, we've added a list of the top 10 novels about books from the past year."...

Fine Books and Collections, Nov.



Actions & Answers

The sad state of New Jersey school libraries

April Bunn writes: "Is this some kind of nightmare? No, it's really happening. New Jersey is broke and they're coming down hard on everyone, especially education, to help make up much of the \$2-billion deficit. Our relationship with the state government is so bad that even acting Commissioner of Education Rochelle Hendricks decided not to address teachers at last week's New Jersey Education Association convention, a tradition for years. The budget cuts were beyond devastating, with hundreds of positions lost."...

Library Garden, Nov. 7



We can't afford not to create a National Digital Library System

David Rothman writes: "There is one thing I currently cannot do with my Kindle despite all the sizzle in the commercials—read public library books. Local libraries do not use the Kindle format for their electronic collections, relying instead on rival standards used by Sony Readers and certain other devices. Amazon undoubtedly would love to fix this under terms favorable to CEO Jeff Bezos and friends. But other issues will remain. Might the time have finally come for a well-stocked national digital library system for the United States, a cause I've publicly advocated since 1992?"...

The Atlantic, Nov. 5

[Giving patrons a reason to come inside](#)

Emily Lloyd writes: "At times, I've found it hard to imagine why people getting most of their books and services through the library's digital branch would come into the library building unless they didn't have their own computers or were coming for storytime. But what if there were neat, social, community-building opportunities for patrons to engage in whenever they happened to step foot in the library? That didn't require planning on the library's part? That helped people to learn and to better use our resources? Here's what I'm thinking."...

Shelf Check, Oct. 28



[Study: College students lack basic research skills](#)

Only 30% of 8,353 college students recently polled say they have asked a librarian for research help, according to the latest online [Project Information Literacy Progress Report](#) of 25 college campuses nationwide. The survey also revealed that the sources students cited most often were course readings, search engines like Google, and scholarly research databases. Alison J. Head, a co-principal project investigator, said the findings show that college students see research as a hunt for the right answer instead of an evaluation of different arguments to come up with their own interpretation....

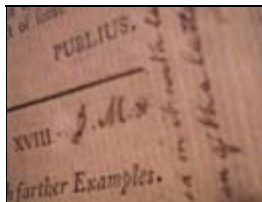
Wired Campus, Nov. 9

[Undisclosed discourse: Pros and cons](#)

Emily Ford writes: "Hiding our identities allows us to break accepted social practice. There is nothing inherently unethical or wrong with creating a character in Second Life or engaging in gender swapping or other identity experiments online.

However, the realm of library professional discourse is not where this kind of experimentation or use of nondisclosure should occur. Undisclosed publishing can be used to insult, act violently, and lash out in a way that defies our understanding of social contract and accepted norms of professional behavior. It can easily lead down the path of snarky and negative venting that is wholly unproductive."...

In the Library with the Lead Pipe, Nov. 10



[Survey on public library privatization](#)

The Library Research Service at the Colorado State Library has launched a 60-second survey to get your opinions about privatization. Do you think privatization is a good option for libraries? How would it affect library collections, services, staff, and patrons? Take a moment to [take the survey](#), voice your opinion, and pass it on to your colleagues....

Library Research Service News, Nov. 8

[Finding graphic novels in an academic library](#)

Karen Green writes: "Academic libraries are beginning to embrace graphic novels for their circulating collections as materials appropriate for teaching and research. Unfortunately, because of inconsistencies in the Library of Congress Classification model, locating graphic novels in an academic library collection can be challenging. And if you're a creator who has self-published a book without an ISBN, then



your book may never surface at a library. I keep a spreadsheet on my office computer in order to know what we have in our collection. My patrons are not so fortunate.”...

Publishers Weekly, Nov. 9

[Rural library outreach is part of free-choice learning](#)

Rural and small-town libraries are part of the forces being tapped to improve the science literacy of Americans through lifelong, “free-choice learning” opportunities in which people learn scientific, engineering, and technical information somewhere other than in school. A new initiative, supported by a \$2.5-million grant from the National Science Foundation, will help rural librarians tap into scientific expertise in their local communities, organize local events, provide video and other supporting materials, and essentially create adult “science clubs” across the nation....

Science Blog, Nov. 9

[The crisis in the humanities](#)

Wayne Bivens-Tatum writes: “It is sometimes distressing to hear about the crisis in the humanities, especially the heated rhetoric of late. The scenarios from ARL threw a few sops to the humanities, but the general assumption seemed to be they would disappear from research universities within 20 years. But search JSTOR for the phrase ‘crisis in the humanities.’ The phrase first appears in a JSTOR journal in 1922, and from 1940 on becomes a steady stream of complaints. There has been a *sense* of crisis in the humanities almost as long as there have been departments of humanities.”...

Academic Librarian, Nov. 5

[The Merna mystery quilt](#)

There is a mystery at the Brenizer Public Library in Merna, Nebraska. Not one between the covers of a book, but one that unfolds much like the plot of a mystery story.

Director Vickie Burnett (right) got a call one day about an old quilt with a connection to Merna that had been purchased in Chicago.



The caller donated the quilt, which turned out to consist of 46 blocks covered with 230 names of local people and businesses embroidered in bright red thread. A newspaper search revealed it was made in Merna in 1892. But how did it get to Chicago?...

The Fence Post: Plains Edition, Nov. 6

[Taking care of your own archives](#)

Catherine Shteynberg writes: “As a part of the October Archives Month celebrations, Smithsonian Institution Archives experts answered some questions about how to take care of personal archives. The Facebook [Q&A session](#) we held was a great success, and so we wanted to highlight some of the interesting questions that came out of that. A big thumbs up to our two SIA experts, Paper Conservator Nora Lockshin and Electronic Archivist Lynda Schmitz Fuhrig, for taking the time to answer these questions.”...



O Say Can You See?, Nov. 8

[Remembering our veterans](#)

Angela Hanshaw writes: “In honor of Veterans Day, I thought I’d highlight the [Veterans History Project](#) of the American Folklife Center. Created in

2000, the project 'collects, preserves, and makes accessible the personal accounts of American war veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war.' How are libraries honoring Veterans Day? Many are closed for the day, but there are some with programs scheduled before or on the holiday." Watch the [Library of Congress video](#) (1:01)....

Programming Librarian, Nov. 4; YouTube, Nov. 10



[UConn library to loan bicycles](#)

Getting around the University of Connecticut's Storrs campus will soon be a little easier. A bike-sharing pilot program is set to begin in the coming months. UConn students, faculty, or staff will be able to check out one of 20 bicycles from the Homer Babbidge Library and use it to get around campus for the day. The program will allow anyone with a current university ID to borrow a bike through the library's iDesk, which will provide helmets and keys for the bike locks....

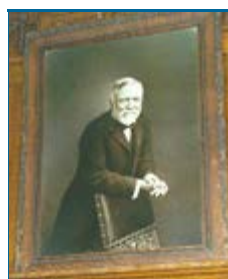
UConn News, Oct. 28



[Top 10 library history websites](#)

Larry Nix writes: "There are a number of top 10 library-related lists around. George Eberhart even has a book about them: [The Librarian's Book of Lists](#). I was pleased to be selected as one of the [10 Librarian Blogs to Read in 2010](#) by LISNews. So I thought I would do my bit to promote more good library history websites by identifying what I consider to be the top 10 library history websites. I would be happy to get your nominations for additional sites."...

Library History Buff Blog, Nov. 5



[Yale gets \\$10 million for new School of Management Library](#)

Wilbur L. Ross, CEO and chairman of W. L. Ross & Co. LLC, has pledged \$10 million to support the construction of the new Yale School of Management campus in New Haven, Connecticut. Ross's gift, among the largest by an individual backing the new campus, is directed toward the library in the new building, which will be a state-of-the-art facility supporting teaching and research. The campus is expected to open in the fall of 2013....

Yale School of Management, Nov. 4



[30 more bundts in 30 days](#)

Mary the Food Librarian, a Los Angeles-based librarian and baking aficionado, has once again taken it upon herself to prepare 30 different bundt cakes leading up to National Bundt Day on November 15. The [action started](#) October 17, so there are only five bundts left. If you make a bundt for National Bundt Day, Mary will send you an [I Like Big Bundts button](#). She says: "The bundt cake so rocks. I love cake. I hate frosting."



The bundt is my friend. Bundt cakes can be eaten at breakfast, lunch, or dinner."...

The Food Librarian, Nov. 10

[Best library-related videos using Xtranormal](#)

Aaron Tay writes: "[Xtranormal](#) has the tagline, 'If you can type, you can make movies,' and it's really that simple. Select a background, select one or two characters, type in dialogue, select a couple of camera angles and special animations using point and click, and you get a cartoon-animated movie with no programming required. It's mostly free and quite flexible. Here are some of the most entertaining library-related ones—though not all are complimentary."...

Musings About Librarianship, Oct. 28



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american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | November 17, 2010

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american libraries BUYERS GUIDE

American Libraries Online

[How to be prepared in case violence strikes](#)

Beverly Goldberg writes: "The library workplace is no more immune to violent incidents than any other venue, sad to say, and just as vulnerable to physical attacks by troubled colleagues as from visitors. Noting that it's 'ingrained in us to stop, drop, and roll' if we're caught in a fire, Richard Paustenbaugh, chair of ALA's Library Safety/Security Discussion Group, asserted, 'People rarely do any planning for encountering an individual in a violent setting in your building.'"...

American Libraries feature



[Giving out money at the library](#)

Barb Chase writes: "Here's the problem: How does Suzie Senior find out about the local Kiwanis scholarship? Or the one offered by the local hospital? Or the one offered by the local cancer support group? A reference librarian can gather this information and perform a great service. It is a way we can enhance the library's value to the community—especially in these economic times. It's easy."...

American Libraries feature



[American Libraries eGov webinar](#)

As government agencies continue to digitize forms and services, libraries are often the only organizations that can help citizens interact with these agencies and access e-government resources. Register for this free December 9 webinar (2:30–4 p.m. Eastern time), cosponsored by *American Libraries*, the Office for Research and Statistics, and the ALA Washington Office. Panelists include Judy Hoffman, Nancy Fredericks, John Bertot, and Bill Sudduth....

American Libraries

[Turning donated fabric into book bags](#)

Brett Bonfield writes: "The Collingswood (N.J.) Public Library recently put out a call to the creative people in its community who like to sew,



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either by machine or by hand. The plan is for crafty folks to make one-of-a-kind fabric book bags—which also happen to be good for shopping, toting, and general all-around using—out of donated fabric. The library’s Friends group will then sell the finished bags for \$10 each at the library, helping to fund library programs, books, and other projects.”...

AL: Green Your Library, Nov. 11

ALA News

[Ted Danson at the Midwinter Meeting](#)

ALA President Roberta Stevens announced November 11 that actor Ted Danson (right) will be featured at her President’s Program on January 9, during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego. Stevens said that “few realize that over the course of the past 25 years, Danson has devoted himself tirelessly to the cause of heading off a looming global catastrophe—the massive destruction of the oceanic biosystems and the complete collapse of the world’s major commercial fisheries.”...



AL: Inside Scoop, Nov. 12

[Big-name authors at Midwinter](#)

From the Youth Media Awards, the RUSA Book Awards, and the “Spotlight on Adult Literature” to Neil Gaiman (right), Armistead Maupin, Richard Rhodes, Kathy Reichs, and Ted Danson, the ALA Midwinter Meeting promises a rich feast for attendees who enjoy hearing from and interacting with authors. Here’s a day-by-day snapshot of author-related events....



Conference Services, Nov. 16

[ALA to honor Dr. King’s legacy](#)

Michael K. Honey (right), professor of labor and ethnic studies at the University of Washington Tacoma, will be the keynote speaker at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Sunrise Celebration during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego, 6:30–7:30 a.m., January 10. This year’s Sunrise Celebration will be themed “Everybody Can Be Great.”...



Office for Literacy and Outreach, Nov. 16

[National Video Game Tournament results](#)

This year’s tournaments for National Gaming Day @ your library were the most successful NGD events yet. The Ann Arbor (Mich.) District Library defeated a strong team from the Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library to take home the NGD10 Super Smash Bros. Brawl tournament crown. And the Average Joes from Chicago Public Library’s YOUmedia won the Rock Band High Score contest. A big thank you to all of the participating libraries and their teams....

National Gaming Day @ your library blog, Nov. 17

[Does your community know what respectful discourse sounds like?](#)

Your library’s public programming can be a model of community



[ALA Midwinter Meeting](#) in San Diego, California, January 7–11, 2011. Join colleagues for “[An Afternoon with Neil Gaiman and Nancy Pearl](#),” 2–3 p.m., January 9. Librarian and NPR commentator Nancy Pearl will interview Newbery and Carnegie Medal–winner Neil Gaiman.



[Emma Watson](#) has starred as Hermione Granger in all of the Harry Potter films, for which she has been recognized with a number of awards. In this **Celebrity READ poster**, she is holding Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*. **NEW!**
From ALA Graphics.



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collaboration, problem-solving, and productive conversation through successful book groups, community forums, and board meetings. Learn more about facilitating positive, engaging, and thought-provoking conversations at "The Art of Discussion Facilitation: Essential Tools for Public Programs and Beyond," a day-and-a-half Midwinter Institute to be held in San Diego, January 6–7....

Public Programs Office

[JobLIST Placement Center to host open house, career counseling](#)

As part of its continuing efforts to help job seekers retool their skills and prepare for job searches, the ALA JobLIST Placement Center will host an open house 10:30 a.m.–noon on January 9, during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego. Free [career counseling sessions](#) by career development coach Caitlin Williams will also be available January 8–9 in the Placement Center....

Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment, Nov. 16

[Call for ALA-APA committee volunteers extended](#)

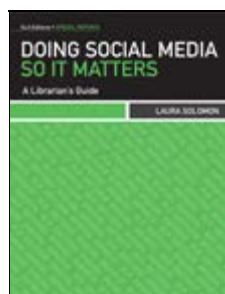
ALA–Allied Professional Association President-Elect Molly Raphael is seeking applications and nominations for appointments to 2011–2012 ALA-APA committees. The deadline for nominations is now November 30. Appointments take effect at the conclusion of the 2011 Annual Conference. Applicants must complete and submit an electronic [volunteer form](#)....

ALA–Allied Professional Association, Nov. 16

[Social media for libraries](#)

It is difficult enough to keep abreast of social media websites like Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, and LinkedIn, let alone understand how they fit into today's library. To address that, ALA Editions has released [Doing Social Media So It Matters: A Librarian's Guide](#) by Laura Solomon. This practical resource brings together current information on the topic in a concise format that's easy to digest....

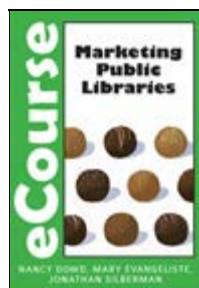
ALA Editions, Nov. 16



[New online marketing course for public libraries](#)

ALA Editions has adapted an online [Marketing Public Libraries](#) course from its bestselling book, [Bite-Sized Marketing: Realistic Solutions for the Overworked Librarian](#) by Nancy Dowd, Mary Evangeliste, and Jonathan Silberman. This web-based, self-paced tutorial offers a succinct overview of social networking, interactive information sharing, and other technologies ideal for marketing public libraries....

ALA Editions, Nov. 12



[Sharpen your supervisory skills](#)

ALA Editions is making available a [Library Supervision eCourse](#) adapted from Joan Giesecke and Beth McNeil's bestselling book, [Fundamentals of Library Supervision](#). This web-based, self-paced tutorial provides information and tools to effectively manage library staff and addresses specific opportunities for both veterans and newcomers to sharpen their management styles....

ALA Editions, Nov. 16



New this week in American Libraries



[When Violence Strikes](#)

[eGov Webinar](#)

[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Green Your Library](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

[Librarian's Library](#)

[AL Focus](#)

Great Libraries of the World



[Enoch Pratt Free Library](#), Baltimore,

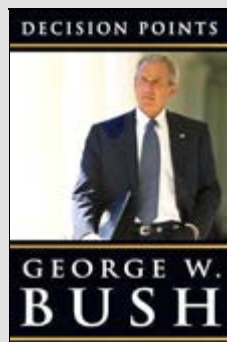
Maryland. Founded in 1882 by industrialist and banker Enoch Pratt, the library [opened](#) its central building in January 1886, followed by four branches within the next three months. The current facility was constructed in 1931–1933 and significantly expanded

Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: U.S. history

Bush, George W. *Decision Points*. 512p. Nov. 2010. Crown, hardcover (978-0-307-59061-9).

George W. Bush's decisions were all correct. It was just the aftermath that sometimes became muddled. That, at least, is the impression one gets after reading this surprisingly robust memoir. This is the George Bush who insists that "everybody" believed there were weapons of mass destruction, that much of the blame for the post-Katrina fiasco should be put on Louisiana's local governments, and that Harriet Miers would have made a fine Supreme Court justice, but there are also some fascinating reveals, including his affection for Ted Kennedy, his sometimes-complicated relationship with Dick Cheney, and his read-between-the-lines digs at Colin Powell. Smartly dividing the book into themes rather than telling the story chronologically, Bush offers readers a genuine (and highly readable) look at his thought processes as he made huge decisions that will affect the nation and the world for decades....



Board game starter kit

Scott Nicholson writes: "There is a long history of board and card games in libraries. Bridge, Scrabble, and chess have been played in libraries for decades; in fact, the oldest U.S. chess club was started in a library in the 1850s and still meets there. Just as libraries offer other forms of media created recently, libraries should add modern board games to their collections of classics. Here are seven tabletop games that are engaging and easy to learn, can be played and completed quickly, and will draw patrons in with queries of 'What is that?' and 'Can I try?'"...



Video game starter kit

J. P. Porcaro writes: "My early memories of libraries are nostalgic and warm, full of good experiences.

I have those feelings for video games, too. Memories of my entire family and all our friends sitting around our Nintendo Entertainment System, laughing and playing *Super Mario Bros. 3*, are the most cherished moments of my childhood. I cherish those memories because of the time I spent with others. Combining the experience of video games and the experience of libraries is a perfect fit as we transform libraries from temples of books to centers for community engagement. For librarians who haven't started their own video-game programs, these two collections offer great starting points, in the words of Toadstool in *SMB3*, that should 'help you on your way.'"...



and renovated in 2003. The new wing contains the [Maryland](#) and [African American](#) departments, as well as special collections and extensive materials related to the life and work of Baltimore journalist [H. L. Mencken](#).



George Peabody Library

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland. The historic collection of the Peabody Institute, established in 1857 as a music conservatory, has served students at the Johns Hopkins Peabody campus since 1982. It [opened](#) in 1878 and was designed by Baltimore architect Edmund George Lind in collaboration with Nathaniel H. Morison, who described it as a "cathedral of books." The Greek Revival interior features an atrium that soars 61 feet to a latticed skylight surrounded by five tiers of ornamental cast-iron balconies and gold-scalloped columns. In accordance with the provisions of George Peabody's original gift, the library is a noncirculating collection open to the general public.

This AL Direct feature showcases 250 libraries around the world that are

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

San Diego Update

[UCSD's Geisel Library: Urban Legends](#)

Geisel Library, the University of California, San Diego's largest library, has its fair share of urban legends. Its staff repeatedly has to separate the fact from the fiction for patrons, so Barbara Henderson and Charles (Bud) Stem put together this FAQ that clarifies which films and TV shows the library has actually appeared in, whether Dr. Seuss gave money to build the library, whether it is sinking because of the weight of the books, and the truth about the rooftop dissertation toss....

UCSD Libraries



[San Diego Museum of Man](#)

The exhibitions of the world-renowned Museum of Man, at 1350 El Prado in Balboa Park, are a major resource for the San Diego community. Permanent exhibits explore the Maya, ancient Egypt, the Kumeyaay Indians of San Diego County, human evolution, and the human life cycle. The exhibits are used extensively in the region's school curricula to study ancient history, local history, indigenous cultures, and health sciences. A new special exhibit, "Strange Bones: Curiosities of the Human Skeleton," opened in October....

San Diego Museum of Man



[Up in arms over airport security](#)

If you could put three faces on the emerging public reaction to new government procedures for screening airline passengers, they'd be anger, resignation, and confusion. Thanksgiving travelers who haven't flown recently will for the first time encounter full-body scans that can see under clothing, and possibly "enhanced pat-downs" that require TSA officers to run their hands over the genitals of same-gender passengers to look for hidden objects. At the San Diego airport on November 13, a man calling himself Johnny Edge [refused](#) both the scan and the grope and was [threatened](#) with \$10,000 in fines; he [recorded](#) the encounter. The ACLU is [looking into](#) reports of pat-down abuse....

Chicago Tribune, Nov. 15; <insert title here>, Nov. 13-14; ACLU, Oct. 29

Division News

[First issue of *Journal of Research on Libraries and Young Adults*](#)

In November, YALSA launched the inaugural issue of its new, open-access, peer-reviewed electronic research journal, the [Journal of Research on Libraries and Young Adults](#). The journal will be published quarterly, with issues following in February, May, and August. The first issue highlights paper presentations from YALSA's Young Adult Literature Symposium, held November 5-7 in Albuquerque....

YALSA, Nov. 16

notable for their exquisite architecture, historic collections, and innovative services. If you find yourself on vacation near one of them, be sure to stop by for a visit. The entire list will be available in [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart, which is scheduled for publication in 2011 by ALA Editions.

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LATEST
CONTENT

[Discover Clues to our Culture through Television History](#)



[Books for Babies Helps Parents Develop their Newborns' Reading Habits.](#)

[Pursue Your Passion: Artist](#)

[Lemmon's Love of Books Began with Libraries](#)

[Costly Home Equity Loans](#)

[Classic Films for Movie Night: The Magnificent Seven](#)

[Donna Seaman Interviews Author Robert Olen Butler](#)

[Register for "Genealogy Happens!"](#)

Advance registration will close November 29 for "Genealogy Happens! At the Genealogy Reference Desk," a 2011 Midwinter Institute offered by the ALA genealogy experts, the RUSA History Section. This full-day event, sponsored by ProQuest, is a not-to-be-missed learning experience for reference librarians of all levels of expertise, with coverage of both basic genealogy reference skills and more detailed topics....

RUSA, Nov. 16

[Online course on "The Reference Interview"](#)

Librarians and staff at all types of libraries looking to improve their performance at the reference desk are encouraged to sign up for "[The Reference Interview](#)," an online course offered by RUSA from November 29 through January 14. Taught by renowned reference librarian David Tyckoson, the course is administered using Moodle, an online management tool. [Registration](#) for this course is open through November 23....

RUSA, Nov. 15

[ACRL e-Learning call for proposals](#)

ACRL is now accepting proposal submissions for the ACRL e-Learning program. Submissions are being accepted for live webcasts and asynchronous online courses. Proposals must be submitted via the online submission form by December 17. The [full call](#) for proposals, including a link to the [submission form](#), is online....

ACRL, Nov. 11

[Catch up on teen services trends](#)

School librarians, teen services librarians, young adult librarians, and others who work with teens in libraries can now access previously recorded [YALSA webinars](#). While YALSA members will continue to enjoy complimentary access to archived webinars, all others can purchase previously recorded sessions for \$19 per webinar. The webinars are hour-long sessions led by experts who offer guidance on the latest trends....

YALSA, Nov. 16

[AASL membership gets even more rewarding](#)

From September 1 through December 31, new or renewing AASL members will receive 10,000 [Capstone Rewards points](#) that can be redeemed for books with Capstone and their collective imprints. These Capstone Rewards points are valued at \$100 and are a gift simply for being a member of AASL....


AASL, Nov. 16

[National Friends of Libraries Week survey](#)

ALTAFF is seeking feedback from Friends of the Library groups to help shape the future of National Friends of Libraries Week. Library directors and library staff who work with Friends groups are also invited to respond to the [short survey](#). Responses will help determine whether to keep the celebration in October or move it to another time of the year, what additional resources and materials ALTAFF should develop, and how groups celebrate the event in their community. The survey will be open through December 15....

ALTAFF, Nov. 11



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YALSA JobLIST



ROCK AND ROLL
HALL OF FAME + MUSEUM

[Public Services Librarian](#)

Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, Cleveland, Ohio. The Public Services Librarian reports to the Director of Library and Archives and coordinates all aspects of public services functions for the Library and Archives and its users. Required: Master's degree from an ALA-accredited program in library or information science; three or more years experience providing reference service and instruction in a music library or archives, preferably in an academic setting; experience in library instruction and/or other teaching experience; knowledge of public services policies and practices in music libraries; understanding of key issues and current trends in music library reference service; knowledge of

[ASCLA Virtual Convergence webinars](#)

ASCLA invites all members of the library community to engage in online learning with the 2011 Virtual Convergence—a series of professional development webinars ([PDF file](#)) that will be held in January immediately following the ALA Midwinter Meeting. The Convergence will offer one-hour webinars January 18–21 on many topics that will appeal to a broad range of library types and job functions....

ASCLA, Nov. 10

[Present a YALSA poster session](#)

The YALSA Research Committee invites library and information science faculty, students, and practicing librarians to propose a poster session at the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans, June 23–28. Posters may represent any portion of the researcher’s or research team’s work, including the theoretical framework, research methodology, findings, and conclusions. For guidelines, read over the [YALSA Research Agenda](#). [Applications](#) are due by January 31....

YALSA, Nov. 16

[Call for Table Talk presenters](#)

YALSA is trying something new at the 2011 ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans—a Table Talk presentation. Instead of one topic dominating an entire presentation session, the Teen Services Mashup Table Talks will have multiple sessions running simultaneously, allowing attendees to get a broad sampling of ideas in a short amount of time. If you want to share some of your ideas, apply to be a presenter by March 4....

YALSA Blog, Nov. 12

Awards

[Five libraries win National Medal](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has selected five libraries and five museums to receive the 2010 National Medal for Museum and Library Service. The National Medal is the nation’s highest honor for museums and libraries that make extraordinary civic, educational, economic, environmental, and social contributions. The library winners are Nashville (Tenn.) Public Library (right); Patchogue-Medford (N.Y.) Library; Peter White Public Library, Marquette, Michigan; Rangeview Library District and Anythink Libraries, Adams County, Colorado; and West Bloomfield Township (Mich.) Public Library. Watch the [IMLS video](#) (6:01)....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Nov. 16; YouTube, Nov. 16



[FLIP workshop winners](#)

ALSC has announced the winners of an all-expense-paid family literacy training workshop at the Children’s Museum of Houston, funded through a National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. ALSC is a national dissemination partner in the grant. Ten ALSC members partnered with their local children’s museum for the Family Literacy Involvement Program (FLIP) workshop to be held at the CMH on May 18, 2011....

ALSC, Nov. 10



music literature and resources used in music libraries....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The [Digital South Asia Library](#) provides digital materials for reference and research on South Asia to scholars, public officials, business leaders, and other users. This project builds upon a two-year pilot project funded by the Association of Research Libraries’ Global Resources Program with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Participants in the Digital South Asia Library include leading U.S. universities, the Center for Research Libraries, the South Asia Microform Project, the Committee on South Asian Libraries and Documentation, the Association for Asian Studies, the Library of Congress, the Asia Society, the

[Nominations sought for Hamilton lifetime achievement award](#)

ALA is accepting nominations for the Coretta Scott King–Virginia Hamilton Practitioner Lifetime Achievement Award. The award pays tribute to the quality and magnitude of author Virginia Hamilton's exemplary contributions through her literature and advocacy for children and youth, especially in her focus on African-American life, history and consciousness. Nominations ([Word file](#)) will be accepted through December 15....

Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, Nov. 12

[Submit a paper for the LITA student writing award](#)

LITA is offering an award for the best unpublished manuscript submitted by a student or students enrolled in an ALA-accredited graduate program. Sponsored by LITA and Ex Libris, the award consists of \$1,000, publication in *Information Technology and Libraries (ITAL)*, and a certificate. The deadline for [submission](#) of the manuscript is February 28....

LITA, Nov. 16

[IGI Global's Midwinter Meeting travel stipend](#)

Publisher IGI Global has launched an Excellence in Academic Librarianship Award that will provide one librarian with a \$500 stipend for his or her attendance at the ALA 2011 Midwinter Meeting in San Diego. To apply, submit a 250-word essay by December 10 that describes how the Midwinter Meeting will expand knowledge of how publishers and librarians can best interact to further the availability of knowledge resources....

IGI Global

[South Carolina Library Association supports Spectrum](#)

The South Carolina Library Association has announced its support of the ALA Spectrum Scholarship Program and the Spectrum Presidential Fundraising Initiative. SCLA sponsored a fundraiser on October 21 and raised more than \$600 in contributions. Those in attendance enjoyed food and fellowship as they learned about the importance of the Spectrum Scholarship in encouraging increased diversity in the library profession....

Spectrum Scholarship Program, Nov. 12



[Frommer's 2010 Library Display Contest winners](#)

Travel-guide publisher Frommer's (an imprint of Wiley) has announced the winners of its 2010 Library Display Contest. The grand prize went to the John F. Germany Library in Tampa, Florida, for its [interactive display](#) that spanned five floors of the library and featured giant postcards with images of destinations across the globe. The postcards, complete with an Arthur Frommer stamp and postmark, doubled as a photo-op by allowing people to insert themselves into each scene (above)....

Wiley, Nov. 15



[2010 Empire State Award](#)

Cynthia DeFelice is the 2010 recipient of the Empire State Award for Excellence in Literature for Young

British Library, the University of Oxford, the University of Cambridge, MOZHI in India, the Sundarayya Vignana Kendram in India, Madan Puraskar Pustakalaya in Nepal, and other institutions in South Asia. DSAL is a project of the Center for Research Libraries and the University of Chicago. Image collections include the Glenn Hensley Photo Library (World War II), the American Institute of Indian Studies, the Government College of Arts and Crafts in Chennai, the Oriental and India Office Collections, and the Robert Keagle and Frank Bond photo libraries (World War II).

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

"I believe in simplicity. One of my favorite expressions is, 'It's better to light one candle than to curse the darkness.' Every time that a library closes, we blow a candle out.... You need to make the case in a rather dramatic way—that this is like eating seed corn. It makes no sense."

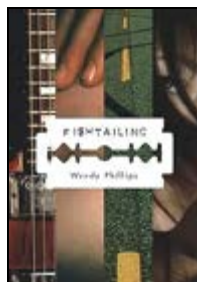
—Political consultant and commentator James Carville

People, which was presented November 5 by the New York Library Association's Youth Services Section. The award honors a living author or illustrator living in New York State for a body of work that represents excellence in children's or young adult literature. DeFelice is the author of *Signal* (Farrar, 2009) and 28 other books...
New York Library Association, Nov. 5



[School librarian wins Governor General Literary Award](#)

Wendy Phillips, school librarian at the A. R. MacNeill Secondary School in Richmond, British Columbia, has won the Governor General Literary Award for fiction for her first novel, *Fishtailing*. The YA work tells the story of four teenagers through poems, with each piece of free verse in a character's voice and presented as an English-class assignment. "My inspiration comes from my students all the time," Phillips said. Administered by the Canada Council for the Arts, the \$25,000 award is given annually to the best English-language and French-language books....
Vancouver (B.C.) Sun, Nov. 16; Canada Council for the Arts



[Roald Dahl Funny Prize](#)

Louise Rennison has won Roald Dahl's 2010 Funniest Book for Children in the 7–14 age group for *Withering Tights* (HarperCollins), the first in a planned trilogy about the misadventures of Tallulah Casey. Louise Yates won in the category of Funniest Book for Children Aged Six and Under, with *Dog Loves Books* (Jonathan Cape), her tale about a dog who loves books. Established in 2008 by then-U.K. Children's Laureate Michael Rosen, the £2,500 awards (\$3,977 U.S.) are given by the [Booktrust](#), an independent charity in the United Kingdom....
The Guardian (U.K.), Nov. 17



[Galaxy National Book Awards](#)

The winners of the 2010 Galaxy National Book Awards, designed as a celebration of the best in British publishing, were announced at a star-studded gala awards ceremony held at the BBC Television Centre November 10. *One Day* by David Nicholls won the Popular Fiction Book of the Year Award, while *Zog*, a dragon tale by Julia Donaldson and illustrator Axel Scheffler, won the Children's Book of the Year Prize. American author Jonathan Franzen won the International Author of the Year Award for *Freedom*....
BBC News, Nov. 10



[Prime Minister's Literary Awards](#)

The winners of the 2010 Prime Minister's Literary Awards were announced November 8 by Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard at a special ceremony in Melbourne. The 2010 Fiction category winner was *Dog Boy* by Eva Hornung. The Children's Award went to *Star Jumps* by Lorraine Marwood, and the Young Adult winner was *Confessions of a Liar, Thief, and Failed Sex*

on how to fight library closings, keynote address, Special Libraries Association, Annual Conference, June 13.

@ [More quotes...](#)



TweetWatch

Follow:

National Council of Teachers of English, Annual Convention, Orlando, Florida, Nov. 18–21, at: [#ncte10](#)

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

Calendar

Feb. 18–20: [Alaska Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Centennial Hall, Juneau.

**Feb. 27–
Mar. 1:** [National Federation of Advanced Information Services](#), Annual Conference, Hyatt at the Bellevue, Philadelphia. "Taming the Information Tsunami: The New World of Discovery."

God by Bill Condon. Each of the category winners receives \$100,000 (\$97,346 U.S.)....

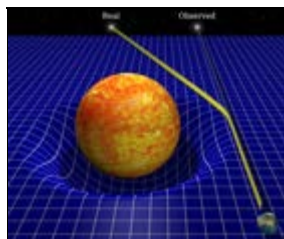
ABC News, Nov. 8



[The best physics websites](#)

The 2010 physics.org Web Awards honor the best sites dedicated to physics education and news. For every category, science fans nominated their favorite sites, and judges voted from the top five nominees. Theoretical physicist Ethan Siegel's blog, [Starts with a Bang!](#), which covers many topics from strange matter to why the dinosaurs went extinct, won both as best blog and as people's choice....

physics.org, Nov. 15



Seen Online

[Public libraries and cutbacks](#)

The Christian Broadcasting Network aired a story (4:16) on the increasing use of public libraries in the United States, coupled with a decline in their funding. The newscast featured interviews with ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels and Paula Kiely (right), director of the Milwaukee Public Library....

CBN News, Nov. 11



[The library's expanded mission](#)

Steve Lilienthal writes: "Working on Sundays at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library in Washington, D.C., I saw many people using computers to work on college papers, résumés, and job applications. It was a busy place. But nothing prepared me for the sights I saw when visiting the Queens (N.Y.) Public Library. On a Monday afternoon, the children's room is packed. Teens and older adults are in the adult section, using computers, reading newspapers. When budgeting next year, New York City and state officials should keep in mind that public libraries are serving the public well. They are far from obsolete."...

City Limits Magazine, Nov. 17



[The next big idea: Digital humanities](#)

Members of a new generation of digitally savvy humanists argue it is time to stop looking for inspiration in the next political or philosophical "ism" and start exploring how technology is changing our understanding of the liberal arts. This latest frontier is about method, they say, using powerful technologies and vast stores of digitized materials that previous humanities scholars did not have. But most humanities professors remain unaware or unconvinced that

Mar. 6–12:
[Teen Tech Week.](#)

Mar. 9–11:
[12th International Symposium on Information Science.](#)
University of Hildesheim, Germany.

Mar. 16:
[Freedom of Information Day.](#)

Mar. 23–25:
[Tennessee Library Association.](#) Annual Conference, Embassy Suites and Convention Center, Murfreesboro.

Apr. 2–9:
[Money Smart Week.](#)

Apr. 10–16:
[National Library Week.](#)

Apr. 12:
[National Drop Everything and Read Day.](#)

Apr. 13:
[National Bookmobile Day.](#)

Apr. 24–30:
[Preservation Week.](#)

Apr. 30:
[El día de los niños/El día de los libros](#)
(Children's Day/Book Day).

May 5–6:
[Academic Libraries 2011.](#) Amway Grand Plaza, Grand Rapids,

digital humanities has much to offer. Even historians, who have used databases before, have been slow to embrace the trend....

New York Times, Nov. 16

[Remnants of Springfield's Carnegie Library unearthed](#)

While clearing out a back lot near the northeast corner of the Illinois State Fairgrounds, Illinois Department of Agriculture employees stumbled on remnants of the 1904 Andrew Carnegie-funded Lincoln Library in Springfield, including parts of its ornate entranceway decorated with carved human and animal figures. The library was razed in 1974, but pieces of it were retained in what ground crews informally call the "bone yard." Lincoln Library Director Nancy Huntley remembers discussions about what to do with the leftover Carnegie pieces....

Springfield (Ill.) *State Journal-Register*, Nov. 10



[Bush Presidential Library groundbreaking at SMU](#)

With ceremonial shovels of red dirt, former President George W. Bush, Laura Bush, former Vice President Dick Cheney, and other dignitaries on November 16 [kicked off](#) construction of the George W. Bush Presidential Center at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. The library complex, designed by Robert A. M. Stern Associates, will open by February 2013. It will include a museum, a library and archives, a policy institute, and gift shops and cafés....

Dallas Morning News, Nov. 16; WFAA-TV, Dallas/Fort Worth, Nov. 16



[Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library offers a sneak peek](#)

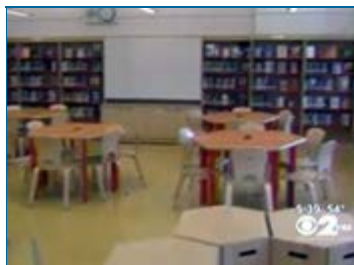
A special open house November 12 introduced the [Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library](#) to Indianapolis residents. Hundreds of people worked their way through the in-progress space, viewing historical artifacts related to Vonnegut's life (such as his typewriter, his Purple Heart, and an unopened letter from his father sent to him during WWII), several paintings by Vonnegut himself, and the 20-foot-long mural *Star Time*, which presents a timeline of important events in the author's life. Founder and President Julia Whitehead had the idea for the library in November 2008....

Indianapolis Star, Nov. 10



[Brand new Brooklyn school library, but no librarian](#)

After more than six years of having no library at all, P.S. 9 in Prospect Heights, Brooklyn, has a beautiful new one. The Book Hive, as it is called, officially opened November 12, only to promptly shut its doors. The library, which serves two schools sharing the same building, will remain inactive until the schools can hire a librarian. Parents spearheaded the effort to fund and build the half-million-dollar project, but because of budget cuts, the New York Department of Education said it can't afford to hire



Michigan. Sponsored by the Michigan Library Association. "Innovate, Collaborate, Connect."

May 9–10:
[National Library Legislative Day.](#)

May 14–17:
[Acquisitions Institute.](#) Timberline Lodge, Mt. Hood, Oregon.

May 15–17:
[Ohio Valley Group of Technical Services Librarians.](#)

Conference, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. "Technical Services Renaissance."

May 21–26:
[Patent Information Users Group.](#) Annual Conference, Hyatt Regency, Cincinnati. "Best Practices Beyond Free-Text: The Value of Indexing and Classification When Searching and Analyzing Patents."

@ [More...](#)

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

anyone to staff the new space....

New York Times: The Local, Nov. 16; WCBS-TV, New York City, Nov. 15

[Paint vandals hit Newstead library](#)

Gallons of paint were poured from the roof of the Newstead Public Library in Akron, New York, early on the morning of November 12, covering the back windows, walls, and patio-reading area. Library Director Kristine Sutton (above) said the library's prized bronze statues, a gift from a local family, were not spared and might not be repairable....

WGRZ-TV, Buffalo, N.Y., Nov. 13



[Sonoma State University's mystery photos](#)

Most of the time, research librarians don't get much fan mail. But when Lynn Prime, digital projects librarian at Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park, California, took on the task of digitally storing a collection of 850 photographs taken throughout Sonoma County in the 1970s, she soon realized she needed help. So she approached the Santa Rosa newspaper, hoping to enlist the community's help in identifying the pictures and collecting background details....

Santa Rosa (Calif.) Press Democrat, Nov. 13



[Voices of abolition, restored](#)

For more than a century, the Boston Public Library's special collections department has held a vast trove of letters, newspapers, books, pamphlets, and artifacts from the personal collections of the six Weston Sisters, who formed the Boston Female Anti-Slavery Society in 1833. Thanks to an anonymous \$600,000 pledge through the nonprofit, independently operated Associates of the Boston Public Library, the collection is being preserved and made available for the first time on the library's [website](#). Watch the [video](#) (1:56)....

Boston Globe, Nov. 10



[Elgin trustee suspended from the library a third time](#)

A Gail Borden Public Library trustee has been suspended from the Elgin, Illinois, library for the third time. Randy Hopp cannot go on the grounds of the main library or the Rakow branch and can only attend board meetings with a security escort until June 2012 because of his treatment of library staff. Executive Director Carole Medal said Hopp has repeatedly displayed "aggressive, scary behavior," including a recent incident in which he demanded library documents....

Chicago TribLocal, Nov. 12

[Oregon library cat retires to avoid eviction](#)

On November 11, the Willamina, Oregon, city council voted 4-0 with one abstention to exclude all animals with the exception of service animals from public buildings. That means 14-year-old Agatha ("Agie") Christie, the community's beloved library cat, had to find a new



Beverly Goldberg,
Senior Editor:
bgoldberg@ala.org



Greg Landgraf,
Associate Editor:
glandgraf@ala.org



Leonard Kniffel,
Publisher,
American Libraries:
lkniffel@ala.org

Jennifer Henderson,
Contributing Researcher

To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:



Brian Searles:
bsearles@ala.org



Katie Bane:
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home. Head Librarian Melissa Hansen and Youth Services Librarian Denise Willms found one for the 14-year-old feline and decided to hold a retirement party November 20. Watch the [video](#) (1:49)....

McMinnville (Oreg.) News-Register, Nov. 12; New England Cable News, Nov. 13

[Walking the Great Wall for cancer research](#)

Rosemary Dunstan has completed her latest charity challenge by trekking along the Great Wall of China. Dunstan, the manager of Sonning Common Library in South Oxfordshire, England, was in a group that spent seven days walking up to seven hours a day along the Wall to raise money for the Institute of Cancer Research....

Henley (U.K.) Standard, Nov. 16



[Law school furious over Diesel lingerie ad](#)

The Brooklyn Law School events director who sat idly by during a racy Diesel [photo shoot](#) (possibly NSFW) in the library never told administrators that it involved a parade of underwear-clad men and women lounging among the law books. They didn't find out until eight months afterwards, when shocked students started seeing the sexy photos on the clothing company's website. Staffer Chris Gibbons had presided over the provocative photo shoot in March during the school's spring break. When the Italian clothing company rented the library for the session, officials thought that models would merely don Diesel denim....

New York Post, Nov. 12

[Naked NCSU student knocks library books from shelves](#)

A freshman was charged with assault and indecent exposure November 10 after he was found naked and knocking some 1,400 books off the shelves on the ninth floor of North Carolina State University's D. H. Hill Library. Police found Seth Pace just after 11 p.m. without his clothes, "agitated and in an altered mental state." A crowd of about 15 people stood by and watched the incident, and at least one [video](#) of the incident was posted online....

NCSU Technician, Nov. 12

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Saving our data from digital decay](#)

Digital objects require specific software to open and read them, which in turn requires specific operating systems, device drivers, and hardware to run them. Though the 0s and 1s of digitized information can succumb to the vagaries of technological change, analogue archives will always be readable to future generations. Steffen Schilke and Andreas Rauber [contend](#) that e-government archives might be safely stored using an alternative to digital media—the microfilm format beloved of spy fiction....

Science Daily, Nov. 16; *International Journal of Electronic Governance* 3, no. 3



[12 fun hacks for getting more out of YouTube](#)

Amy-Mae Elliott writes: "Plain old YouTube can be tons of fun, but when you get bored watching clips the traditional way, there are many sites that can help enhance the experience. The web community is known for creating hacks that improve your surfing experience; now we've dug into some of those tools and hacks built around YouTube. Here are our 12 choices."...

Mashable, Nov. 13

[The top 10 laptops](#)

Laarni Almendrala Ragaza writes: "The editors of *PC Magazine* test hundreds of systems each year to help you find the best laptop. There are a lot of them out there, from the large-screen desktop replacements to the lightweight ultraportables, but all share common features. In this story, we help you narrow your choices by reviewing the top 10 laptops on the market today."...

PC Magazine, Nov. 9



[It's all about geek cred](#)

For Friday Fun, Stephen Abram has gathered three lists by which you can measure your geek credibility: The [top 10 geek sins](#) that will get your geek cred revoked, [earn geek cred](#) by doing these 15 things, and [advanced geek cred](#)....

Stephen's Lighthouse, Nov. 12; ZDNet: Between the Lines, Oct. 22; TechRepublic, Aug. 6



[Bit.ly introduces URL bundles](#)

Jolie O'Dell writes: "Link-sharing service [bit.ly](#) has just launched a new tool for people who really, really love sharing links. Bit.ly Bundles allow you to package multiple long links in a single shortened URL. This is a highly useful feature with an almost endless string of use cases. You can tweet a string of YouTube videos or post a collection of study materials to Facebook—all with just one short URL."...

Mashable: Social Media, Nov. 15



[Mozilla develops social skills with F1](#)

Seth Rosenblatt writes: "Mozilla quietly introduced last week a new add-on for Facebook, Twitter, and Gmail users. [F1](#) is a secure and unobtrusive add-on that provides fast sharing of URLs via a dedicated navigation-bar button. It mimics one of the best features found in social-networking browsers without having to deal with the hassle of switching browsers, although the add-on is definitely still a bit rough." Watch the [video](#) (1:31)...

CNET News: The Download Blog, Nov. 15; Mozilla Labs



[Boxcar 4.0: An indispensable iPhone notifications app](#)

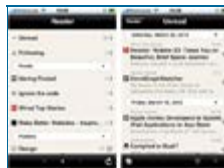
Matt Buchanan writes: "Currently, Boxcar is a most excellent app that straightforwardly pushes notifications from services like Twitter and Facebook to the iPhone. Boxcar 4.0 is going to make your iPhone feel like it has a million, constantly connected tentacles." M. G. Siegler [adds](#): "For example, notifications from Twitter now show up complete with the user's profile picture. And you can retweet or reply to any of those messages right from within Boxcar."...



Gizmodo, Nov. 12; TechCrunch, Nov. 12

[The best RSS reader apps](#)

John Herrman and Casey Chan write: "Reading news on a smartphone is a pain, *unless* you have a good RSS app. Here are the best. For iOS the Gold Medal goes to [Reeder](#), which has a smooth, intuitive and readable interface, especially after the high contrast option is enabled. For Android, the gold goes to [gReader](#), which can load full articles from truncated feeds and gives you the option to flip through articles with your phone's volume buttons."...



Gizmodo, Nov. 11

Publishing

[Did these fantasy stories really rip off Harry Potter?](#)

Charlie Jane Anders and Michael Ann Dobbs write: "In *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, opening next week, there are seven Harry Potters. But in real life, there have been way more Potters than that. Here's the complete list of stories that people have accused of copying Potter. Back in the day, it used to be that everybody accused Harry Potter of being an [imitation](#) of some older fantasy story—but now it's the other way around."...



io9, Nov. 11–12

[The battle for the right to lend e-books](#)

Tom Peters writes: "The battle for the right to lend e-books has begun. It is being fought in board rooms, in backrooms, and in bedrooms. It is being fought at sales counters and at circulation counters, by web counters and by bean counters. If I had it in me, this is the point where I would launch into some rousing rhetoric. Alas, I don't have it in me, so let's just look at some recent developments."...

ALA TechSource Blog, Nov. 15

[Building an e-reader collection at Duke University](#)

Sue Polanka writes: "I attended this fabulous and informative session during the Charleston Conference on building an e-reader collection by Aisha Harvey, Nancy Gibbs, and Natalie Sommerville of Duke University Libraries. First and foremost, according to the librarians, the e-reader lending program is a team approach and affects every aspect of the way we build collections in libraries—access, selection, cataloging, ref, and circ. Are people interested in the Kindles or the content? They found it was both."...

No Shelf Required, Nov. 12

[Nook Color review](#)

Joshua Topolsky writes: "It's hard to believe we're already writing a review of the Nook Color, considering Barnes & Noble's first foray into the e-reader world was revealed just over a year ago. The Nook Color is definitely a major step forward, boasting a completely revamped, Android-based OS, and a big push into the children's book and periodical market (particularly full color magazines). Beyond book reading, the Nook Color potentially offers a tablet alternative that can (or will be able to) do much of what is possible on an iPad or Galaxy



Tab." Watch the [video](#) (4:29)...

Engadget, Nov. 16

[What do you know about e-books?](#)

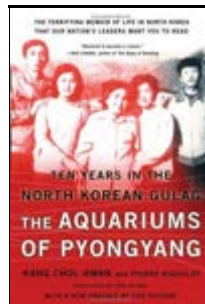
Kathryn Craft writes: "This week the Blood-Red Pencil is launching a series of posts about e-books. What do you know about this emerging segment of the publishing market? Take this quiz to see if you're up to speed."...

The Blood-Red Pencil, Nov. 15

[What was George W. Bush reading?](#)

Carolyn Kellogg writes: "George W. Bush's memoir *Decision Points* was published this week. Our reviewer Tim Rutten calls it 'unexpectedly engrossing.' Bush writes of the books that crossed his path during his eight years in office. There was, first and foremost, the Bible, which he says he read every morning. And there were a few others. Here are those that he mentions by name in *Decision Points*."...

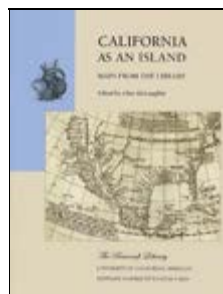
Los Angeles Times: Jacket Copy, Nov. 10



[Collecting keepsakes](#)

L. D. Mitchell writes: "One of the side benefits of membership in various bookish organizations is that it becomes relatively easy to amass, in a short period of time, all types of printed ephemera. Such organizations frequently promote and reward membership, for example, by publishing keepsakes, which are printed to commemorate these organizations' special programs or events, significant anniversaries, and festive occasions. They can take the form of broadsheets, posters, or pamphlets."...

The Private Library, Nov. 15



[Rara avis, rari libri, rare man](#)

Linda Hedrick writes: "John James Audubon, a Haitian-born man raised in France, had a vision, one that resulted in a monumental and important work—*The Birds of America*. Considered the world's most expensive book, one of the 119 extant copies will be available to the highest bidder this December 7, at Sotheby's auction. The last time a copy became available was at an auction at Christie's in 2000. That copy went for \$8.8 million, setting the record for an auctioned printed book."...

Booktryst, Nov. 16



Actions & Answers

[Michael Gorman on gaming in the library](#)

Former ALA President Michael Gorman was quoted in a recent [article](#) on libraries reinventing themselves: "If you want to have game rooms and pingpong tables and God knows what—poker parties—fine, do it, but don't pretend it has anything to do with libraries. The argument that all these young people would turn up to play video games and think, 'Oh by the way, I must borrow that book by Dostoyevsky'—it seems ludicrous to me." The remark has prompted comments in a number of blogs, among them [Agnostic. Maybe](#); [MG Farrelly](#); and [Information.Games](#)....

Los Angeles Times, Nov. 12; Agnostic, Maybe, Nov. 12–13; MG Farrelly, Nov. 12; Information.Games, Nov. 12

[ULC report on the future of libraries](#)

On November 8, the Chicago-based Urban Libraries Council released the report *Partners for the Future: Public Libraries and Local Governments Creating Sustainable Communities* ([ZIP file](#)). The 33-page report explains how public libraries can work with municipal and county governments to make their communities more economically prosperous, environmentally sustainable, and socially equitable....



Chicago Libraries Examiner, Nov. 11

[Google Book Settlement, le sequel](#)

Philip Jones writes: "So, before the revised Google Settlement is passed, Hachette Livre and Google have cooked up their own settlement in France. On the surface the deal looks to have answered some of those troubling uncertainties about the former deal, with control of scanned book—past, present, and future—coming firmly under the control of Hachette Livre. Books that Hachette deems not suitable for scanning will be removed from Google services. This also applies to works already scanned by Google."...

FutureBook, Nov. 17

[Literacy may steal brain power from other functions](#)

John Timmer writes: "The human brain, like those of mammals, contains many specialized regions. But literacy is only a few thousand years old, too little time for such a large evolutionary change. So, how did widespread literacy become possible? The authors of a [paper](#) released by *Science* November 11 suggest two possible explanations."...

Ars Technica: Nobel Intent, Nov. 11; *Science*, Nov. 11

[Online instruction grows unevenly](#)

Online instruction continues to grow quickly overall, according to the latest snapshot of online education programs in grades K–12. But the shape and pace of this growth remains uneven throughout the United States, and two states—Delaware and New York—still don't offer any opportunities for K–12 students to take classes online. That's according to the 2010 edition of *Keeping Pace with K-12 Online Learning* ([PDF file](#)), an annual review published by Evergreen Education Group....



eSchool News, Nov. 16

[Fading state school library conferences](#)

Doug Johnson writes: "I received over 20 interesting comments explaining why librarians don't attend their state conferences, in response to my post '[Library Conferences: Fading Away](#).' Scattered among the reasons for nonattendance were some heartfelt endorsements of this long-standing means of providing training, communications, collegiality, and inspiration. Are traditional state library conferences going the way of the eight-track tape? I'd suggest that school library associations ask themselves some important questions."...

Blue Skunk Blog, Nov. 11

[Digital and media literacy action plan](#)

The Aspen Institute and Knight Foundation have

released *Digital and Media Literacy: A Plan of Action* ([PDF file](#)), the second in a series of white papers focused on implementing recommendations of the Knight Commission's report, *Informing Communities: Sustaining Democracy in the Digital Age* ([PDF file](#)). The paper outlines steps that policymakers, educators, and community advocates can take to help Americans obtain digital and media literacy skills and thrive in the digital age. However, as Buffy Hamilton points out, the report leaves out [school librarians](#)....



KnightBlog, Nov. 10; The Unquiet Librarian, Nov. 11

[Can using Twitter make you smarter?](#)

David Zax writes: "To the dismay of more traditional professors, students have a new justification for pulling out smartphones in class: A semester-long study published November 12 in the *Journal of Computer Assisted Learning* [found](#) that, in a group of 125 students at a medium-sized public college in the Midwest, the 70 students who used Twitter to access information and complete class assignments earned GPAs a half-point higher than a non-tweeting control group." At least one professor [disputes](#) the reason for the grade boost...

Gizmodo, Nov 12; *Journal of Computer Assisted Learning*, Nov. 12; *Chronicle of Higher Education*: Wired Campus, Nov. 12

[Interview questions are a two-way street](#)

Steven Bell writes: "If there's one thing current and prospective academic librarians are always looking for, it's advice about job interviews. One of the most important parts of the interview process are the questions. You already know to anticipate them and be as prepared as possible. For example, you know someone is going to ask (probably more than once), 'Why do you want to work here?' You should have a good message prepared that communicates your passion for the position in a sticky way—so what you have to say is remembered."...

ACRLog, Nov. 16

["Bullying" has little resonance with teens](#)

Danah Boyd writes: "The cultural logic underpinning bullying is far more complex than most adults realize. Technology is not radically changing what's happening; it's simply making it far more visible. If we want to combat bullying, we need to start by understanding the underlying dynamics. And we need to approach interventions with an evaluation-based mindset. No amount of legislation requiring education is going to do squat until we actually find intervention mechanisms that work. And that starts with understanding what's happening."...



DMLCentral, Nov. 15

[Sarah hates filters](#)

Sarah Houghton-Jan writes: "It's no secret that I think internet filters are not only unethical and counter to everything librarians believe in, but that filters also don't work for crap. And now the filters are finally fighting back [evil grin]. Some customers of FortiGuard, WebSense, and Barracuda (filtering products marketed to schools and libraries) are reporting that the internet filters are blocking the San Jose Public

Library's [new website](#) (check out the features [here](#)) and marking it as spyware, spam, and/or inappropriate. Why? No way to know and no ideas why."...

Librarian in Black, Nov. 15–16

[Nine questions to ask before you accept a speaking gig](#)

Bobbi L. Newman writes: "I had a discussion with a friend this weekend about what questions we ask when accepting speaking invitations, and it occurred to me that this is the sort of thing I should blog for two reasons—first, I have some advice to share, and second, I'm sure someone will have advice to offer me. Number 1: Do I want to speak? Speaking is time consuming and hard work, so you might prefer to put your time and energy elsewhere."...

Librarian by Day, Nov. 14



[Access, library exceptions named top WIPO priorities](#)

The World Intellectual Property Organization closed its latest copyright meeting November 12 with a two-year plan to improve access for the print disabled and identify potential library exceptions in international treaty agreements. The Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights will devote several days of discussion at meetings in June and November 2011. The U.S. library community was well represented by the Library Copyright Alliance (of which ALA is a member), the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, and Electronic Information for Libraries....

District Dispatch, Nov. 15

[Columbia launches Jewish studies library](#)

The Columbia University Libraries in New York City have received a gift of \$4 million to establish the Norman E. Alexander Library for Jewish Studies. The gift includes three new endowments: a Jewish Studies librarian, the General Jewish Studies Collection, and the Special Collections in Judaica. The new Norman E. Alexander Librarian for Jewish Studies is Michelle Chesner, who joined Columbia in May. The new library will build on Columbia's strong tradition of rare book and archival Judaica resources....

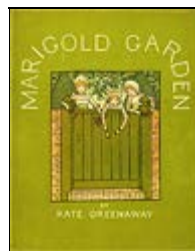
Columbia University, Oct. 28



[Emory acquires yellowback trove](#)

The Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library of Atlanta's Emory University has acquired 4,000 19th-century paperbacks and yellowbacks (British literature with yellow-glazed illustrated covers sold at railway bookstalls) collected by author Chester W. Topp. The Topp Collection includes a number of children's books by renowned author and illustrator Kate Greenaway. MARBL plans to digitize the collection, adding it to more than 1,200 yellowbacks it has already [made available online](#)....

Emory University, Nov. 15



[The future of the research library](#)

Wayne Bivens-Tatum writes: "How will we know what users 50 years from now will want from the collections we're building now? That's the

sort of question that research libraries have to consider. Depending on how extensive [patron-driven acquisition](#) is, it seems to me like a good idea. Or there is a chance that the future will be the rather fanciful one conceived in [this article](#), where libraries buy only the books patrons want and then give them to the patrons. The assumption is that Google Books and the HathiTrust will have most books digitized and preserved, and that everything else will be digitized and available at least as a license.”...

Academic Librarian, Nov. 12; *Chronicle of Higher Education*, Nov. 7; IUPUI ScholarWorks, July 22

[By indirections, find directions out](#)

Barbara Fister writes: “Having licensed materials behind a paywall creates headaches for student researchers. But what’s really discouraging is to think that by making them inaccessible to anyone who isn’t in the club, we are making the very idea of scholarship irrelevant except for school purposes. Open access is more than a convenience for scholars whose libraries can’t afford to buy or license everything they need. It’s the only way to consistently inject researched findings into public discourse about issues. And frankly, we all could use a little more of that.”...

Inside Higher Ed: Library Babel Fish, Nov. 15

[Americans help rebuild Haiti’s libraries](#)

Philip Kurata writes: “After an earthquake devastated Haiti in January, a student in South Carolina was so moved to help rebuild libraries in Haiti that he shaved his head, legs, and beard. Before shaving, Chess Schmidt, an LIS student at the University of South Carolina, vowed to fellow students that he would take the dramatic step if they contributed a total of \$750 to help Haiti rebuild its libraries. After his fundraiser netted \$950, the once-hairy Schmidt showed off his new look.”...

America.gov, Nov. 15



[Accidental research on overdue notices](#)

Richard James writes: “The Selbyville (Del.) Public Library staff recently found out that due to a combination of staff and management turnover and other factors, they had not sent out traditional overdue notices to their patrons since early 2009—both email and snail mail. This has been remedied, but it was informative to see what impact this had and speculate about the role and usefulness of library overdues and fine notifications based on the data available.”...

Delaware Division of Libraries, Nov. 14

[The Community Library: A success story](#)

J. Michael Jeffers writes: “Several months ago, I exchanged emails with Colleen Daly, executive director of the Community Library in Ketchum, Idaho. I was taken by the fact that a library existed with absolutely no government support. I went to their site to find out more about who they are and what they offer to the community. Frankly, I was inspired both by the humble origins of the library and their continuing success. I asked Daly for permission to share their history.”...

ALA Editions blog, Nov. 16

[Darlen Library = The Great](#)

[Good Place](#)

Barbara Thomas writes: "Great good places are defined as *third places*; in contrast to home (*first places*) and work (*second places*), third places are the heart of the community. After months and months of filming at Darien (Conn.) Library and getting to know us and our members, documentary filmmaker Manny Perez aptly named his film about us '[The Great Good Place](#)' (50:31)."...

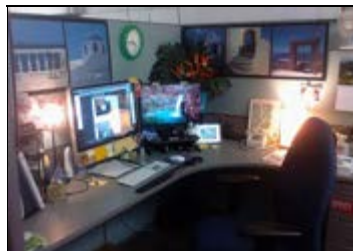
Darien (Conn.) Library, Nov. 15; Vimeo, Nov. 10



[A view from your desk](#)

Andy Woodworth writes: "Mostly inspired by the long-running [The View from Your Window](#) series on The Daily Dish and my own curiosity about the different types and styles of reference desk, I started a Tumblr blog called [A View from Your Desk](#). I'm hoping it will give people a glance into libraries and offices from all over the world. It will allow librarians to check out other libraries, and it can show everyone what it looks like to be in our seats. People can [submit](#) their own photographs for inclusion."...

Agnostic, Maybe, Nov. 9



[Gifts for library and book lovers](#)

Wondering what gift to get your book-loving friends? The California School Library Association has some suggestions—more than 75 products, ranging from small to tall, fashion, furniture, guy stuff, and kid stuff. The site is one way CSLA is promoting the California Campaign for Strong School Libraries and the new Model School Library Standards. There's more at their CafePress [website](#)....

Gift Guide for Library and Book Lovers



[How to help student workers hate life a little less](#)

Student worker Megan Schmidt writes: "I work at my university library and while I love my job, there are things I need to say. And dammit, I am tired of being the mild-mannered librarian, so it is full of bad language. 1) Don't reshelve books you pull off the shelf. We really, really, really hate it when you guys do this. This comes back to bite us in the ass later, because when we do shelf-reading we'll find that book that's out of order and then have to fix it."...

Awful in Love with You, Nov. 16

[Tiny books collection at the Museum of Science and Industry](#)

Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry opened its doors in 1933 and is the largest science museum in the Western Hemisphere. Part of its [Colleen Moore Fairy Castle](#) exhibit is a collection of miniature books, many of them containing autographs by such celebrities as Stephen Sondheim and Leonard Bernstein (right), Edward Albee, William Randolph Hearst, and F. Scott Fitzgerald. [Kate McGroarty](#), who won a [contest](#) to live at the museum for a month, discovered the collection, which is kept locked up because of its value....



Month at the Museum, Nov. 15; Associated Press, Nov. 16

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american libraries DIRECT

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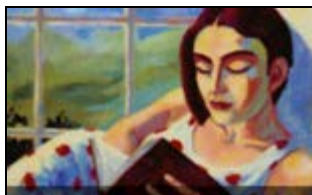
american libraries
BUYERS GUIDE

American Libraries Online

Youth Matters: A feeling for books

Jennifer Burek Pierce writes: "What's not to like about bibliotherapy? Bringing readers to books, whether fiction or nonfiction, that respond to personal problems and promote well-being seems like powerful testimony to the notion that reading changes lives. Bibliotherapy has been described as an extension of readers' advisory, a specialized kind of information provision, or even a means of healing. Seldom is it fully acknowledged as the province of another profession, yet psychologists train to use and evaluate the merits of bibliotherapy."...

American Libraries column, Nov./Dec.



Will's World: My own private bookmobile

Will Manley writes: "My car, a Subaru Outback, doubles as a library. There are always a lot of books in there. I never go anywhere without a copy of the Bible, the Qur'an, *Ulysses*, *Gravity's Rainbow*, assorted editions of Mother Goose, a complete collection of the Peter Rabbit series, and a vast and diverse array of brain-candy books. Why? Brain-candy books are perfect for red-light reading. You can open them up and peruse little random chunks of text without feeling as though you are wasting half of your life waiting for the traffic light to turn green."...

American Libraries column, Nov./Dec.

Begin with the end in mind

Laura Bruzas writes: "Libraries are filled to the brim with digital technology including PCs, printers, copiers, and scanners. When they work, it's great. But sooner or later, they all go south, and now e-waste is the [fastest growing category](#) of waste, according to the EPA. So what's a library to do? I've compiled a few ideas for your consideration. I invite you to add any suggestions or ideas that you may have to the list."...

AL: Green Your Library, Nov. 18




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Audio Drama:
 The L.A. Theatre Works Collection

the world's best plays...
 online with mobile access!

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ALA News

[Why you should renew your ALA membership](#)

Rory Litwin writes: "Yes, it is that time of year again. Soon, your ALA membership renewal form will be arriving in the mail. Receipt of this renewal notice prompts many ALA members to ask themselves, why should I keep up my membership? What do I get out of it? What I want to say about membership renewal has to do with the two alternate ways that ALA members view the association—as a real association constituted by its members, or within the framework of a business-to-customer relationship."...

Library Juice, Nov. 20

[Last week for advance registration for Midwinter](#)

Advance registration for the ALA Midwinter Meeting ends November 29. In addition to the business meetings and opportunities for networking, the Midwinter Meeting, held in San Diego, California, January 7–11, offers high-profile speakers, thought-provoking open discussions, exhibits, awards, and excellent author-related events....

Conference Services, Nov. 23

[TSA procedures and civil liberties](#)

There has been much discussion among ALA members about the new enhanced pat-down procedures and full-body scans implemented by the TSA, and the possibility that these procedures violate individual civil liberties. ALA members who believe that their rights have been violated by a TSA screening or believe that their screening was in violation of agency rules should know that both the [ACLU](#) and the [Electronic Privacy Information Center](#) are collecting travelers' stories. OIF and the Washington Office are also monitoring this issue....

District Dispatch, Nov. 22

[Volunteers plan libraries, build communities](#)

John Chrastka writes: "ALA is planning a 2011 Libraries Build Communities Day in New Orleans on June 24 during ALA Annual Conference. We hope you will help spread the word to potential volunteer-attendees to participate in this daylong service effort. The last time we were in New Orleans was the summer after Hurricane Katrina. Hundreds of volunteers did direct service at public, academic, and school libraries, with Habitat, and several other community-based groups."...

ALA Membership Blog, Nov. 17



[Library education discussion group at Midwinter](#)

The ALA Committee on Education and the Association for Library and Information Science Education are cosponsoring a Library Education Discussion Group titled "LIS Faculty and Practitioners Surviving and Thriving Together" to be held on January 7, during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego. LIS practitioners and educators are encouraged to join colleagues in discussing a variety of hot topics....

Human Resource Development and Recruitment, Nov. 23

[Office for Diversity selects field recruiters](#)

The Office for Diversity and Spectrum Scholarship Program have selected early-career librarians who will serve as field recruiters for the *Discovering Librarianship* project—an IMLS-funded recruitment



[ALA Midwinter Meeting](#)

in San Diego, California, January 7–11, 2011.

[Advance registration](#)

ends November 29.



Brighten up a colleague's holiday with a subscription to [Booklist at half price.](#)

The lucky recipient will receive a full year of *Booklist*—in other words, nearly 8,000 reviews of books, media, and reference sources for adults and youth. *Booklist's* recommended-only policy saves librarians time and money, helping them build and maintain their collections with efficiency, and providing unparalleled help to readers' advisors. [Give the gift of Booklist](#) today at a most festive price.

NEW! From Booklist.

initiative focused on introducing ethnically diverse high school and college students to careers in libraries. The project will support the training of 35 librarians to serve as recruiters in national, regional, and local career recruitment and education events....

Office for Diversity, Nov. 22

[Social software and library marketing](#)

Librarians and social software experts David Lee King and Robin Hastings will discuss best practices and share ideas for using social networking sites as an essential part of library outreach and patron services. Join them for a two-part interactive learning experience, "Using Social Software in Library Marketing: Facebook, Twitter, and More," December 1 and 8. You can register for the event at the [ALA Store](#)....

ALA TechSource Blog, Nov. 16

[Idaho launches broadband effort](#)

On November 1, the Idaho Commission for Libraries launched an [online @ your library](#) program, using the Campaign for America's Libraries' @ your library brand. The program's goal is to provide free broadband access to internet-based resources in public libraries throughout Idaho. Online @ your library provides funding to at least 55 public libraries with broadband internet access, increased bandwidth, new public access computers, subscriptions to online resources, and training for library staff....

Campaign for America's Libraries, Nov. 23



[Preparing a portfolio for the LSSC program](#)

Many Library Support Staff Certification candidates plan to develop portfolios to meet certification requirements. Candidates and others interested can attend a one-hour webinar at 10 a.m. Central time on November 30. The presentation will discuss portfolio requirements and their evaluation, and show examples of successful submissions. Register [here](#) to attend....

ALA-Allied Professional Association, Nov. 23

[Final National Gaming Day numbers](#)

Jenny Levine writes: "We've been hearing from a lot of libraries about how much fun patrons had at their National Gaming Day events, and now we have some numbers and anecdotes to help illustrate what happened. We're still going through the 845 survey responses, but here's what we've found so far: The total number of players for NGD activities was 26,504. As usual, though, the anecdotes submitted by librarians are what really tell the story—and success—of National Gaming Day."...

National Gaming Day @ your library blog, Nov. 23



[Google Policy Fellows wanted](#)

The ALA Washington Office will once again participate in the Google Policy Fellowship program for the summer of 2011. Google Policy Fellows work in diverse areas of information policy that include broadband, net neutrality, free expression, open access to information, domestic and international copyright policy, online



"Like" [American Libraries](#) on Facebook.

New this week

in American Libraries



[Youth Matters](#)

[Will's World](#)

[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Green Your Library](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

[Librarian's Library](#)

[AL Focus](#)

Great Libraries of the World



[American Antiquarian Society](#)

Worcester, Massachusetts. The society operates an independent research library founded in 1812 that is devoted to American history from the colonial era

privacy, and open government. Students will spend 10 weeks this summer working at a diverse range of organizations. The deadline for [applications](#) is January 17....

District Dispatch, Nov. 23

[ALA student chapter survey results](#)

The 2010 ALA Student Chapters Survey was conducted over a three-month period, from July 28 through October 29. The [results](#) are in and have been posted at the Student Chapter Leadership group on ALA Connect. A tabulated summary of the responses ([PDF file](#)) is also available....

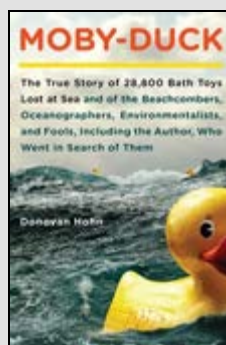
ALA Student Membership Blog, Nov. 21

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Science](#)

Hohn, Donovan. *Moby-Duck: The True Story of 28,000 Bath Toys Lost at Sea and of the Beachcombers, Oceanographers, Environmentalists, and Fools, Including the Author, Who Went in Search of Them*. 402p. Mar. 2011. Viking, hardcover (978-0-670-02219-9).

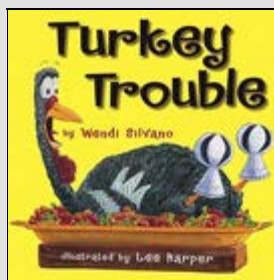
Like Bill Bryson on hard science, or John McPhee with attitude, journalist Hohn travels from beaches to factories to the northern seas in pursuit of a treasure that mystifies as much as it provokes. His quest is to determine what happened to a load of 28,800 Chinese manufactured plastic animals in a container that fell off a ship en route to Seattle in 1992. Hohn's inquiry leads him to *10 Little Rubber Ducks* (2005), children's author Eric Carle's idealized board-book version, and also to the plastic-strewn beaches of an Alaskan island, a Hong Kong toy fair, and the *Sesame Street* origins of the rubber duck's popularity....



[Archived review: Children's fiction](#)

Silvano, Wendi. *Turkey Trouble*. Illustrated by Lee Harper. 32p. Oct. 2009. K-Grade 1. Marshall Cavendish, hardcover (978-0-7614-5529-5).

Hold onto your drumsticks, Turkey is in trouble. It's almost Thanksgiving and how can he avoid ending up on the dinner platter? He has an idea: He disguises himself as a horse, a cow, a pig, and a sheep, but none of them fool even the animals. Finally he tries being a rooster, but when Farmer Jake can't find Turkey, his wife says they could always eat rooster. Yikes!...



[Top 10 sci-tech books, 2010](#)

Donna Seaman writes: "Physics is

to the end of Reconstruction in 1876. It is the third oldest historical society in the United States and the first to be national in scope. The library owns copies of two-thirds of all the books printed before 1820 in the United States, including the 1640 [Bay Psalm Book](#).



[Bapst Library](#), Boston College, Massachusetts. The library has been called the "finest example of Collegiate Gothic architecture in America." Designed by Charles Donagh Maginnis and completed in 1928, it was named after Johannes Bapst, the first president of the college, and served as the [main library](#) until 1984. An interior foyer features stained glass windows depicting Shakespearean themes and [bas-reliefs](#) of Jesus, Louis Pasteur, Nicolaus Copernicus, Fra Angelico, Michelangelo, Albertus Magnus, Aristotle, Thomas Aquinas, and Augustine of Hippo. The Kresge Reading Room has a richly decorated beamed ceiling supported by two rows of stone columns. Since 1993 it has served as the college [art library](#).

This AL Direct feature showcases 250 libraries

fun; snails have much to teach us; seemingly crazy ideas become our future; and scientists are not always who they seem to be, according to the entertaining and informative authors of this year's best science and technology titles." Included are books on quantum mechanics, mathematical deception, geoen지니어ing, water, and snails....



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

around the world that are notable for their exquisite architecture, historic collections, and innovative services. If you find yourself on vacation near one of them, be sure to stop by for a visit. The entire list will be available in [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart, which is scheduled for publication in 2011 by ALA Editions.

San Diego Update

[Delight in San Diego's documented history](#)

The Research Library of the San Diego History Center preserves a rich collection about the city's cultural life and day-to-day routines in its [documents archive](#) of books, public records, maps, scrapbooks, and unpublished manuscripts; its [object collection](#) of 15,000 items pertaining to costume and textiles, decorative arts, fine arts, and objects of daily life; and its [photograph collection](#) of 2.5 million images. Open Wednesday–Saturday, 9:30 a.m.–1 p.m. in the Casa de Balboa Building in Balboa Park, at 1649 El Prado, Suite 3....
San Diego History Center



[San Diego Metropolitan Transit System](#)

Public transportation is an easy way to get around the city. The MTS administers several public transportation services, including the San Diego Trolley. Three trolley lines are designated by the colors Blue, Orange, and Green. There is an Orange line stop at the Convention center. The one-way fare is \$2.50, which is good for travel for two hours from the time of purchase on any trolley; seniors, people with disabilities, and Medicare cardholders pay just \$1.25 each. Trolley ticket vending machines are located at all trolley stations and dispense one-way tickets and Day Passes....



San Diego Metropolitan Transit System

Division News

[ACRL conference program now available](#)

ACRL has announced the program for its 2011 National Conference, "A Declaration of Interdependence," to be held March 30–April 2 in Philadelphia. The conference will feature more than 300 peer-reviewed presentations on topics such as assessment, cross-disciplinary partnerships, budgeting, fair use, and data curation. Additional conference highlights include innovative [invited paper speakers](#) Char Booth, Tara McPherson, and



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CONTENT

[The Songs of Hollywood](#)



[New Realities:
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Jerry Uelsmann and Maggie
Taylor](#)

[Supporting Museum
Research](#)

[Katrina Kittle: Libraries
Have Shaped Me \(video\)](#)

[Understanding the Long
Term Impact of Your Social
Media Self](#)

Carol Strohecker....

ACRL, Nov. 18

[Nancy Pearl headlines PLA webinar](#)

On December 13, PLA will host a live, hour-long webinar, "[Nancy Pearl Presents: Books That Make Great Gifts.](#)" Part of the monthly PLA Webinar Series "Public Libraries at Work," this event marks Pearl's first-ever webinar with PLA. Her book recommendations will benefit library staff specializing in readers' advisory, as well as anyone hoping to find the perfect gifts for family and friends....

PLA, Nov. 23



[New editor of Interface](#)

Interface, ASCLA's member e-newsletter, welcomes Anne Abate, owner of Library Discount Network and a longtime ASCLA member, to the helm as editor. Abate will manage submissions, editing, and online publication of the newsletter. *Interface* covers both association news and important developments in the fields of librarianship that ASCLA represents....

ASCLA, Nov. 23



Awards

[Follow Youth Media Award results live](#)

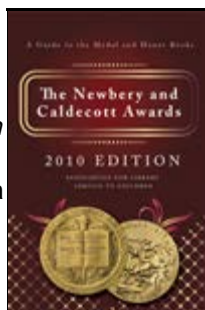
ALA will provide a free [live webcast](#) of its Youth Media Awards, a national announcement of the top books and media for children and young adults, at 7:45 a.m. Pacific time on January 10. The award announcements are made as part of the ALA Midwinter Meeting. The 2011 announcements will consist of 19 awards, including the Coretta Scott King Book Awards, John Newbery Medal, Michael L. Printz Award, Schneider Family Book Award, and the Randolph Caldecott Medal....

Public Information Office, Nov. 22

[Art media in the Caldecott Medal books](#)

Q. *Using several sources, both print and online, I've tracked down the type of art media used in many of the Caldecott Medal-winning books, but I haven't been able to find some of the older ones, so my list is not complete. Can ALA help with this?* **A.** ALSC publishes a book every year that lists the winning titles, [The Newbery and Caldecott Awards: A Guide to the Medal and Honor Books](#). Starting with the 1991 edition, an article by Christine Behrmann offers art media information for each Caldecott title, both winners and honors....

AL: Ask the ALA Librarian, Nov. 24



[Nominations sought for Equality Award](#)

ALA is seeking nominations for its 2011 Equality Award. This annual award, consisting of \$1,000 and a 24k gold-framed citation of achievement, is given to an individual or group for an outstanding contribution toward promoting equality in the library profession. The contribution may be either a sustained one or a single outstanding accomplishment. The deadline for [nominations](#) is December 17....

Office of ALA Governance, Nov. 23

[Donna Seaman Interviews Author Robert Olen Butler](#)

[Discover Clues to our Culture through Television History](#)

[Books for Babies Helps Parents Develop their Newborns' Reading Habits](#)

[Pursue Your Passion: Artist](#)



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ALA JobLIST

[Deputy Director](#), San Diego (Calif.) Public Library. The deputy director is responsible for planning, directing, and coordinating the daily operation of a division of the San Diego Public Library System; assisting the library director in the administration of the Library Department; developing and justifying division budget; recommending program and policy changes; and recruiting and retaining high performing staff to advance the mission and goals of the organization.



Find us on Facebook

[Ken Haycock Award for Promoting Librarianship](#)

ALA is seeking nominations for the Ken Haycock Award for Promoting Librarianship. The award honors an individual for contributing significantly to the public recognition and appreciation of librarianship through professional performance, teaching, or writing. The deadline for nominations ([text file](#)) is December 17....

Office of ALA Governance, Nov. 23

[Nominations sought for Sullivan Award](#)

ALA is seeking nominations for the Sullivan Award for Public Library Administrators Supporting Services to Children. The award honors an individual who has shown exceptional understanding and support for library service to children while having general management, supervisory, or administrative responsibility that has included public library service to children in its scope. The deadline for [nominations](#) is December 17....

Office of ALA Governance, Nov. 23

[RUSA grants and awards](#)

The December 15 nomination deadline is quickly approaching for the 2011 achievement awards and conference travel grants offered by RUSA. Award criteria, nomination forms, and instructions for submissions are available at each of the award's webpages....

RUSA, Nov. 23

[ASCLA awards](#)

Nominations for the 2011 awards offered by ASCLA are due by December 15. Those interested in submitting a nomination can download the appropriate award nomination form from the [awards section](#) of the ASCLA website or request the form from [Liz Markel](#)....

ASCLA, Nov. 23

[Trustee awards](#)

ALTAFF is accepting applications for the ALA Trustee Citation and the ALTAFF Gale Outstanding Trustee Grant. Applications for both awards are due December 15. For more information about these awards, visit the ALTAFF [website](#)....

ALTAFF, Nov. 23

[YALSA sponsors two Emerging Leaders](#)

YALSA has chosen two of its members for the 2011 ALA Emerging Leaders program: Monique Delatte (left), acquisitions librarian at Fullerton College and adjunct librarian at Rio Hondo College library, both in California, and Samantha Marker (right), young adult librarian at Mount Laurel (N.J.) Library. Each will receive funding to attend the 2011 ALA Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference....

YALSA, Nov. 23



[NMRT's Emerging Leader](#)

The New Members Round Table is sponsoring Megan Hodge (right) for ALA's 2011 Emerging Leaders program. The sponsorship consists of \$1,000 toward the costs of attending the 2011 Midwinter Meeting in San Diego and the 2011 Annual Conference in New Orleans. Hodge is currently the circulation supervisor for Randolph-Macon College....

NMRT, Nov. 23



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Digital Library of the Week



The [University of Vermont Libraries' Center for Digital Initiatives](#) makes unique digital collections available for researchers at UVM and beyond. The CDI seeks to cooperate with university, community, state, and other partners to produce cohesive digital collections that appeal to various user groups. These collections include documents, photographs, data, artifacts, and audiovisual materials. Some of the subjects currently available are the archives of the Proctor Maple Research Center, maple sugar and maple syrup recipe collections, medieval and Renaissance manuscripts, 900 images of the oldest long-distance hiking trail (the Long Trail) in the United States, and photographic

[3M NMRT Professional Development Grant](#)

Members of ALA's New Members Round Table can apply to receive a grant, sponsored by 3M Library Systems, that will cover expenses to attend the ALA Annual Conference, June 23–28, 2011, in New Orleans. The deadline to apply is December 15. The [application form](#) and [further information](#) about the grant is available on the NMRT website....

New Members Round Table, Nov. 22

[Circle of Learning Scholarships](#)

Circle of Learning is a grant-funded program designed to recruit and support American Indians and Alaska Natives who are interested in earning an MLIS degree. The program is a partnership between the San Jose School of Library and Information Science and the American Indian Library Association. Current SLIS students and prospective students who plan to apply for the Fall 2011 semester can apply ([PDF file](#)) for a Circle of Learning Scholarship by March 25....

San Jose State University SLIS

[Nominate your favorite Edublog](#)

The 2010 Edublog Awards celebrate the achievements of edubloggers, twitterers, podcasters, video makers, online communities, wiki hosts, and other web-based users of educational technology. Best librarian / library blog is one favorite category. You must have your own blog to nominate someone else's. The deadline for nominations is December 3, and voting ends December 14....

2010 Edublog Awards



[Travel grant to 2011 SLA Annual Conference](#)

The Division of Museums, Arts, and Humanities of the Special Libraries Association will reimburse travel and accommodation expenses up to \$1,500 for a professional librarian from a developing country to attend the 2011 SLA Annual Conference in Philadelphia, June 12–15. The awardee will also receive free registration to the conference and to all MAHD ticketed events. Send an application to Martha McPhail by December 31....

SLA Division of Museums, Arts, and Humanities

[Civil Rights Digital Library wins prize](#)

The Georgia Humanities Council and the Digital Library of Georgia won the Helen and Martin Schwartz Prize for their partnership on the [Civil Rights Digital Library](#). The Federation of State Humanities Councils offers the prize to recognize outstanding work in the public humanities that is supported or conducted by state humanities councils. The digital library was selected for its unique contribution to the humanities and for its impact on the region and on the state of Georgia....

Georgia Humanities Council, Nov. 19



[2010 National Book Awards](#)

One of the biggest events on the literary calendar was held Wednesday night in New York City. It was there that the winners of the 2010 [National Book Awards](#) were announced. This year there were 1,115 total submissions for the categories of fiction, nonfiction,

collections of Burlington (1920–1960) and Danville (1940s).

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

"I live with the tensions between the world out there I want to see and even contemplate, and the inner world to which the book gives me access. It is the inner rewards of reading a book in a private and concentrated way that lead you into realms of your own imagination and thought that no other process offers. Something happens between the words and the brain that is unique to the moment and to your own sensibilities.

"It is why, at such moments, it is so awful to be interrupted—and why I am frequently late at meetings because I find it hard to tear myself away. Any society that doesn't value the richness of this encounter with ideas and the imagination will impoverish its citizens."

—Joan Bakewell asks ["Does reading a book make us happier?"](#) in her *A Point of*

poetry and young people's literature. The winners included *Lord of Misrule* by Jaimy Gordon (fiction), *Just Kids* by Patti Smith (nonfiction), *Mockingbird* by Kathryn Erskine (youth), and Tom Wolfe (lifetime achievement). Watch the [ceremony](#) on Ustream. Ever wonder what it would be like to actually be at the awards? Betsy Bird will [tell you](#).... *Washington Post*, Nov. 17; National Book Foundation; A Fuse #8 Production, Nov. 18



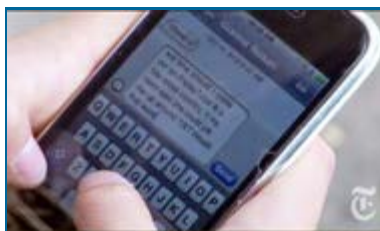
View column, *BBC News Magazine*, Nov. 19.

@ [More quotes...](#)

Seen Online

[Growing up digital, wired for distraction](#)

Students have always faced distractions and time-wasters. But computers and cell phones, and the constant stream of stimuli they offer, pose a profound new challenge to focusing and learning, according to this *New York Times* article. Researchers say the lure of these technologies, while it affects adults too, is particularly powerful for young people. The risk, they say, is that developing brains can become more easily habituated than adult brains to constantly switching tasks—and less able to sustain attention. However, TechCrunch's M. G. Siegler has a [different take](#), and [Don Tapscott](#) in the *Huffington Post* says that the article is "so clichéd and one-sided that it's more than misleading: It's dangerous." Watch the *NYT* [video](#) (7:45)....



New York Times, Nov. 20–21; TechCrunch, Nov. 21; *Huffington Post*, Nov. 23

[College students are research challenged](#)

According to *How College Students Evaluate and Use Information in the Digital Age* ([PDF file](#)), a new report released by Project Information Literacy, college students do not know how to research correctly. The study, which surveyed 8,353 students from 25 colleges, reports that 84% of respondents found "getting started" to be the hardest part of research projects. Additional problem areas include defining a topic, narrowing it, and sorting through results....

Huffington Post, Nov. 10

[Sacramento in a firefight over Black Ops video game](#)

Sacramento (Calif.) Public Library's upcoming video game tournament, dubbed "Nerd Fest," will feature a popular and controversial war game, *Call of Duty: Black Ops*, and local peace activists are uneasy about it. The game features torture scenarios, gunfights, and even an assassination attempt on a young Fidel Castro. Library director Rivkah Sass said the December 11 tournament is part of a renewed effort at "making sure everyone in the community knows we have something for them." The Sacramento chapter of Veterans for Peace is asking the library to cancel the program....

Sacramento (Calif.) Bee, Nov. 20



TweetWatch

Follow:

Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa, Centennial Conference, Dunedin, Nov. 28–Dec. 1, at:

[#lianza2010](#)

Online Information 2010, London, U.K., Nov. 30–Dec. 2, at:

[#online10](#)

American Libraries news stories, videos, tweets, and blog posts at:

[amlibraries](#)

Calendar

Dec. 6–8:

[6th International Digital Curation Conference](#), Chicago Mart Plaza.

"Participation and Practice: Growing the Curation Community through the Data Decade." Cosponsors: Digital Curaton Centre, University of Illinois at

[Legislators split on how to help Buffalo libraries](#)

Amid all the bickering and posturing, county lawmakers—Republicans and Democrats alike—agree on one thing: the need to restore money for the Buffalo and Erie County (N.Y.) Public Library. So why can't they make it happen? The answer was evident November 23 as lawmakers unveiled three competing proposals, each one advocating a restoration of library aid, only to watch each one die because Democrats and Republicans couldn't agree on a compromise....

Buffalo (N.Y.) News, Nov. 24

[New Mexico librarian monitors Mexico's drug war](#)

Sito Negron writes: "The drug war crisis in Mexico and the resulting violence in Juárez moves in and out of the headlines, so you have to make a commitment to follow. Or you can sign up for the [Frontera List](#), managed by Molly Molloy of New Mexico State University Library in Las Cruces, who several times a day blasts emails containing news articles, links, and commentary, including an accurate death count of drug-war victims." Molloy won NMSU's 2009 [Social Justice Award](#) for her work in highlighting border issues....

El Paso (Tex.) Inc., Nov. 21



[Greenwich honors late librarian through Storymobile](#)

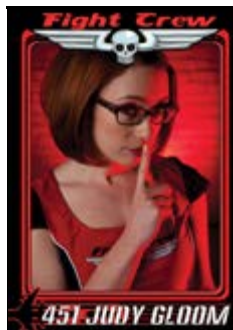
As dozens of children huddled together in a specially designed recreational vehicle called the Storymobile at the Perrot Memorial Library in Greenwich, Connecticut, on November 16, the memory of Kathy Krasniewicz, who was killed by a drunk driver following the 2009 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver, could be felt living on through her life's biggest passion—reading. Thanks to a donation made to the Greenwich Alliance for Education by one of Krasniewicz's close friends, that memory will continue as the Storymobile moves from school to school helping children master early literacy skills....

Greenwich (Conn.) Time, Nov. 16

[Community college librarian hangs up her skates](#)

Judy Gloom, alter ego of Glendale (Calif.) Community College Reference Librarian Meghan Gaynor, retired November 13 after seven years with the [L.A. Derby Dolls](#). to pursue sanity and preserve her mostly intact skeletal structure. Gaynor, 31, is proud that in those seven years, she has never had to have surgery and that she has lasted twice as long as most skaters. Since 2004, she has led the Flight Crew, one of five teams in the year-round league. "I'm kind of an aggressive librarian," she says of her double life. "But as skaters go, I'm kind of shy."...

Los Angeles Times, Nov. 17



[Farmers Branch votes to privatize its library](#)

After nearly four hours of often-heated public discussion, the city council of Farmers Branch, Texas, voted unanimously November 16 to outsource the city's popular Manske Library. Outsourcing library operations to Library Systems and Services LLC would save the city \$917,774 over the term of the three-year contract, according to a city comparison of proposals. Community members expressed anger, concern, and in some cases were brought to tears when speaking in

Urbana-Champaign
GSLIS.

Dec. 7:

[Urban Libraries Council](#), webinar, "Libraries as Agents for Civic Engagement."

Dec. 13–14:

[Coalition for Networked Information](#), Fall Membership Meeting, Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel, Arlington, Virginia.

Jan. 7–11:

[American Library Association](#), Midwinter Meeting, San Diego (Calif.) Convention Center.

Jan. 12–14:

[Educause](#), Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference, Marriott Waterfront Hotel, Baltimore, Maryland. "Setting a New Course for the Future."

Jan. 19–22:

[Special Libraries Association](#), Leadership Summit, Renaissance Washington Hotel, Washington, D.C. "Future Ready: Building Community."

Jan. 29:

[Indianapolis Youth Literature Conference](#), Indianapolis—Marion County Public Library.

Feb. 2–5:

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

Feb. 9–12:

support of keeping the library public....

Dallas News, Nov. 17

[Judge denies privatization documents request](#)

A Chatsworth (Calif.) Superior Court judge has denied a local resident's request for Santa Clarita officials to release more documents about the city's decision to take over the three local libraries from the Los Angeles County Library system. Judge Barbara Scheper ruled that there was no urgency to release the documents. Three lawsuits resulted from the city council's decision in August to withdraw from the county system. Santa Clarita is in the process of creating a city-library system that will be operated by the library-management firm Library Systems and Services LLC....

Santa Clarita Valley (Calif.) Signal, Nov. 19

[Philadelphia teachers' union pushes for school libraries](#)

Cheered on by librarians and library advocates, teachers' union President Jerry Jordan (right) November 23 called on parents, public officials, education advocates, and especially the School District of Philadelphia to reverse the 20-year decline of school libraries. His request was clear: Make money for libraries and certified librarians a mandated part of school budgets instead of leaving the decision up to principals....

Philadelphia Daily News, Nov. 24



[Disney songwriter makes New York library his office](#)

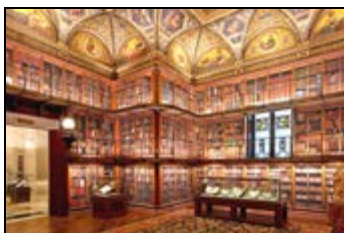
Glenn Slater gets his office space for a song. Rather than pay thousands a month in rent, the Broadway and Hollywood lyricist behind Disney's new animated blockbuster *Tangled* writes his rhymes at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts. From his regular spot at the end of a long library table, he writes the verses that will soon be on the tips of countless tongues. Slater rejected offers for private work spaces because he prefers to be surrounded by "the sense of life you only get in public."...

New York Post, Nov. 22

[Morgan Library and Museum in a new light](#)

Lee Rosenbaum writes: "Almost three years after the Morgan Library's fifth director, William Griswold, surveyed the expanded facility's Gilded Age building and decreed, 'Let there be light,' there is indeed all manner of light—incandescent, fluorescent, LED, fiber-optic—designed by Richard Renfro, which breathes new life into the variegated marbles, vibrant ceiling paintings, and inlaid walnut bookcases that embellish the crusty financier's beloved lair."...

Wall Street Journal, Nov. 23



[Mayor Daley gets a library](#)

The last of the 58 new Chicago library branches to open on Richard M. Daley's watch will be named after the retiring mayor. The library board voted in late November to make the Richard M. Daley branch the only Chicago Public Library outlet named after a living person. The new building is under construction in the West Humboldt Park neighborhood and will open shortly before Daley's final term ends in May. A branch on the south side is named after his father, Mayor

[Music Library](#)

[Association](#), Annual Meeting, Philadelphia. "Born Digital: A New Frontier for Music Libraries."

Feb. 22–24:

[Educause](#)

West/Southwest Regional Conference, Hilton Austin, Texas. "Leading IT into the Future in Transformative Times."

Feb. 23–24:

[Handheld Librarian Conference IV](#)

online.

Mar. 10–11:

[Conference for Entrepreneurial Librarians](#)

Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Mar. 31–

Apr. 3:

[Council on East Asian Libraries](#)

Annual Meeting, Hawaii Convention Center, Honolulu.

Apr. 6–9:

[National Council on Public History](#)

Annual Meeting, Historic Pensacola Village and Crowne Plaza Pensacola Grand Hotel, Florida. "Crossing Borders / Building Communities: Real and Imagined."

Apr. 20–23:

[Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association](#)

National Conference, Marriott Rivercenter and Riverwalk hotels, San Antonio, Texas. Deadline for paper

Richard J. Daley....

Chicago News Cooperative, Nov. 24

[Hartford's treasure trove of public records](#)

A wealth of interesting facts can be found in thousands of recently cataloged public documents chronicling life in the city of Hartford, Connecticut, back to 1639. For hundreds of years, the documents were stored in the nooks and crannies of a five-story vault in the city hall. Now historian Bill Faude has, for more than three years, organized nearly 900 boxes for the Hartford Public Library. On November 17, city officials handed over the rights to the documents to the library, which will make them available online and in-house....

Hartford (Conn.) Courant, Nov. 17



[Using the New York Times to help teachers and students](#)

Sharon Waskow, library media specialist at Scarsdale (N.Y.) Middle School, shares five ways that she uses the *New York Times* as an instruction aid: "By subscribing to the Lesson Plan component of the Learning Network blog, a fresh idea arrives in my email account daily. I forward the lesson along to teachers I think might find it useful."...

New York Times: The Learning Network, Nov. 22

[An adopted soldier visits home](#)

Students at the Tremont Consolidated School in Bass Harbor, Maine, were delighted when a soldier they "adopted" made a surprise visit to the school during a Veterans' Day program. Students in the 4th and 5th grades have been corresponding with Sgt. Dale Bergeron, a former Tremont student who is on a tour of duty with the U.S. Army National Guard in Afghanistan. Librarian Crystal Dow organized the November 10 program. She has spearheaded a number of veterans programs within the school, the highlight of which was the construction several years ago of a Veterans' Monument at the school....

Ellsworth (Maine) American, Nov. 17

[A McGill student rates the campus libraries](#)

Iain Macdonald writes: "Everyone has a favorite study spot on the McGill University campus. However, most people have only been to three or four of the libraries on campus. I'm going to visit each library and study there for an hour or two. Then I will share my thoughts and feelings, and provide a review of each library that will rank it, on a scale of 1–5, in several categories, including noise level, accessibility, study setup, facilities, décor, and overall appeal." This is the review of McLennan Library. Others to date include the [Schulich Library](#) of Science and Engineering (right), the [Cybertheque](#), and the [Redpath Library](#)....

McGill Tribune, Nov. 12, 14, 20, 21



[British authors condemn library cuts](#)

Writers Philip Pullman, Kate Mosse, and Will Self are criticizing government cuts that could see up to a quarter of librarians in the U.K. lose their jobs over the next year. Widespread library closures are expected as councils cut their services and look to volunteers in an attempt to balance budgets hit by the coalition government's

proposals is December 15.

Apr. 26–28: [Catholic Library Association](#),

Annual Convention, New Orleans. "Leadership, Direction, Service."

May 22–25: [American Association of Museums](#),

Annual Meeting and MuseumExpo, Houston, Texas. "The Museum of Tomorrow."

June 13–17: [Summer Seminar in the History of the Book](#),

American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Massachusetts. "Encountering Revolution: Print Culture, Politics, and the British American Loyalists."

June 19–22: [Association of Jewish Librarians](#),

Annual Convention, Marriott Montréal Château Champlain, Montréal, Québec.

**June 24–
July 14:**
Nye Memorial Children's Literature Study Tour, a literary journey to meet authors, illustrators, and libraries in New Zealand and Samoa. Contact tour leader [Susan H. Fox](#), (925) 462-2404, for details.

June 27–30: [International Evidence Based Library and Information Practice Conference](#),

University of Salford,

spending review. Mosse said "frontline support for literacy" is being cut, while Pullman declared that the librarian "is not simply a checkout clerk," and Self condemned the "crude calculus of cost-benefit analysis" involved....

The Guardian (U.K.), Nov. 22

[Quiz: Libraries in literature](#)

British libraries are facing widespread cuts and closures as councils try to save money following the government's funding cuts. But not only are libraries a crucial part of the book world, they also play an integral role within literature. Test your knowledge with *The Guardian's* quiz. For example: What is the meaning of the title of Alan Hollinghurst's debut novel *The Swimming Pool Library*?...

The Guardian (U.K.), Nov. 23



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Kinect for the holidays](#)

Jason Griffey writes: "On the ALA TechSource blog, I posted about my [gadget gift choices](#) for the holiday season, and I realized after posting it that I forgot a huge one for this year. Instead of editing that post, I thought it would be useful to give the good readers of Perpetual Beta a bonus instead. My outside choice for 'gadget of the year' this holiday season is the [Microsoft Xbox 360 Kinect](#) system. This is a gaming peripheral/controller unlike any we've seen. Take a look at this [video](#) (3:40) to get an idea what I mean."...

AL: Perpetual Beta, Nov. 22; ALA TechSource Blog, Nov. 19; YouTube, June 14



[Google plugin fuses Microsoft Office with Docs](#)

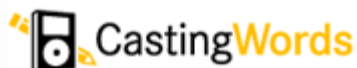
Jason Kincaid writes: "Google has launched a new plugin for Microsoft Office called Cloud Connect, which will tie Google Docs directly into Word or Excel, free of charge. Editing a document in Word? It will automatically sync to your Google Docs account each time you hit Save. Want to share a preview of your document without worrying about what file format your coworkers can open? Just send them a link to the Google Docs file. The plugin supports Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Excel, and it's a big deal for Google's strategy with Docs."...

TechCrunch, Nov. 22

[18 tasks you can crowdsource](#)

Aliza Sherman writes: "A few weeks ago I [wrote about](#) what crowdsourcing is useful for, breaking it down into three main categories: work, input, and organizing. Crowdsourcing is a way of getting work done that can help you save time and money, and free you up to get to other work. Here are some ideas for technical and creative tasks that can be crowdsourced, and links to sites that can help you with those tasks."...

GigaOM, Nov. 19



[Best browser screenshot tip ever](#)

Greater Manchester,
United Kingdom.

June 29–

July 1:

[Education for All International Conference](#),

University of Warsaw,
Poland.

@ [More...](#)

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



Beverly Goldberg,
Senior Editor:
bgoldberg@ala.org



Greg Landgraf,
Associate Editor:
glandgraf@ala.org



Leonard Kniffel,
Publisher,
American Libraries:
lkniffel@ala.org

Jennifer Henderson,
Contributing Researcher

To advertise in American
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Jason Griffey writes: "I'm not sure how I didn't know this, but this is now officially my favorite 'take a screenshot of my browser contents' tip ever. The [Aviary website](#) is an online photo editor that, among a *lot* of other things, allows you to do basic photo editing online. They have this built-in shortcut: If you simply add "http://aviary.com/" to the beginning of the URL that you wish to capture, it grabs the site and auto-opens in the Aviary editor. I'm going to be abusing the hell out of this."...

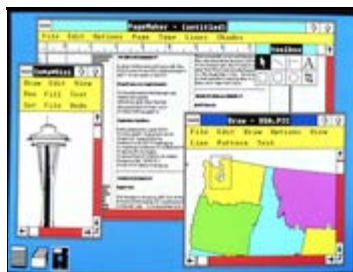
AL: Perpetual Beta, Nov. 24



25 years of Microsoft Windows

Preston Gralla writes: "Twenty-five years ago, on November 20, 1985, Microsoft introduced its first version of Windows to the world. Not many people outside the technical press or the tech industry took notice. Product launch events that cost hundreds of millions of dollars were still years away. In this image gallery, we take a look at the various faces of Windows over the past couple of decades and clue you in to what happened at every stage of the operating system's development."...

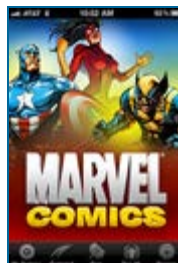
Computerworld, Nov. 19



YALSA app of the week: Marvel Comics

Wendy Stephens writes: "The [Marvel Comics iPhone App](#) transforms reading comics into a kinesthetic experience. Unlike some apps that move through comics in a slideshow manner, moving from panel to panel, Marvel integrates pans and zooms into its navigation. The sense of moving with the comic, even from speech bubble to speech bubble within a single frame, may be either exhilarating or frustrating to experienced comics readers. A double-tap allows you to exit the navigation to more closely investigate a single panel."...

YALSA Blog, Nov. 24



New version of BookMyne

SirsiDynix released its BookMyne 2.0 iPhone application November 18. A comprehensive search, discovery, and delivery app giving patrons direct access to their library collection on the iPhone, BookMyne features mobile access to in-demand library information, holdings, and services. Version 2.0 offers barcode scanning capability, a social recommendation engine, and *New York Times* bestseller cross-referencing....

AL: Solutions and Services, Nov. 19



Brian Searles:
bsearles@ala.org



Katie Bane:
kbane@ala.org

Send feedback:
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Publishing

New models for university presses

Scott Jaschik writes: "A [special issue](#) of *The Journal of Electronic Publishing* released November 22 features a series of calls for change in the way university presses are run—suggesting that the current business model is collapsing. The essays argue that the strategy of bolstering the existing model of selling print versions of monographs

is doomed to fail, even if many advocates for scholarly publishing have defended it amid the economic and technological changes of the last decade.”...

Inside Higher Ed, Nov. 22

[A holiday gift guide to e-readers](#)

Dianna Dilworth writes: “The holiday shopping season is here and e-readers and tablets are poised to be the hot items of the season. To help you navigate through all of the devices out there, we have compiled a holiday gift guide featuring the latest e-readers on the market.

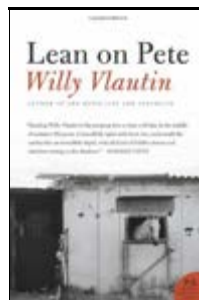


The list includes e-readers (and their prices) that have come out over the last year and will be hot this season.”...

eBookNewser, Nov. 16

[Rousing Reads: I’ve got a horse right here](#)

Bill Ott writes: “There are two kinds of horse-racing stories. The most common are the sentimental ones (think *National Velvet*) in which an underdog horse triumphs over seemingly insurmountable odds. Then there are the other kind of horse stories, those that play against sentimentality, using the unique atmosphere of the racetrack and the gambling world that supports it to explore the inevitability of loss. If you don’t know Willy Vlautin’s work, you might think his third novel, *Lean on Pete*, belonged in the sentimental camp.”...



American Libraries column, Nov./Dec.

[10 types of book reviews that make authors sad](#)

Author Jaclyn Dolamore writes: “First, let me say that I love reviews in general. I like knowing that some people loved my book, I love seeing thoughtful reactions, and I like knowing what generally didn’t go over well. So this is not a criticism against reviewers. This is just a hopefully amusing list where all book examples are made up and resemblance to real books is purely coincidental.”...

Jaclyn Dolamore, Nov. 18

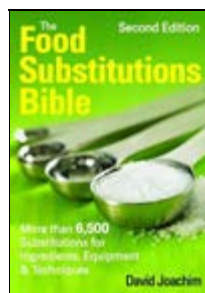
[Law publishers’ librarian relations](#)

Caren Biberman writes: “I heard some shocking news about the West Librarian Relations team. Mark Schwartz’s position as director of the team was eliminated. With Mark goes the heart and soul of West Librarian Relations. I am concerned about the fate of librarian relations at the big vendors. Last year, Thomson Reuters cut one third of its team; LexisNexis also made huge cuts. Believe me, it is the librarian relations team that makes me interested in and comfortable with a product.”...

Law Librarian Blog, Nov. 17

[NPR’s best cookbooks of 2010](#)

T. Susan Chang writes: “Put simply, 2010 was a monster year for cookbooks. What we have here is an overwhelming display of carefully crafted books produced after years of research, recipe testing, and tireless detective work. This year’s books are like a properly seasoned skillet—heavy-duty, battle-tested, and much to be prized. So give them a big hand, and then tie on your aprons. You’re going to need them.”...



Actions & Answers

[A call for open standards and net neutrality](#)

Tim Berners-Lee writes: "The world wide web went live, on my physical desktop in Geneva, Switzerland, in December 1990. It consisted of one website and one browser, which happened to be on the same computer (right). Twenty years later, the web is a public resource on which you, your business, your community, and your government depend. The web is also vital to democracy—a communications channel that makes possible a continuous worldwide conversation. Several principles are key to assuring that the web becomes ever more valuable."...

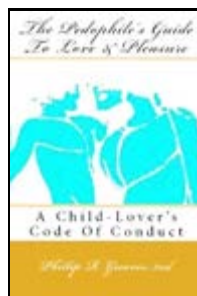
Scientific American, Nov. 22



[The challenges of free speech](#)

Chris Finan writes: "Why in the world would anyone defend a book like *The Pedophile's Guide to Love and Pleasure: A Child-Lover's Code of Conduct*? A number of people asked me this during the recent controversy over Amazon.com's decision to sell the book. When I was quoted in an Associated Press story saying the book appeared to be neither obscene nor child pornography and was therefore protected by the First Amendment, several outraged people wrote to me and members of the American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression board to complain. How could we defend a book that hurts children?" Lori Reed offers a [librarian's perspective](#)....

Bookselling This Week, Nov. 18; Lori Reed, Nov. 17



[Who needs a law librarian anyway?](#)

Mark Gediman writes: "In his [recent post](#) on the *ABA Journal* website, Patrick Lamb posits that only those law firms that need a resident expert for online research would need a librarian. In fact, Lamb doesn't think a library is necessary. Needless to say, this post has created some waves in the law library community. In my mind, I agree with [John DiGilio](#) that this post is a consequence of the 'they know what I do and where to find me if they need me' mindset that we find all too often in law firm libraries. How to change this dynamic?"...

3 Geeks and a Law Blog, Nov. 19; *ABA Journal*, Nov. 17; iBrary Guy, Nov. 18

[Teaching a stand-alone information literacy class](#)

Sara Kelley-Mudie writes: "When I first started as a school librarian I was, if not 100% opposed to the idea of doing a stand-alone information literacy class, at least 93% opposed. I believed that the only effective way to teach these skills was through collaboration with classroom teachers. But I'm no longer convinced it is the best way. Trying to collaborate with 40 different teachers in multiple subjects with various levels of expertise and interest is *hard*."...

K-M the Librarian, Nov. 21

[Top 10 must-have government apps](#)

Jordan Harp writes: "Whether you are taking public transport to work, getting coffee in a local café, or

shopping for groceries—there are dozens of apps for your mobile phone to help you stay connected to your government and get the latest information. From the EPA's alternative fuel locator to live video streams from the White House, these apps are worth checking out. Here is our list of 10 must-have apps."...

White House Blog, Nov. 19



[iPod initiative at Kearns High School](#)

Lauren Barack writes: "Thanks to their librarian, nearly 1,700 teens at Kearns High School in Salt Lake City, Utah, are getting an iPod Touch as part of a massive technology rollout that took almost a year of teacher training and infrastructure development. The \$1.06-million initiative was launched with an Enhancing Education Through Technology grant, along with federal stimulus funds awarded to Kearns—one of three schools Utah singled out for the award, said Media Specialist Rachel Murphy, who first developed the program in 2009."...

School Library Journal, Nov. 18

[How to use social media to enhance your event](#)

Meaghan Edelstein writes: "Using social media to enhance events might seem like a no-brainer, but many conferences—even social media ones—fail to take full advantage of the low-hanging fruit that social platforms offer, like ways for attendees to communicate with each other, broaden their participation, share information, and have fun. If you're planning a conference, here are some ways to incorporate social networking into your big day."...

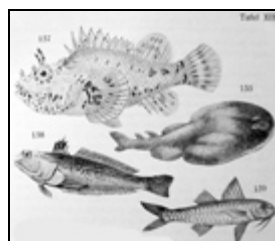
Mashable: Social Media, Nov. 21



[Old books yield 200 years of fish population data](#)

By digging up and poring over old books and records of Mediterranean marine life, scientists have filled a 200-year gap in fish population data. The data, generated from naturalists' accounts and fish-market records published between 1818 and 2000, shows the clear decline of fishes in the Adriatic Sea and provides a crucial baseline comparison for the ongoing collapse of today's fisheries. To gather the information, an Italian team of ecologists and marine scientists scoured the libraries, museums, and archives of six European cities....

Wired Science, Nov. 19



[RDA angst and the future of library metadata](#)

Christine Schwartz writes: "I find myself reluctantly in the RDA fan club. There's a lot of things I wish RDA was (or wasn't) and if someone made me Cataloging Queen for a day, I'd definitely make some changes to RDA. It'd be a leaner, meaner, simpler cataloging code for one. But the unhappiness with RDA is bringing to light just the type of dysfunction found in traditional cataloging that we need to get away from: It's rigid, inflexible, and overly complex."...

Cataloging Futures, Nov. 23

[NARA becomes newest member of ARL](#)

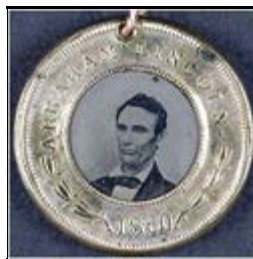
At its Fall Meeting held October 13–14, the membership of the Association of Research Libraries voted to invite the National Archives and Records Administration to join as its 126th member. David S. Ferriero, Archivist of the United States, accepted the invitation. The vote of membership followed a process that considered both qualitative and quantitative documentation and involved a site visit by members of the ARL Membership Committee....



Association of Research Libraries, Nov. 22

[Follow Civil War news on the Disunion blog](#)

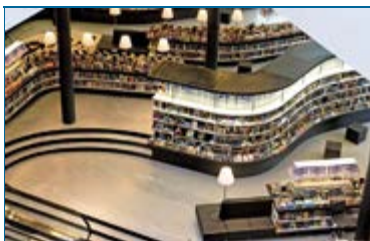
Christopher Panna writes: "With 2011 April marking the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War, expect media outlets to feature extra coverage of this trying time in United States history. The *New York Times* is leading the charge with a new blog called [Disunion](#). It reports on the Civil War as if in real time, so the post for today would reflect the events of November 23, 1860. Use it to inspire your teaching or give it to your students as supplemental reading."...



Instructify, Nov. 19

[New futuristic library in the Netherlands](#)

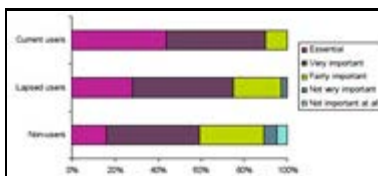
Concrete Architectural Associates and Meyer en van Schooten Architects have designed a new library in Almere, The Netherlands. Preferring to think of library patrons as customers rather than patrons, Librarian Marga Kleinenberg and her colleagues asked the designers to build in the appeal of a retail store. Books are arranged in themed zones rather than by call number and are displayed cover out, spine out, or in small piles. The meandering bookcases create an adventurous, textured environment....



Contemporist, Nov. 18

[British survey: Books are key to libraries](#)

Books remain the main reason why most people use libraries, according to a new research study ([PDF file](#)) published by the Museums, Libraries, and Archives Council in the U.K. The study found that 66% of users go to libraries because of their love of reading. Meanwhile, 44% go for study, 17% to find local information, and 14% view the library as somewhere to take the children. The study also showed that book choice and staff expertise were highly valued by library users....



The Bookseller, Nov. 22

[Circular library seat](#)

British designer [Thomas Mills](#) has created a wheel-shaped combination bookcase and reading chair that is made entirely from hand-cut plywood and stands more than 8 feet tall. As you sit within the cradle, it rocks gently back and

forth. Called the "Long Form Library," the device can hold its own weight in books, and the cushioned seat is a nod to the futuristic furniture found in Stanley Kubrick films, especially *2001: A Space Odyssey*. Reading lamps are placed strategically, while other lights around the circumference act as a clock, with timers adjusting the brightness depending on time of day....

Yanko Design, Nov. 18



[Miniature books in the Smithsonian Institution](#)

Diane Shaw writes: "The Smithsonian Institution Libraries has more than 50 miniature books scattered among its collections in the Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology, the Smithsonian American Art and National Portrait Gallery Library, and the Bradley Room of the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum Library. Measuring three inches or less, these unusual books are practical as well as whimsical."...

Smithsonian Collections Blog, Nov. 12



[A poem "For Librarians"](#)

Hans Ostrom, poet and professor of English at the University of Puget Sound, posted this poetic video tribute (3:03) to libraries and librarians. The poem itself (full lyrics [here](#)) was featured on a BBC Four program in 2008. "Librarians know where wisdom's stored. / They catalogue the countless forms / Of silence and tell people what they / Didn't know they wanted to know."...

YouTube, Nov. 16



[Libraries just want to rock](#)

Daniel Bonilla, a student at Rancho Cucamonga (Calif.) High School, wanted to point out how his school library rocks, so he created this video (1:24) for the school's bulletin that comes out every Thursday. It features library staffers Connie Joyce and Dorothy Marcott, and English teacher Jenna Salcedo....

YouTube, Nov. 18



[Further proof that libraries rock](#)

The Greater Columbus (Ohio) Arts Council coordinated a massive, intergenerational flashmob event at the Columbus Metropolitan Library on November 6. The mob includes students from the council's out-of-school-time program, Art in the House, partner program Transit Arts, adults, and seniors. Even the Columbus Department of Recreation and Parks and the Ohio State University Hillel Folk Dancers got into the



act. Sound Technician Nick Tepe plays the "Shushing Librarian."...
YouTube, Nov. 19

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