

# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | August 3, 2011

## Contents

[American Libraries Online](#)  
[ALA News](#)  
[Booklist Online](#)  
[Division News](#)  
[Awards](#)  
[Seen Online](#)  
[Tech Talk](#)  
[E-Content](#)  
[Books and Reading](#)  
[Actions & Answers](#)  
[New This Week](#)  
[Calendar](#)

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american libraries  
**BUYERS GUIDE**

## American Libraries Online

### Third time is the charm for Troy

"This is one of the best days I've had in two years!" exulted Cathleen Russ, director of Troy (Mich.) Public Library, the morning after some 58% of voters saved the library from closing permanently by approving a five-year operating millage. The August 2 special election was the third library referendum held there in the past few years; voters had rejected the previous measures, albeit by narrower margins the second time around. The [outcome](#) had remained uncertain until the [final returns](#) late in the day....

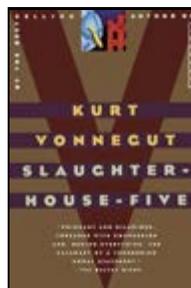
*American Libraries news, Aug. 3; Detroit News, Aug. 3; Troy (Mich.) Patch, Aug. 2*



### Missouri high school bans Slaughterhouse-Five

Kurt Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse-Five* and Sarah Ockler's YA novel *Twenty Boy Summer* have been banned from a Missouri high school curriculum and library after a local resident complained that they teach principles contrary to the Bible. The Republic High School board voted 4-0 July 26 to remove the books, although they chose to retain Laurie Halse Anderson's *Speak*, which had also been challenged by Wesley Scroggins, an associate professor at Missouri State University. Ockler responded to the decision in a [blog post](#)....

*AL: Censorship Watch, Aug. 3; Sarah Ockler, Author, July 26*



### The case for graphic novels in education

Jesse Karp writes: "Perhaps we're past the point of having to explain that graphic novels, with their knack for attracting reluctant readers and hitting developmental sweet spots, have a legitimate place on library shelves. Perhaps. But what about the idea that graphic novels encompass such a wide range of themes and create such layered experiences through word and art that they



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AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

actually belong in classrooms? I contend that the format offers great opportunities to teach as well as to entertain.”...

*American Libraries* feature

### [Next Steps: A pioneer evolves](#)

Brian Mathews writes: “Andrew Carnegie had a radical idea. In 1895 when he developed the public library complex in Pittsburgh, it included swimming pools, music halls, art galleries, and a natural history museum. He wanted to ensure that his mill workers and their families had easy access to excellent cultural assets. The original building still stands today. However, what’s pioneering in one century is not necessarily compatible with the next. As libraries have evolved, these legacy spaces do not always promote the free flow of information.”...

*American Libraries* column, July/Aug.



### [Cleaning up after water damage](#)

**Q.** Recent thunderstorms have caused flash floods and some of our library regulars are asking about salvage of wet books. What can I tell them? **A.** I’m going to address your question from two perspectives. First, what should an individual be doing? And second, what should a library be doing? The information in [Tips for Salvaging Water-Damaged Valuables](#) by the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works and Heritage Preservation is designed for individuals....

AL: Ask the ALA Librarian, Aug. 3



### [Currents](#)

On June 1, Scott Mandernack (right) was appointed associate dean for scholarly resources and collections at Marquette University Libraries in Milwaukee. Nancy Bennett retired May 19 as manager of the South County Regional Branch of the Camden County (N.J.) Library System. John Kallenberg, 69, died July 4 after battling cancer for several months; he was head of the Fresno County (Calif.) Public Library from 1976 to 2003....

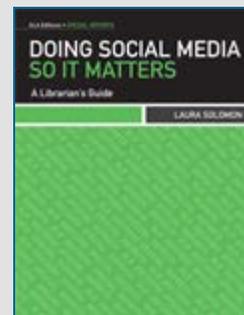
*American Libraries* column



## ALA News

### [Why we need free public libraries more than ever](#)

ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels writes: “As a former head of the state library agency in Massachusetts and a taxpayer myself, I read with interest the recent *Atlantic* editorial in which an elected official from Swampscott, Massachusetts, proposed public library user fees as a reasonable and ‘modern’ solution to some perceived imbalance. Under this proposal, a 50-cent user fee would be added to each book circulated by the library. The fact is: This would be the costliest additional revenue ever generated. The reasons for this are twofold.”...



Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, LinkedIn: It’s difficult enough to keep abreast of social media websites, let alone understand how they fit into today’s library. Laura Solomon’s new [Doing Social Media So It Matters: A Librarian’s Guide](#) brings together current information on the topic in a concise format that’s easy to digest. **NEW! From**

The Atlantic, July 21, 27

## [Top 10 reasons to contact your legislators in August](#)

It's almost time for District Days, the weeks when congressional representatives are on recess and are able to return to their home districts. This year, the break is from August 8 to September 5. During this time, representatives often hold town hall meetings, office hours, and meet with a variety of constituents to get their perspectives on current issues. Here are the top 10 reasons librarians should reach out to them during District Days. (And the Washington Office has some advice for [town halls.](#))...

YALSA Blog, Aug. 3; District Dispatch, Aug. 3

## [Summer vacation @ your library](#)

As August hits and the temperature rises, the place to spend quality family time and cool off is @ your library. Encourage parents in your community to check out ALA's new [Connect with your kids @ your library Family Activity Guide](#). The guide offers additional ideas on how parents can spend quality time with their kids this summer using the resources at your library. Here are a few examples of what libraries are doing to create cost-effective and entertaining family programs for library users this summer....

Public Information Office, Aug. 2

## [ARSL conference on rural and small libraries](#)

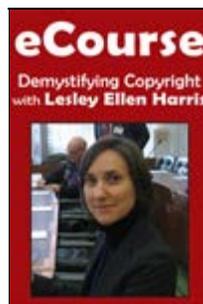
Join library staff, trustees, and volunteers from small and rural libraries across the country as they gather for the 2011 Association for Rural and Small Libraries [annual conference](#) in Frisco, Texas. The conference will be held September 8–11 at the Dallas-Frisco Embassy Suites Hotel and Convention Center....

Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, Aug. 2

## [Educate your staff on copyright](#)

ALA Editions has announced a new facilitated eCourse, "[Demystifying Copyright: How to Educate Your Staff and Community](#)." Lesley Ellen Harris (right), a copyright, licensing, and digital-property lawyer who works with the information industry, will serve as instructor for this four-week course, which begins on September 12. She will guide you step by step through developing a copyright education program for your staff and community....

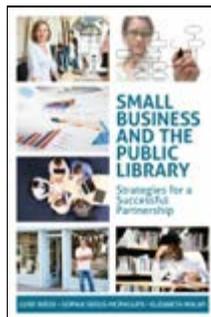
ALA Editions, Aug. 2



## [Small businesses and public libraries as partners](#)

Aligning with current difficult economic times, [Small Business and the Public Library: Strategies for a Successful Partnership](#), published by ALA Editions, helps libraries assist users entering or already involved in the small-business community. Authors Luise Weiss, Sophia Serlis-McPhillips, and Elizabeth Malafi are public librarians who have incorporated small business services within their library. In their book they point the way to addressing the needs of job seekers, and those starting or operating their own businesses....

ALA Editions, Aug. 2



## [First RDA vocabularies published](#)

### ALA Editions.

## New this week in American Libraries



### [The Case for Graphic Novels in Education](#)

### [Next Steps](#)

### [Censorship Watch](#)

### [Currents](#)

### [Perpetual Beta](#)

### [Inside Scoop](#)

### [Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

### [Solutions and Services](#)

### [AL Focus](#)

## Great Libraries of the World



### [Monastery of San Francisco Library.](#)

Lima, Peru. The library of this 17th-century Franciscan monastery houses more than 20,000 books and

The Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA, the DCMI/RDA Task Group, and ALA Publishing (on behalf of the copublishers of RDA) have announced that the first group of RDA controlled vocabularies have been reviewed, approved, and their status in the Open Metadata Registry changed to “published.”...

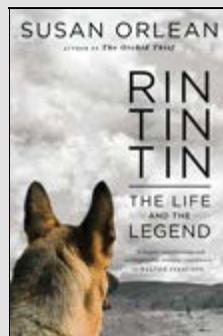
RDA Toolkit blog, Aug. 1

# Booklist ONLINE

## Featured review: Movies and television

Orlean, Susan. *Rin Tin Tin: The Life and the Legend*. Oct. 2011. 288p. Simon & Schuster, hardcover (978-1-4391-9013-5).

Rin Tin Tin, the smart, athletic German shepherd who became “the archetypal dog hero,” was born on a battlefield in France in 1918 and rescued by Lee Duncan, an American soldier. Duncan, whose love for animals was rooted in a childhood of abandonment, brought Rin Tin Tin to California, where diligent training, talent, and luck turned “Rinty” into a universally beloved movie star. The Rin Tin Tin character lived on after the original dog’s death in 1932 (the world mourned) as Duncan, utterly devoted to his creation, worked with a series of German shepherds to keep Rin Tin Tin in the movies and on television for nearly four more decades. In her first from-scratch investigative book since *The Orchid Thief* (1999), *New Yorker* staff writer Orlean incisively chronicles every facet of the never-before-told, surprisingly consequential, and roller-coaster–like Rin Tin Tin saga....



## Reading the clues

Will Manley writes: “There’s a lot of talk these days about e-books replacing real books. I suppose this is inevitable for a whole litany of reasons that will do nothing but bore your socks off. Suffice it to say that e-books are cheaper to produce, and cheaper always wins. For me, the inevitable triumph of the e-book is quite regrettable because an e-book is not really a book. It is simply text in an electronic form. It is not a thing, and *thingness* is very important to a book. No, I am not going to bore you by rhapsodizing nostalgically about the tactile pleasures of the book. But, yes, it is true that books do have a certain tactile quality. That’s because books are things. They are actually very personal things.”...



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

## Division News

manuscripts from the 15th–18th centuries resting on beautiful hardwood shelves.



## Admont Abbey Library

Admont, Austria. The ornate library hall of this 11th-century Benedictine abbey was built in 1776 by architect [Josef Hueber](#). It is the largest monastery library in the world. Its white-and-gold bookcases are filled with 70,000 [rare printed works](#). More than 7,000 diamond-shaped flagstones of white, red, and gray marble are cleverly arranged in geometric patterns so that they can be viewed as ribbons, zigzag lines, cubes, or steps, depending on perspective. Seven ceiling [frescoes](#) created by Bartolomeo Altomonte in the central cupola show the steps in man’s exploration of thought from the sciences to religion. Greater-than-life-size [sculptures](#) by Josef Stammel depict the “Four Last Things”—Death, the Last Judgment, Heaven, and Hell.

**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

## [Register now for Women's Leadership Institute](#)

ACRL is collaborating with a variety of higher education associations to offer the 2011 Women's Leadership Institute. This year's institute will be held November 29–December 2 in Dana Point, California, and December 4–7 in Amelia Island, Florida. The discounted early-bird registration deadline for the institute is October 12 for the California program and October 26 for the Florida program. Program details, cosponsors, and a link to registration materials are available [online](#)....

ACRL, Aug. 2



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 later this year by ALA Editions.

## [AASL's Exploratorium to showcase school library best practices](#)

AASL is making available its lineup for the Exploratorium at its 15th National Conference and Exhibition. With more than 40 individual learning stations, the complete list can be found [online](#). The Exploratorium on October 27 is a two-hour educational session that will showcase best practices from the school library community. Attendees can browse at their own pace, spending as much or as little time as they wish at each station....

AASL, Aug. 2

## [Social media webinar](#)

Social media has altered the information landscape by expanding the flow of information from books, newspapers, and journals to instant reports from Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube. How can librarians help teens navigate these information streams and learn to separate the wheat from the chaff? Join YALSA for "From 140 Characters to 10 Pages: Teens, Social Media, and Information Literacy." This webinar will be presented by Laura Pearle on August 18....

YALSA, July 29

## [Get your message heard in the August YA Forum](#)

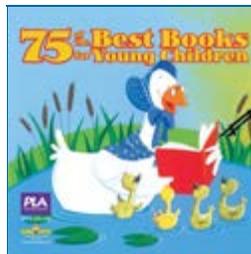
YALSA is hosting its monthly discussion forum this week on communicating with key stakeholders. Division members are encouraged to check into the [discussion forum](#) and ask questions and contribute. The forum will close at 3 p.m. Eastern time on August 5. This month's discussion is on how to communicate the value of your library through data....

YALSA, July 29

## [PLA reading kit summer sale](#)

From now until August 31, take 40% off PLA's three unique children's reading kits. PLA and ALA members can also use their ALA Store discount of 10%, resulting in a 50% savings. Simply enter the promotion code "sale11," whether ordering by phone or fax or online. These interactive reading kits are great in helping early literacy efforts at the library or to send home with parents....

PLA, Aug. 2



## Awards

### [The 2012 Printz Award calendar](#)

Linda W. Braun writes: "It debuted at Annual Conference this year, but you can still purchase a copy



## Career Leads from JobLIST

[Director](#), Wicomico Public Library, Salisbury, Maryland. Seeking a highly qualified, effective leader and skilled communicator for the challenging position of library director to lead 48 library staff in a strong teamwork environment. In charge of the day-to-day operation of the library system, under the general direction and control of the library board of trustees, the director is responsible for budgeting and financial management, fundraising, long-range planning, facilities management, and service delivery. The director delegates authority to subordinate supervisors

of the [2012 Michael Printz Award calendar](#), which celebrates 12 years of award winners and honor books. The calendar is available in the ALA Store and all proceeds will go to the Friends of YALSA. The calendar includes information about the winning titles, birthdays of award-winning YA authors, monthly and weekly events, and information about YALSA history.”...

YALSA The Hub, Aug. 3



and holds them accountable for the performance of their departments....



@ [More jobs...](#)

### [Six Judith Krug Fund grants](#)

Following 2010's very successful inaugural effort, the Freedom to Read Foundation, through its Judith F. Krug Memorial Fund, has announced grants to six organizations in support of events during Banned Books Week, September 24–October 1. In addition to a cash award of \$1,000, FTRF is providing [Banned Books Week merchandise](#), sold by the ALA Store, to the grant recipients....

Office for Intellectual Freedom, Aug. 2

### [Teen Read Week minigrant winners](#)

YALSA has announced the winners of its 10 Teen Read Week minigrants. The grants, funded by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, give each winning library \$1,000 to use for events, programs, and services to encourage teen reading and celebrate Teen Read Week, October 16–22....

YALSA, Aug. 2

### [AASL names its 2011 Spectrum Scholar](#)

As part of its commitment to furthering diversity in the school library profession, AASL chose Tonya Grant as its 2011–2012 Spectrum Scholar. Grant is currently an LIS student at the University of Georgia. As an educator for the past six years, Grant looks forward to using her studies to identify ways she can build an engaging school library program and incorporate her love of technology and reading into challenging and fun lessons....

AASL, Aug. 2



## Digital Library of the Week



[Indiana Memory](#) is a collaborative effort to provide access to the wealth of primary sources in Indiana libraries, archives, museums, and other cultural institutions. It is a gateway to Indiana's history and culture found in digitized books, manuscripts, photographs, newspapers, maps, and other media. As a portal to the collections, Indiana Memory assists individuals to locate materials relevant to their interests and to better appreciate the connections between those materials. This project is made possible through grant funding from the Institute of Museum

### [AASL travel grants to four Spectrum Scholars](#)

AASL will sponsor the attendance of up to four Spectrum Scholars at its national conference. The AASL 15th National Conference and Exhibition will be held October 27–30 in Minneapolis. The division will select up to four current Spectrum scholars who are pursuing a library degree concentrating in school librarianship or are working as school librarians....

AASL, Aug. 2

### [Spectrum fundraisers](#)

Spectrum Scholars, librarians, and library supporters came together at fundraising events in [San Diego](#) and [Los Angeles](#) to raise more than \$4,300 for the Spectrum Presidential Initiative....

Spectrum Initiative, Aug. 2

### [School librarian wins Coast Guard leadership award](#)

Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Abigail Rainey Scrocco (right) of Station Oak Island has won the Coast Guard's Master Chief Angela M. McShan Inspirational

Leadership Award. She earned the award for her work maintaining Station Oak Island reserve personnel at the highest rate of readiness of all Coast Guard stations. In her civilian capacity, Scrocco is a library media specialist and computer teacher at St. Mary School in Wilmington, North Carolina. She will be recognized at an August 11 ceremony in Washington, D.C....

*Coast Guard News*, July 28



### [2011 Sparky Award winners announced](#)

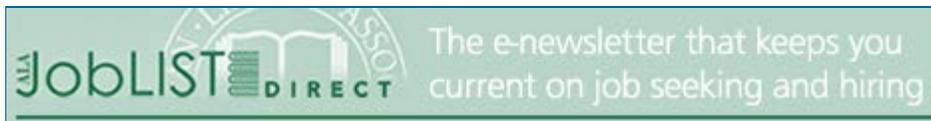
Four new student films on the importance of open access to research and data have been voted the best by a panel of new media experts, students, and librarians in the fourth annual Sparky Awards. Calling on students to articulate their support in a two-minute video, the contest has been embraced by campuses all over the world and has inspired imaginative expressions of student support for the potential of open access to foster creativity, innovation, and problem solving. The Sparky Awards are organized by SPARC (the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition)....

SPARC, Aug. 2



and Library Services to the Indiana State Library. In July 2011, the National Endowment for the Humanities awarded a [\\$293,157 grant](#) to the Indiana State Library to digitize the state's historically significant newspapers published between 1836 and 1922. The digitized papers will become available through Indiana Memory.

**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.



## Seen Online

### [Congress revises consumer products act](#)

After three years, the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA) issue has been resolved. On August 1, U.S. Rep. Mary Bono Mack (R-Calif.) introduced H.R. 2715 ([PDF file](#)), a bill to provide the Consumer Product Safety Commission with greater authority and discretion in enforcing the consumer product safety laws, and for other purposes. The publishing and printing industries had [long argued](#) that books have never presented a threat of high lead levels. This bill protects libraries in two ways....

District Dispatch, Aug. 2; *Publishers Weekly*, Aug. 2

### [Senate passes faster FOIA bill](#)

Steven Aftergood writes: "The Faster FOIA Act, a modest bit of legislation to establish a commission 'to examine the root causes of FOIA delays,' was introduced and passed in the Senate August 1. It was previously passed in May, but the resulting bill was amended by the House in order to serve as a vehicle for its debt ceiling debate, stripping out the FOIA-related content. It was reintroduced and the new bill, S. 1466, passed on a voice vote and will move once again to the House."...



## Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

**"Despite the ineptitude of the City Council and the fact that, Democrat or Republican, I will vote against every one of them—the city should still have their library."**

—Troy, Michigan, resident Steve Linville, on a special election for a tax levy to save the city library, *Troy (Mich.) Patch*, Aug. 2.

Secrecy News, Aug. 2

## [Public libraries are essential during recessions](#)

José-Marie Griffiths and Donald W. King write: "Our data show that every year over the past two decades, use of public libraries has increased by over 2 billion visits annually. In fact, when remote access to public libraries through the internet is included, the number of visits per capita has more than doubled during the same two decades. When we looked specifically at the previous two recessions, we saw that growth in visits to libraries as well as services they offered rose well above previous levels."...

*Providence (R.I.) Journal*, July 27

## [Banned Sites Day on September 28](#)

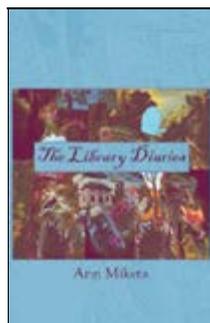
New Canaan (Conn.) High School Library Department Chair Michelle Luhtala takes issue with restrictions on the use of social media sites by students, which she likens to the practice of banning books in school libraries. In an effort to raise awareness around the importance of freedom of information for students, Luhtala plans to launch Banned Sites Day on September 28, piggybacking off ALA's annual Banned Books Week the last week in September....

*Stamford (Conn.) Advocate*, July 30

## [Fired library assistant sues over free-speech violation](#)

Sally Stern-Hamilton, a former library assistant at the Mason County (Mich.) District Library, has filed a federal lawsuit alleging that the library violated her free-speech rights by [firing her](#) in 2008. Her controversial book *The Library Diaries*, written under the pseudonym Ann Miketa and set in what she calls the Lake Michigan town of Denialville, is a series of fictional vignettes about mostly unsavory characters encountered daily at the library. Library Director Robert Dickson declined to comment on the lawsuit....

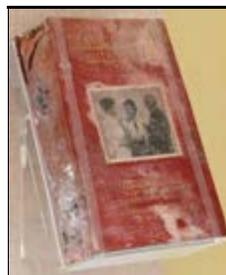
*Grand Rapids (Mich.) Press*, Aug. 1; *American Libraries* news, Aug. 30, 2008



## [Mystery surrounds loss of records from 9/11 attack](#)

Letters written by Helen Keller, 40,000 photographic negatives of John F. Kennedy taken by the president's personal cameraman, sculptures by Alexander Calder and Auguste Rodin, the 1921 agreement that created the agency that built the World Trade Center: The September 11, 2001, attacks destroyed tens of thousands of records, irreplaceable historical documents, and art. Twenty-one libraries were destroyed, including that of *The Journal of Commerce*. Dozens of federal, state, and local government agencies were at the site. A more detailed report of the cultural loss sustained on 9/11 is available from Heritage Preservation ([PDF file](#))....

Associated Press, July 30; Heritage Preservation, 2002



## [Comics are an educator's secret weapon](#)

Lindsay Mar writes: "Diana Maliszewski, librarian at Agnes Macphail Public School in Toronto, is one of the few teachers in Canada who dedicate a student club to

@ [More quotes...](#)

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graphic novels. But she is one of a growing number of educators and literacy advocates who believe the often-misunderstood genre could be the key to unlocking literacy for reluctant readers. Maliszewski also believes the combination of word and image can help reluctant readers who have short attention spans or problems visualizing.”...

*This Magazine*, Aug. 2



### [Oakland library stays open late to reduce homicides](#)

An East Oakland, California, library is staying open late in August as part of the city's campaign to provide youth with safe alternative places to spend their weekend nights. The 81st Avenue branch of the Oakland Public Library has joined city officials and the Oakland Unified School District for their "Late Night Live!" initiative, which aims to provide city youth with a safe haven on Friday and Saturday evenings....

*San Francisco Bay Citizen*, July 30



### [Florida jobless flock to library to file](#)

As of August 1, Floridians are required to file both new and continued unemployment claims over the internet. The complete switch to internet filings will save \$4.7 million annually. For those without a computer or internet access, libraries will have to pick up the slack. "It could take anywhere from 15 to 30 minutes just to get them on that site, to get them to be able to go from one page to the next," said Collier County Reference Librarian April Ristau....

*Naples (Fla.) News*, July 31

### [Video store's loss is Forbes Library's gain](#)

Pleasant Street Video, a Northampton, Massachusetts, institution for 25 years, closed its doors July 15 after the commercial space was sold to a new owner. Instead of merely liquidating its stock, the store owners joined with Forbes Library in a [fundraiser](#) that allowed the library to take over its collection while retiring the debt that Pleasant Street had incurred. Organizers attribute the success of the effort to an ingenious twist in which people were invited to buy and donate their favorite movies. The 8,000 new DVDs will triple the library's collection....

*Springfield (Mass.) Republican*, July 30

### [Outsourcing the library can lead to a backlash](#)

Melissa Maynard writes: "Hardly anyone in the general public realizes it, but LSSI, which runs 68 branch libraries in California, Kansas, Oregon, Tennessee, and Texas, is now the fifth largest library system in America. Quiet though it has been, the rise of LSSI has attracted its share of critics, not just at the local level but in the increasingly nervous network of public library systems around the country. LSSI so far has no competitors in the private sector."...

*Stateline*, Aug. 1



Annual Conference on Distance Teaching and Learning, Madison, Wisconsin, Aug. 3–5, at:

[#dtl2011](#)

IFLA World Library and Information Congress, San Juan, Puerto Rico, Aug. 13–18, at:

[#wlic2011](#)

IFLA New Professionals SIG, San Juan, Puerto Rico, Aug. 15, at:

[#npsig2011](#)

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

[amlibraries](#)

## Calendar

**Aug. 5–6:**  
[Rocky Mountain Book and Paper Fair](#), Denver Merchandise Mart.

**Aug. 13–18:**  
[International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions](#), World Library and Information Congress, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

**Aug. 15:**  
[IFLA New Professionals Special Interest Group](#), Madre María Teresa Guevara Library, University of Sacred Heart, San Juan. "New Professionals beyond New Professionals:"

### [Town resents county's armed guards at library](#)

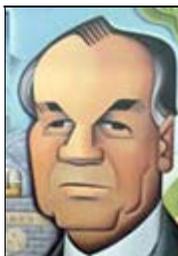
The decision by Maricopa County, Arizona, to place armed security guards at the Southeast Regional Library in Gilbert has drawn the ire of town officials, who say the county acted unilaterally and refuses to negotiate. Frustrated by what Town Council members say is the county's strong-armed action, members on July 28 said they will begin looking at alternatives for operating the library, including privatization or a takeover....

Phoenix *Arizona Republic*, July 30

### [Chicago's new Richard M. Daley branch library](#)

Chicago Public Library's new Richard M. Daley branch is the 58th library set in motion during the former mayor's 22-year tenure. The building's [namesake](#) and his successor, Mayor Rahm Emanuel, dedicated the shiny, 16,000-square-foot, light-drenched building on July 28. It had opened three weeks earlier and had already been host to 10,000 visitors....

New York *Times*, July 30; *Chicago Tribune*, July 29



### [Virginia's Rare Book School attracts bibliophiles](#)

Welcome to Rare Book School, summer camp for bibliophiles. Tucked in the basement of the cavernous main library at the University of Virginia, the school is an annual five-week homage to the printed page. Founded at New York's Columbia University in 1983, the Rare Book School relocated to Charlottesville in 1992 as a nonprofit affiliate of the university and found a niche as a place for librarians and scholars to decode the story told by the book itself: the ink, the paper, the typeface, the binding, the illustrations, the subtle notations in the margins....

Washington *Post*, July 28

### [Shakespeare First Folio returns to Durham](#)

A Shakespeare First Folio stolen in 1998 and recovered 10 years later is back on exhibit at Durham University's Wolfson Gallery, telling the story of its theft and return. A Newcastle Crown Court jury cleared 53-year-old Raymond Scott of stealing the book but found him guilty of handling stolen goods and removing criminal property. He was given an eight-year prison sentence, but has launched an appeal against his convictions....

Sunderland (U.K.) *Echo*, July 26



### [Library delivery man captures sex assault suspect](#)

After hearing a child scream, an Edmonton (Alberta) Public Library driver chased a man who allegedly sexually assaulted a 10-year-old boy, pinning him down until police arrived. Kim, a 12-year veteran library driver who declined to give his last name, was in the midst of a delivery at the Riverbend branch when he heard a child's scream. Kim told the boy to go into the library, then followed the man three or four blocks. The driver has been nominated for the Edmonton Police Commission's citizen recognition award....

Edmonton (Alberta) *Journal*, July 29

### [U.K. legal battle over libraries heats up](#)

Skills, Needs, and Strategies of a New Generation of LIS Professionals."

**Aug. 22-27:**  
[Society of American Archivists](#), Annual Meeting, Hyatt Regency, Chicago. "Archives 360°."

**Sept. 2-3:**  
[Science Online London](#), British Library, St. Pancras.

**Sept. 6-7:**  
[European Congress on E-Inclusion](#), European Parliament and the Committee of the Regions, Brussels, Belgium. "Transforming Access to Digital Europe in Public Libraries."

**Sept. 18-20:**  
[Society for Scholarly Publishing](#), 2011 IN Conference: Innovation, Globalization, and Collaboration, Waterview Conference Center, Arlington, Virginia.

**Oct. 10-14:**  
[Patent Information Users Group](#), Northeast Conference, Hyatt Regency, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

**Oct. 12-14:**  
[North American Cartographic Information Society](#), Annual Meeting, Madison Concourse Hotel, Wisconsin. "Cartography and Information Design."

**Oct. 12-16:**  
[Oral History](#)

The defense of the U.K. public library service has entered a new phase with the judicial review hearing in the High Court into Brent council's contentious proposal to close six of its 12 libraries. The case was the first to be heard but more will swiftly follow, as campaigners frustrated by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media, and Sport's unwillingness to order a public inquiry into closures turn to the law for urgent action before their libraries are closed for good....

*The Bookseller*, Aug. 1

### [European libraries that offer respite from the crowds](#)

Geraldine Fabrikant writes: "European cities are feet-on-the-pavement destinations, where many of us find ourselves trudging along familiar routes with hordes of tourists just like us. To take a break, we are likely to stop at the cafés and museum gardens already overcrowded with fellow travelers. But relief could be at hand, in the guise of cities' libraries, which are often ignored by visitors. Here are some of my favorites."...

*New York Times*, July 29



[Go back to the Top](#)

## Tech Talk

### [Five things Google+ does better than Facebook and Twitter](#)

Sean Ludwig writes: "Google+ has only been active for a month, but the network has built enough buzz to attract a reported 20 million users. Several of us on the VentureBeat staff have immersed ourselves into the Google+ ecosystem to see what it has to offer. We've come to generally enjoy the service and noticed a few strengths it has over Facebook and Twitter, especially in the realms of privacy and video chat. Here are five features we've seen that we like."...

*VentureBeat*, July 30

### [How to minimize five common distractions](#)

Dawn Foster writes: "We all want to get our work done, but sometimes it seems that there are so many distractions that it is almost impossible to be productive. Here are a few tips for taking charge of your day and kicking a few of the most common distractions to the curb. First, social media. Turn it off. Seriously."...

*GigaOm*, July 22



### [Five social-good websites aimed at youth](#)

Adora Svitak writes: "You know that teenagers are using the internet for social networking, self-expression, and even schoolwork. But that stereotypically self-absorbed, trite teen you see on Facebook might just have an altruistic side. Throughout the years, countless youth have founded charities, raised money, and dedicated time and money to service; today, new websites help more students do exactly that."...

*Mashable*, July 22



[Association](#). Annual Meeting, Renaissance Denver Hotel, Colorado. "Memories of Conflict and Disaster: Oral History and the Politics of Truth, Trauma, and Reconciliation."

**Oct. 21–23:**  
[Picture Archive Council of America](#), 16th International Conference, New York Marriott East Side, New York City.

**Oct. 31–  
Nov. 2:**  
[Digital Library Federation Forum](#), Hyatt Regency, Baltimore.

@ [More...](#)

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American Libraries Direct



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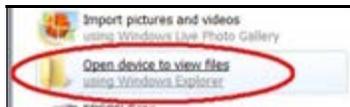


### [Twitter search gets upgraded](#)

Danny Sullivan writes: "For ages, Twitter has operated a standalone Twitter Search site in addition to allowing people to search from within Twitter.com itself. Now that standalone site has gained a [new location](#) and been upgraded to match the Twitter.com search experience. What's different beyond the URL? The interface."...  
Search Engine Land, July 25

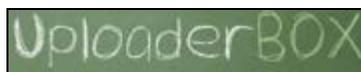
### [How to copy iDevice videorecordings to your PC](#)

Rick Broida writes: "At a recent airshow, I used my iPhone to shoot some mighty nice footage of the Blue Angels doing their thing. If you're new to capturing video with your iPhone, iPad 2, or fourth-gen iPod Touch, you may have discovered there's no obvious way to copy those minimovies from your device to your PC. As it happens, it's quite easy to copy these videos (and photos) to your PC. All it takes is a little futzing with Windows Explorer."...  
iPhone Atlas, July 29



### [A simple way to share large files](#)

Richard Byrne writes: "[Uploader Box](#) is a free service for sharing large files with your friends and colleagues. To use the service, just upload a file from your computer, enter your email address, and enter the email addresses of your intended recipients. Once your file is uploaded, Uploader Box will provide you with two URLs. One is for sharing your file and the other is for deleting your file if you decide you no longer want to share it."...  
Free Technology for Teachers, Aug. 2



### [Four stupid tech tricks, tested](#)

Patrick Miller writes: "The tech world is full of silly tricks that everyone has done once or twice, but not everyone knows exactly why (or whether) they really work. From pointing your car key fob at your jaw to improve range, to using a small child to improve your TV's antenna reception, we've decided to get to the bottom of these shenanigans once and for all."...  
*PC World*, July 15

### [100 things your kids may never know about](#)

Nathan Barry writes: "There are some things in this world that will never be forgotten, the 1969 Apollo 11 moon landing for one. But [Moore's Law](#) and our ever-increasing quest for simpler, smaller, faster, and better widgets and thingamabobs will always ensure that some of the technology we grew up with will not be passed down the line to the next generation of geeks. That is, of course, unless we tell them all about the good old days of modems and typewriters, slide rules and encyclopedias."...  
*Wired*: GeekDad, July 22



## E-Content

### [Keith Michael Fiels on the future of books](#)

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appeared (9:51) July 28 on the *Chicago Tonight* news program to talk about the future of books and e-books in the wake of the closing of nearly 400 Borders bookstores. He said that "About two-thirds of public libraries already make e-books available to users. In the case of college and university libraries, it's closer to 100%," adding that "most of the public don't realize that libraries actually offer e-books." Fiels was joined by independent bookseller Jason Smith and Sourcebooks Vice President Chris Farley....



*Chicago Tonight*, WTTW-TV, July 28

## [E-reader resources](#)

The advent of e-readers has shaken the world of books almost as much as the invention of movable type. E-readers present a new realm of possibilities in technology and education, and at the same time have forced us to reexamine traditional concepts of print format, copyright, and information sharing. This resource serves as a starting point to understand the evolving world of e-readers and e-books....



Internet Public Library 2

## [E-reader showdown: Typography](#)

India Amos writes: "When I first decided to try reading an e-book on my iPod Touch, I assumed that poor typography would be my biggest complaint about the e-reading applications I tried. It turns out that as with print books, I'm much more tolerant of ugly, poorly set text than I expected. Still, I'd rather have the *option* of making the text look good. So whether it makes me sometimes want to fork my eyes out or not, I promised you a rundown of typographic options in an assortment of e-reading applications, so that is what you will get."...



Digital Book World, July 28

## [Kindle and OverDrive](#)

Nora Rawlinson writes: "The major question on librarians' minds at OverDrive's Digipalooza, which concluded July 31, was when will Kindle users be able to download from OverDrive. The debut is viewed with a mixture of excitement and anxiety. Librarians look forward to being able to serve Kindle users, but worry about being able to buy enough copies to meet the increased demand."...

Early Word: The Publisher | Librarian Connection, Aug. 1

## [E-reader ownership doubles in six months](#)

The percent of U.S. adults with an e-book reader doubled from 6% to 12% between November 2010 and May 2011. Hispanic adults, adults younger than age 65, college graduates, and those living in households with incomes of at least \$75,000 are most likely to own e-book readers. Parents are also more likely than nonparents to own these devices....

Pew Internet and American Life Project, June 27

## [The e-book error problem: Just how bad is it?](#)

Joanna C. writes: "I [posted earlier](#) about some problems I have been having recently with error-filled e-books—I am not talking about major editing-process errors; rather, I am talking about typos and formatting glitches resulting from unproofed conversions. Now that e-reading customers are a more mainstream group, the complaints are getting increasingly vociferous. But how widespread is this problem? I took a look at my last 10 'big six' commercial reads and noted which ones I had tagged in Calibre as being problematic. Here are the results." ...

TeleRead, May 25, July 28

### [Competing with free](#)

Rich Adin writes: "My to-be-read pile of e-books keeps growing. Unfortunately for publishers, however, it keeps growing with free offerings from both publishers and self-publishers. Some are very high quality, many are just good reads.



Free e-books have relieved me of the pressure to read a not-well-written book because I invested in it. Because there are so many free e-books and because a large enough number of them are decently written, I see no need to return to the bookstore." ...

TeleRead, July 28

### [British Library adds 45,000 books to iPad app](#)

BiblioLabs and the British Library have added another 45,000 books to their [British Library 19th Century Collection App](#) for iPad. The app was announced in June with an initial offering of 1,000 19th-century books with titles ranging from classic novels to original accounts by Victorian travelers. The library plans to offer 60,000 titles by the end of the year....



British Library, Aug. 2

### [Digital literacy: Inclusion or barrier?](#)

Dale Lipschultz writes: "Last summer I acquired an e-reader for purely practical reasons. I could no longer carry a 600-page book in my briefcase any more than I could leave it at home. The timing is right for thinking and writing about digital literacy. Libraries, librarians, and ALA are examining the broad impact of digital literacy, which I define as the ability to use technology effectively, understand digital content, and communicate with digital tools." ...

National Coalition for Literacy blog, Aug. 1

### [Jail? For downloading too many articles?](#)

Nancy Sims writes: "A lot of the conversation in my neck of the internet is on the arraignment of open access advocate Aaron Swartz (right) on charges of wire fraud and unauthorized network use. The networks most deeply involved in the case are those of JSTOR. I do agree that the prospect of jail time for Swartz's activities (after JSTOR itself had apparently considered the matter settled) seems like a massive overreaction on the part of the prosecutors. However, the charges in the indictment ([PDF file](#)) and Swartz's alleged criminal activities are *not* 'downloading too many articles.' Let's get some stuff straight." ...



Copyright Librarian, July 20

### [What if piracy \*does\* sell more content?](#)

Chris Meadows writes: "Edward Nawotka has a [summary](#) of events at Brazil's second digital book conference. SocialBook founder Bob Stein contends that Brazil has the opportunity to learn from the mistakes of far-too-conservative American publishers who blew it when it came to meeting the e-book challenge. People get upset at the thought of someone reading, listening to, or viewing their works without paying for it—but a good deal of evidence suggests that piracy actually helps to promote those works so they sell more."...  
TeleRead, July 27; Publishing Perspectives, July 27



### [Liking library data](#)

Eric Hellman writes: "The most widely implemented application of semantic web technologies has been Facebook's Like button. When you click a [Like button](#), an arc is added to Facebook's representation of your social graph. The arc links a node that represents you and another node that represents the thing you liked. As you interact with your social graph via Facebook, the added Like arc may introduce new interactions. Injecting library resources into social networks is important. The libraries and the social networks that figure out how to do that will enrich our communities and the great global graph that is humanity."...  
Go to Hellman, July 27



## Books and Reading

### [Borders employees hold online wake](#)

Mary Schmich writes: "Thousands of Borders alumni have gathered on Facebook recently to mourn the liquidation of the last Borders stores. Reading their posts is like attending a funny, melancholy, affectionate online wake, and, like all good wakes, it makes you appreciate the deceased even more. On various Facebook pages—most notably '[Borders Class of 2011 and before](#)' (login required), which topped 6,722 members August 3—the former employees trade memories, referring to their stores by number. Reading these stories is a reminder that Borders was more than a bookstore."...  
*Chicago Tribune*, July 31



### [Our Espresso Book Machine experience](#)

Rick Anderson writes: "In my talks I have rhapsodized about the [Espresso Book Machine](#) from On Demand Books. I've gone so far as to characterize this machine, despite its clunky ugliness, as incredibly sexy and that it has the potential to change utterly not just the nature of the library collection, but the whole world of publishing. Reader, we bought one. And almost two years later, I don't regret it. However, I want to share some of the lessons that we've learned from our experience so far."...  
The Scholarly Kitchen, Aug. 2



## [Are book clubs endangered?](#)

Nathan Heller writes: "A casual observer of the book-club scene could be fooled into thinking that this summer was a hard one for the nation's leisure readers. Late in spring, Oprah's club shuttered, stranding publishers in what promises to be a long shoal of short print runs. Could reading groups be losing their sway in our culture? On one hand, this is a reasonable question; on the other, it's like asking whether the United States should worry about being out-powered by Belgium."...

*Slate*, July 29

## [Websites that alert you to new book releases](#)

Saikat Basu writes: "The digital age has given the book lover another set of eyes to find out what new books are getting released and where to grab them. Welcome to the world of book tracking and notification services. The five book recommendation websites mentioned here are tailor-made to your interests and are like homing missiles when it comes to alerting you about new releases."...

*MakeUseOf*, July 19

## [Faculty inertia and change in scholarly publishing](#)

Meredith Farkas writes: "I loved Barbara Fister's [recent post](#) about faculty who seem surprised that journals cost the library a lot. And the quote from [Peter Murray-Rust's blog](#) stating that '[librarians] should have alerted us earlier to problems instead of acquiescing to so much of the dystopia' was extremely depressing. Beyond telling our faculty time and again (for decades) about these issues and keeping them apprised of the situation as we cut and cut and tried to get more with less through Big Deal packages, what should we have done?"...

Information Wants To Be Free, Aug. 1; Library Babel Fish, July 19; petermr's blog, July 9

## [Is the academic publishing ecosystem unbalanced?](#)

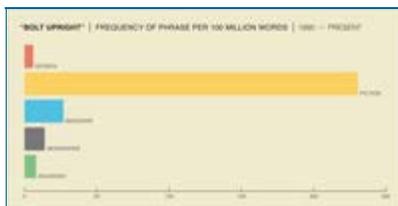
Andy Woodworth writes: "The world of academic publishing has got to be a case study in scholarly symbiotic relationships waiting to happen. Faculty need the journals for both research and publishing for advancement; and the journals need people to submit papers, subscribe to their content, and increase the academic reputation of their holdings. Unless, like any real ecosystem, you change one of the variables."...

*Agnostic, Maybe*, Aug. 1

## [The jargon of the novel, computed](#)

Ben Zimmer writes: "We like to think that modern fiction, particularly American fiction, is free from the artificial stylistic pretensions of the past. Has a vernacular style become the standard for the typical fiction writer? Or is literary language still a distinct and peculiar beast? Scholars in the growing field of digital humanities can tackle this question by analyzing enormous numbers of texts at once. One such research enterprise is the Corpus of Contemporary American English, or COCA, which brings together 425 million words of text from the past two decades."...

*New York Times*, July 29



## [The United States of writers](#)

Gabe Habash writes: "Ever wondered which states have the strongest literary tradition? Well, we've broken down the country into all 50 states, highlighting one singular writer to carry the flag for each. The

results are surprising: The Midwest and the Northeast have the highest concentration of well-known writers, and a few states one might believe would have a strong history of pumping out writers are actually not all you'd think. Which state is the worst? The best? Find out here." The post provoked some annoyed comments....

PWxyz, July 27

### [The case for raunchy teen lit](#)

Tracy Clark-Flory writes: "I started out with classics like Nancy Drew and *The Boxcar Children*, but at some point in my fledgling reading career I became less interested in fictional young detectives than in solving some mysteries for myself—namely about sex and romance. Raunchy young adult novels were just the thing to satisfy my curiosity, cement my passion for books, and, of course, titillate with descriptions of, oh my God, open-mouthed *tongue kissing*. It isn't just that these novels can give kids a glimpse of a more mature world; they also reflect their actual reality, as good books tend to do."...

Salon, July 28



### [Soviet-era children's books](#)

The University of Chicago's new Mansueto Library, which opened on May 16, is home to a new special collections space which will feature the first faculty-led exhibit since the renovation. The exhibit, "[Adventures in the Soviet Imaginary](#)," will feature such books as the 1932 edition of the children's book, *Whom Shall I Become?*, which depicts different career options that children might choose, with playful text and abstract illustrations. Fifteen years later—shortly after World War II and almost a decade after the Great Purge—a new edition of the book came out with a less playful feel....

University of Chicago Magazine, Aug. 2



## Actions & Answers

### [How Google dominates us](#)

James Gleick writes: "Google is where we go for answers. People used to go elsewhere or, more likely, stagger along not knowing. Nowadays you can't have a long dinner-table argument about who won an Oscar before someone will pull out a pocket device and Google it. Part of Google's mission is to make books of answers redundant (and reference librarians, too). No wonder there's some confusion about Google's exact role in that—along with increasing fear about its power and its intentions."...

New York Review of Books, Aug. 18

### [Debriefing summer reading](#)

Abby Johnson writes: "Speaking for public children's and teen librarians all over the country: We're exhausted. It's been a long summer filled with programs, unexpected visits from day camps, placing holds on [Diary of a Wimpy Kid](#) and [Pinkalicious](#), unattended kids spending the entire day on the computer, and (of course) Summer Reading Club. Even though we just finished, I'm already thinking about what we want to change for next year."...

ALSC Blog, Aug. 3



## [Aim for the passionate users](#)

Steven Bell writes: "Despite the overwhelming odds against success as an independent video store in 2011, a few are actually surviving if not exactly thriving. What these survivors are doing could provide a lesson for academic libraries that face similar challenges in a world where our target population can find information elsewhere with greater ease and convenience. In a *New York Times* article titled '[The Video Store, Reinvented by Necessity](#),' we learn that these strategies include participative film viewings, presentations by filmmakers, film classes, trivia nights, and (yes) better facilities."...

ACRLog, Aug. 2; *New York Times*, July 30

## [2009 public library data files released](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has released the 2009 Public Libraries Survey data. It is available on the [IMLS website](#). All 50 states and the District of Columbia participate in the Public Libraries Survey every year and the collection includes data on visitation, circulation, the availability and use of library computing resources, staffing, library collections and services, and fiscal information such as operating revenue and expenditures....

Library Research Service News, Aug. 1

## [WorldCat Identities Network](#)

Lorcan Dempsey writes: "There have been some nice reactions to OCLC's [WorldCat Identities Network](#). The initial motivation for this was to put a graphic display of related Identities into an Identities page. This did not work out and we decided to make it available as a standalone app. The aim is to show how something could be built on top of the WorldCat API and the WorldCat Identities Web Services. It is a mashup. This is an example for the [Los Alamos National Laboratory](#)."...

Lorcan Dempsey's Weblog, July 30; OCLC, July 28

## [Take one ounce of camphor](#)

Larry Nix writes: "The July 1895 issue of *Library Notes* contained a compilation of '[Library Recipes](#)' for use by libraries in dealing with common problems that they encountered in their operations. The recipes were compiled by Katharine Lucinda Sharp for ALA's Comparative Library Exhibit at the 1893 World Colombian Exposition in Chicago." Libraries in the 1890s had to mix up their own bookworm and blood-stain remedies, deodorizers and disinfectants, glues, inks, spot removers, mildew preventatives, and pastes....

Library History Buff Blog, Aug. 1; *Library Notes* 4 (July 1895): 206-223

<p>Disinfectant. Have a box 24 inches square and two feet high with a shelf half way up. The bottom should be of tin. Put brimstone on the tin and set it on fire. Place the book on the shelf and shut it up for a day.—HANNAH P. JAMES</p>
--

## [Federal court records destroyed to save money](#)

Maya Rhodan writes: "The federal courts are destroying millions of judicial case records that have been stored in the Federal Records Centers of the National Archives for decades, all in an effort to save money. The plan is to destroy all records on cases that did not go to trial that were filed between 1970 and 1995. For other records, the judiciary has reduced the current record retention time from 25 to 15 years in an effort to cut costs. All cases that went to trial or were filed before 1970 will be kept."...

iWatch News, Aug. 2

## [Survival tips for law firm librarians](#)

Elliott C. Blevins writes: "When a law firm starts looking for places to cut, the library is seldom the last place they look. I have seen many articles about how to make sure that management knows the value of

the librarian, but it is also important that others in the firm know it. Here is a list that I call '10 Survival Tips for Law Firm Librarians.' There could be many others, of course, but these tips include ideas that often go unheeded and may be at least part of the reason that some of my dearest colleagues are currently unemployed."...

On Firmer Ground, July 25

### [Public libraries and social recruiting](#)

Stephen Abram writes: "Many, maybe most, public libraries are proud of the way they assist patrons in finding work and jobs. And that's an awesome benefit of having a public library in your community. Jobvite released its 2011 social recruiting [survey results](#). This fourth annual report provides the latest stats and trends on how employers use social networks to recruit today. Clearly, in our assistance of job seekers in the library, we cannot ignore the roles that social networks and strategies play in finding a job."...

Stephen's Lighthouse, Aug. 2

DO YOU RECRUIT IN SOCIAL NETWORKS?



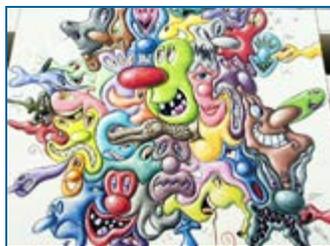
### [In praise of the news librarian](#)

Tim Ferguson writes: "A valued colleague named Susan Radlauer has been promoted to director of research services at *Forbes*, which gives me a peg to go on a bit about her and the importance of what she does for our editorial operation. I should, because I probably make use of her assistance as much as anybody in our New York shop. When just Googling doesn't get what information I'm after, my next step is usually Sue."...

*Forbes*: Oceans Away, July 27

### [Street artists brighten West Hollywood library](#)

The new West Hollywood branch of the County of Los Angeles (Calif.) Public Library building isn't expected to officially open until October, but at least one component of the complex is already garnering public attention: a new group of murals created by street artists Shepard Fairey, Retna, and Kenny Scharf. The outdoor murals are a joint project by the artists, the city of West Hollywood, and the Museum of Contemporary Art. They can be found on the library's parking structure....



*Los Angeles Times*: Culture Monster, July 27; Arrested Motion, July 30

### [National Library of Ireland on Flickr Commons](#)

The National Library of Ireland joined the Flickr Commons photostream in February 2010. The library's goal is to share publicly held collections of photographs online and to enrich the collections with input from Flickr users. A recent addition is the "July" set which has one photo taken between 1873 and 1944 for every day in July, with a short explanation for each. Users are encouraged to comment on and add their expertise to the collection....



National Library of Ireland

### [Do filters work?](#)

David Lee King writes: "I just read Andy Woodworth's [post about](#)

[filters](#) and was reminded about something. A couple days ago, I visited my church's website while in the library. We filter both public and staff computers, and guess what I found? My church's website was blocked, because 8e6 (our filtering provider) thinks it's a porn site. So, do filters work? Seriously, yes and no."...

David Lee King, July 28; Agnostic, Maybe, July 28

### [The Great Library Stereotypometer](#)

Ned Potter writes: "Okay here it is. After extensive research (I asked people on Twitter what they reckoned) I proudly present (and then immediately duck behind the nearest sofa) the [Great Library Stereotypometer](#)—a new, up-to-date, piercingly accurate and entirely nonserious look at library stereotypes. Click on the image to see it full-size. Feel free to use it anywhere. Don't take it seriously."...



thewikiman, July 19

### [Online survey of digitized rare Catholica](#)

Marta Deyrup and Martha Loesch, catalogers at Seton Hall University's Walsh Library, and Pat Lawton, digital project librarian for the Catholic Research Resources Alliance, have released the results of their Survey of Digitized Rare Catholica ([PDF file](#)) held by Catholic universities, colleges, seminaries, and archives in the United States and Canada. The survey provides an overview of how these materials are being used by faculty, students, and external communities....

Seton Hall University, July 30

### [Five things you have to know about every genealogy record](#)

Michael Hait writes: "One of the most valuable lessons learned in genealogy is that finding a record is only the first step of research. So much more research occurs *after* we locate any single record. We must thoroughly and completely analyze and evaluate that record, identify the information it holds, assess the quality of the information, and apply this information to our research question. For every record we find, there are five things that we must investigate."...

Planting the Seeds, July 30

### [When they come for the libraries](#)

Hillside Festival attendees in Guelph, Ontario, were treated to some spoken-word poetry in support of libraries July 24 as David James Hudson performed his "When They Come for the Libraries" (4:47). The performance was timely, as Toronto Public Library is [targeted](#) with budget-cutting and closure threats by the Toronto city council. As Hudson asks, "When they come for the libraries, will you fight?"....



YouTube, July 25; *Toronto Globe and Mail*, July 26

### [Why Toronto Public Library staff gave me indigestion](#)

Ken Haycock writes: "During all the brouhaha over the potential privatization of the Toronto Public Library services, I received a professional journal providing the reasons why a TPL librarian will not lose her job to technology, and yes, her position was identified. I have now moved from indigestion to depression. These are the five reasons the contributor gave."...

Library Leadership, July 25

### [From pulp fiction to planter](#)

Sarah Vilimek shows how discarded library furniture can be turned into a green project: "I bought a metal 'Best of Reading' spinning paperback book stand from a public library surplus sale (for \$1 at the end of the day). A friend and I painted it and turned it into a plant stand for my backyard, with advice from the Missouri Botanical Garden. How many people have a spinning garden?"...

Flickr, July 4



### ["Librarian" by My Morning Jacket](#)

Jim James, lead vocalist of the Louisville rock band My Morning Jacket, sings "Librarian" (4:21), from the band's 2008 album *Evil Urges*, at Austin City Limits: "Sweetest little bookworm, hidden underneath is the sexiest librarian / Take off those glasses and let down your hair for me."...

YouTube, June 12



### [Marina Orlova puts a hot word in for libraries](#)

Russian philologist and internet celebrity Marina Orlova posted a HotForWords YouTube [video](#) (2:28) on August 1 advocating for books and libraries, which she sees as doomed: "It upsets me that libraries are going to be soon out of business . . . in the next two years."...

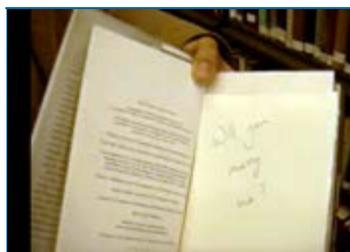
YouTube, Aug. 1



### [Marriage proposal at the State Library of Victoria](#)

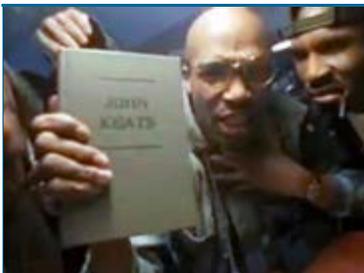
Stephanie Campisi writes: "I recently became engaged in a manner rather fitting for an unabashed lover of all things bookish." On May 17, an intriguing package arrived on her desk. Inside was a handwritten note that instructed her to go to the State Library of Victoria in Melbourne, Australia, and see the person at the Visitor Information counter, who would have information about a present for her. And that's just the beginning of the tale....

Read in a Single Sitting, July 21; YouTube, July 20



### [Library Rap from Sliders](#)

In the "Eggheads" episode (aired April 26, 1995) of the Fox TV series *Sliders*, the four travellers slip through a wormhole to an alternative universe where intellectuals are treated like sports stars, the San Francisco Public Library proudly announces that it is expanding its hours, and rap videos like [this one](#) (0:50) by MC Poindexter and The Study Crew are the norm: "Im-a give you one warning, there will be no repeats / Get outta my face while I'm reading my Keats."...



YouTube, May 26, 2009

## [11 imaginative places to sleep](#)

Jill Harness writes: "Creative beds aren't just for kids. People of all ages can enjoy a little imagination in the design of their sleeping chambers." Three of her choices would be welcome spots for sleepy librarians: [Yusuke Suzuki's Play Bed](#), Karen Babel's [bookcase bed](#) (right), and the [Uroko House](#) from Tokyo's Point Architects....

Mental Floss, Aug. 1



[Go back to the Top](#)

**ALA PUBLISHING** | American Library Association

American Libraries Magazine, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611 [americanlibrariesmagazine.org](http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org).

# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | August 10, 2011

## Contents

[American Libraries Online](#)  
[ALA News](#)  
[Booklist Online](#)  
[Division News](#)  
[Awards & Grants](#)  
[Seen Online](#)  
[Tech Talk](#)  
[E-Content](#)  
[Books and Reading](#)  
[Actions & Answers](#)  
[New This Week](#)  
[Calendar](#)

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**BUYERS GUIDE**

## American Libraries Online

### [A librarian's primer on the debt-ceiling deal](#)

Rich Stombres writes: "Now that the debate over raising the debt ceiling is over and the smoke is beginning to clear, the question remains: What does this really mean? And, more specifically, what does this mean for libraries? With little time to spare, Congress finally passed on August 2 the Budget Control Act of 2011, which allows the president to borrow more money to pay off our ever-increasing national debt. While there are no new taxes in this bill, there are plenty of spending cuts, but no specifics, and they are mostly well into the future. Here is an outline of the legislation."...

*American Libraries news*, Aug. 10



### [Vonnegut Library offers banned book to Republic students](#)

In response to a Missouri school board's order to ban *Slaughterhouse-Five* from the Republic High School library and curriculum, the [Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library](#) in Indianapolis is offering a free copy of the book to 150 of the school's students. Julia Whitehead, executive director of the library, said the gift, funded by an anonymous donor, was part of an effort to raise public awareness of the school board's decision to remove the antiwar novel, prompted by a [complaint](#) lodged by Missouri State University Associate Business Professor Wesley Scroggins....

AL: Censorship Watch, Aug. 9; Political Buzz Examiner, Aug. 7

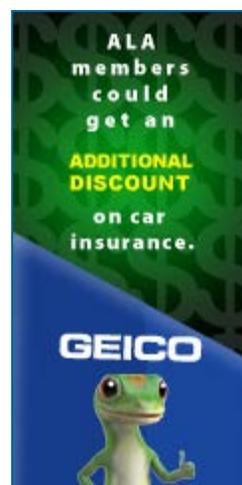


### [Credit card hackers target library's donation page](#)

At the request of the FBI, Brighton (Mich.) District Library Director Nancy Johnson is spreading a cautionary word to library colleagues about a series of illegal attempts to hack credit card accounts by testing them on her library's online-donation website. She explained to *American Libraries* that the



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offender tries to hack into individuals' accounts by trying to make a small online donation to the library and masquerading as a person whose name the hacker has harvested elsewhere. In essence, he runs an algorithm that tests different credit card number combinations against the same name in hopes of hitting a valid account number....

*American Libraries* news, Aug. 10

### [First-class service for 1st graders](#)

Becky Cothran-Nichols writes: "On eight school-day mornings every September, school buses pull into the Selma–Dallas County (Ala.) Public Library every hour starting at 9 a.m., unloading 40–50 bubbling 1st graders. They line up excitedly outside the door and then head in for one of the library's best programs for kids.



"Welcome to Your Library" has been welcoming 1st graders for eight years in an effort to bring reading into the homes of more than 700 boys and girls."...

*American Libraries* feature

### [Step easily into the digital future](#)

Kathy Anderson and Laurie Gemmill write:

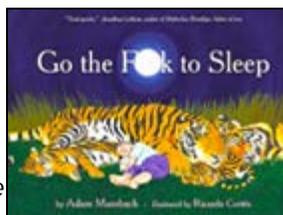
"Libraries know the future is digital, but how do we get there in these times of shrinking budgets and staffs? In a tough economy, a collaborative approach makes digitization possible for many libraries. The Lyrasis Mass Digitization Collaborative (MDC) is an example of a sustainable model that does not rely exclusively on grants or one-time funding; the collaborative works for libraries and cultural heritage institutions of all types and sizes."...



*American Libraries* feature

### [Go the f\\*\\*k to spam](#)

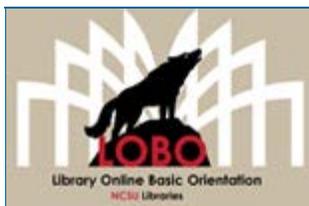
George Williams, media relations manager for the District of Columbia Public Library, shared the following anecdote with *American Libraries*: "The D.C. Public Library hit a snag when fulfilling hold requests for Adam Mansbach's book, *Go the F\*\*k to Sleep*. A city government email filter designed to prevent abusive language or profanity inadvertently blocked messages containing requests for Mansbach's book."...



AL: Censorship Watch, Aug. 9

### [Technology in Practice: Tutorials that matter](#)

Meredith Farkas writes: "Over the past decade, a large number of academic libraries have created online learning objects for their patrons. Whether it was a basic guide on doing research or a suite of tutorials for every database and topic, there has been growing recognition that learning objects are an important way to instruct patrons at their point of need. Many of these learning objects sit on the library website, not in online classrooms, and, as a result, many who would benefit never find them."...



*American Libraries* column, July/Aug.

### [Dispatches from the Field: Automation systems](#)

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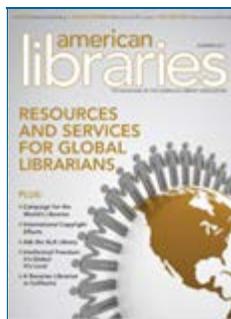
Marshall Breeding and Andromeda Yelton write: "For the last four years, Marshall Breeding has conducted an online Perceptions Survey to measure the satisfaction rate with multiple aspects of the automation products used by libraries. The data provides considerable insight into the dynamics of the library automation industry. The [May/June 2011 issue](#) of *Library Technology Reports* takes a deeper look at the survey data, exploring the differences that arise in comparing public versus academic libraries or those with differing collection sizes."...  
*American Libraries* column, July/Aug.



### [American Libraries IFLA international supplement](#)

A special [hard-copy version](#) of the *American Libraries* International Supplement is being distributed to attendees of the IFLA World Library and Information Congress in San Juan, Puerto Rico, August 13–18. The full issue, along with IFLA conference coverage and additional material, will appear on the [AL website](#) in September....

AL: Global Reach, Aug. 4



## ALA News

### [New Google Apps workshop](#)

ALA TechSource is offering a new workshop, "[Using Google Apps for a More Efficient Library](#)" with Suzann Holland, at 2:30 p.m. Eastern Time, September 4 and 14. From calendars to communication, Google's web-based tools are ideal for collaborating across different schedules and locations or accessing documents from multiple computers....

ALA TechSource, Aug. 9

### [District Days: The personal touch](#)

Krista McKenzie writes: "District Days, August 8 to September 5, starts this week. The four weeks when legislators return to their home states are a great time to schedule a meeting with them to advocate for your library. Legislators really like to hear personal stories to go along with pleas for library support. So how do you get those personal stories? Here's a few ideas I've had." (Before you schedule your appointment, take a look at [Capitol Hill Basics](#).)...

YALSA Blog, Aug. 5

### [Cathy Hakala-Ausperk tells you how to be a great boss](#)

ALA Editions is offering a new 90-minute workshop, "Be a Great Boss: One Year to Success" with Cathy Hakala-Ausperk (right), at 2:30 p.m. Eastern Time on September 21. Moving into a library management position or improving your management skills can feel

with pre-designed READ posters, bookmarks, backgrounds, and type treatments from the ever-popular READ CDs to create fabulous custom posters. Great for reading incentives, introducing new teachers, rewarding student readers, or promoting your library. **NEW! From ALA Graphics.**

### New this week in *American Libraries*



#### [First-Class Service for 1st Graders](#)

#### [Step Easily into the Digital Future](#)

#### [Technology in Practice](#)

#### [Dispatches from the Field](#)

#### [Censorship Watch](#)

#### [Currents](#)

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#### [Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

#### [Solutions and Services](#)

#### [AL Focus](#)



daunting. Take charge of your development with the help of Hakala-Ausperk's clear, focused, and programmatic approach....

ALA Editions, Aug. 9

### [Barbados and Taiwan join the campaign](#)



The [Library Association of Barbados](#) (login required) and the [Library Association of the Republic of China](#) (Taiwan) recently became the newest members of the Campaign for the World's Libraries. These associations join nearly 40 others that have previously joined the campaign and had the @ your library logo translated into their country's languages. The @ your library logo is currently [available](#) in 32 languages and in the colors of each partner countries' flag colors....

Public Information Office, Aug. 9

### [Bring your subject guides into the 21st century](#)

ALA TechSource is offering a new workshop, "[Creating Subject Guides for 21st-Century Libraries](#)" with Buffy Hamilton (right), at 4 p.m. Eastern Time on September 20. Hamilton will show you how to revitalize the subject guide as a dynamic, customizable, social resource by integrating it into the web. Registration is available on the ALA Store....

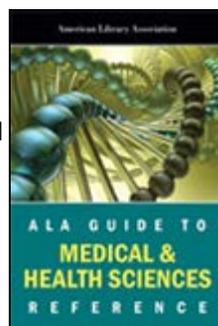
ALA TechSource, Aug. 9



### [ALA's guide to medical and health sciences reference](#)

Published by ALA Editions, the [ALA Guide to Medical and Health Sciences Reference](#) provides an annotated list of biomedical and health-related reference sources, including internet resources and digital image collections. Readers will find relevant research, clinical, and consumer health information resources. The emphasis is on resources within the United States, with a few representative examples from other countries....

ALA Editions, Aug. 9



# Booklist ONLINE

## [Featured review: Horror fiction for youth](#)

Yancey, Rick. *The Isle of Blood*. Sept. 2011. 560p. Grades 9–12. Simon & Schuster,

## Great Libraries of the World



### [Altenburg Abbey Library](#)

Altenburg, Austria. The library in this 12th-century Benedictine abbey was rebuilt in Baroque style in the 1730s by architect Joseph Munggenast. A [fresco](#) by Paul Troger in the central dome depicts the visit of the Queen of Sheba to King Solomon, while [paintings](#) in the other domes are by Johann Jakob Zeiller.

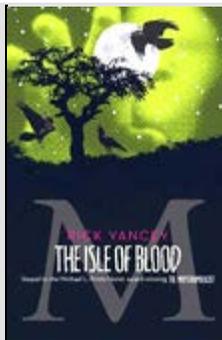


### [Franciscan Monastery Library](#)

Schwaz, Austria. This early 16th-century monastery boasts a collection of 467 incunabula, as well as the collections of the Innsbrück monasteries that were abolished in 1785 by Emperor Joseph II.

hardcover (978-1-4169-8452-8).

After fighting off headless hordes in *The Monstrumologist* (2009) and a face-eating specter in *Curse of the Wendigo* (2010), Dr. Pellinore Warthrop and his trusty 13-year-old assistant, Will Henry, are enjoying a rare moment of tranquility when they receive a most horrific package: a nest woven from human body parts and dripping with *pwdre ser*—"the rot of stars." It is the revolting work of the *typhoeus magnificum*, aka the Unseen One, aka the holy grail of monstrumology, a creature so ravenous it will eat itself. And it must be found!...



### [Top 10 horror fiction for youth](#)



Gillian Engberg writes: "Where's *The Graveyard Book* in our list of the top recent horror novels for youth? The answer raises the always-thorny question, What *is* horror? Though Neil Gaiman's celebrated Newbery winner kicks off in an indubitably horrifying way, it is overall a warmhearted work buoyed by flights of fancy. Horror, served straight, requires a pervading sense of dread—something the books below have in spades. And shovels. And stakes."...

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

## Division News

### [ACRL seeks standards training proposals](#)

ACRL seeks proposals for the design, development, and delivery of a versatile and modular curriculum to support the use of the division's forthcoming revised *Standards for Libraries in Higher Education*. The complete request for proposal, including details on deliverables and the application process, is available on the ACRL website ([PDF file](#)). The deadline for RFP submissions is September 26....

ACRL, Aug. 5

### [Banned Websites Awareness Day, September 28](#)

In an extension of the observance of Banned Books Week, AASL will highlight censorship awareness by designating September 28 as Banned Websites Awareness Day. By doing so, AASL hopes to bring attention to the overly aggressive filtering of educational and social websites used by students and educators....

AASL, Aug. 9

### [AASL to screen Digital Media documentary](#)

In conjunction with the appearance of closing general session speaker Mimi Ito (right), AASL will present two screenings of the documentary *Digital Media: New Learners of the 21st Century* at its national conference on October 27, as a complement to the conference



### **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 later this year by ALA Editions.



### **Career Leads from JobLIST**

#### [Neighborhood Libraries Assistant Director](#)

Multnomah County Library, Portland, Oregon. Works with supervisory and frontline staff to provide library services to the citizens of Multnomah County through the neighborhood branches. The Neighborhood Libraries Assistant Director directly supervises branch administrators in 12

Exploratorium. The documentary explores how mobile and digital tools are changing the ways young people learn and showcases ways digital media is being using in education....

AASL, Aug. 9

### [YALSA launches Teen Read Week photo contest](#)

As part of Teen Read Week 2011, teens can enter a photo contest (judged by 2011 Teen Read Week Spokesperson Jay Asher) and win autographed books or an e-reader from Penguin Books for Young Readers. To enter, teens ages 13–18 must create a visual representation of their favorite book, upload the photo to Flickr, and tag it with "TRWcontest11." The contest is open now through October 31. Entrants must also fill out an [online entry form](#)....

YALSA, Aug. 9

### [Help ALSC rename its newsletter](#)

ALSC is looking for a new and unique name for the *ALSCconnect* newsletter. Got any ideas? ALSC members are invited to send suggestions. Yours just might end up on the ballot for a member vote next spring. Send your suggestions to [Laura Schulte-Cooper](#). The deadline for submissions is August 31....

ALSC Facebook Page, Aug. 9

### [ALSC fall online education schedule](#)

ALSC has released its Fall 2011 online education course schedule of five courses, each of which begins September 26. Each of the courses addresses a different topic and includes ideas for librarians and children's literature enthusiasts. The courses run four to six weeks long. ALSC is also offering two webinars in August....

ALSC, Aug. 9

## Awards & Grants

### [YALS wins its fourth APEX Award](#)

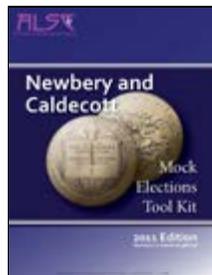
For the fourth year in a row, Communications Concepts awarded *Young Adult Library Services (YALS)*, YALSA's quarterly journal, an Award of Excellence, as part of the APEX Awards for Publication Excellence. *YALS* was recognized in the category of Journals and Magazines over 32 pages. The journal won for issues from its ninth volume, edited by Sarah Flowers....

YALSA, Aug. 9

### [Newbery/Caldecott Award mock election programs](#)

Newbery and Caldecott Award mock election programs are an ideal and fun way to encourage children to read; enhance listening, discussion, and communication skills; teach book examination skills; and foster appreciation of fine art and literature. Just in time for end-of-year election program planning, ALSC is offering a [toolkit](#) and a [live webinar](#) on August 24 and October 5....

ALSC, Aug. 9



### [ALSC names 2011–2012 Spectrum Scholar](#)

ALSC has chosen high school biology teacher and part-time youth service librarian Robina Button (right) as its 2011–2012 Spectrum Scholar. In September, Button

branches and exercises indirect supervision over approximately 150 front-line staff in those branches. The person in this position oversees budget, personnel and quality management, as well as program operations. This individual is expected to be visible, accessible, and approachable to both patrons and staff and to work collaboratively with staff and stakeholders for optimal customer service, both internal and external....



@ [More jobs...](#)

### Digital Library of the Week



The [Jack Sheaffer Photograph Digital Collection](#), hosted by the University of Arizona Special Collections, contains over 10,000 images that document the photographic history of southern Arizona during a time of explosive growth in the area, from 1955 to 1975. Jack Sheaffer photographed both

will begin her first semester at the University of Illinois-Champaign. ALSC sponsors one Spectrum Scholar each year through the Frederic G. Melcher Endowment...  
Spectrum Initiative, Aug. 9



### APALA, FTRF support Spectrum Initiative

The [Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association](#) (right) has given \$5,000 and the [Freedom to Read Foundation](#) has donated \$1,000 in support of the Spectrum Presidential Initiative. Through this initiative, ALA aims to meet the critical needs of supporting master's-level scholarships, providing two \$25,000 doctoral scholarships, increasing the Spectrum Endowment to ensure the program's future, and developing special programs for recruitment and career development...  
Spectrum Initiative, Aug. 9



### University of Michigan hosts second Spectrum fundraiser

Librarians at the University of Michigan raised over \$1,500 for Spectrum Scholarships at the 2nd Annual Ann Arbor Spectrum Presidential Initiative fundraiser. The July 13 event was organized and sponsored by Shevon Desai, Karen Downing, Helen Look, Martin Knott, Alexandra Rivera, and Sue Wortman, with venue space generously donated by librarian Ann Gladwin...  
Spectrum Initiative, Aug. 9



### IMLS awards grant to continue Spectrum Doctoral Fellowship

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has awarded a Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program grant to the ALA Office for Diversity for its project, "Spectrum Doctoral Fellowship Program: Building Change." Under the renewed project, ALA will continue its efforts and recruit doctoral candidates from ethnically diverse backgrounds and work with over 20 participating academic programs to support Fellows' education and the conferral of degrees...  
Spectrum Initiative, July 21

### Lynne McCay receives SLA Dana Award

Lynne McCay (right), an information professional who contributed tirelessly to both her workplace and her profession for several decades, was awarded the Special Libraries Association's highest honor at its 2011 Annual Conference in Philadelphia on June 12. The John Cotton Dana Award is presented annually to an SLA member in recognition of a lifetime of achievement. McCay received the award in honor of her 40 years of exemplary work for the Congressional Research Service and her extensive record of leadership within SLA...  
Special Libraries Association, Aug. 3



major and minor events that made up the history of southern Arizona during the last half of the 20th century. His subjects ran the gamut from politics and sports to annual civic events like the Tucson Rodeo, and from celebrity visits and tragic accidents to local beauty pageants.

**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

**"The lens into the future is fogged by the miasma of nonsense about video gaming, twittering, the faux friendships of social networking, and the rest of the vain, and often ridiculous, attempts to clasp the shiny, evanescent culture of digital youth that are currently so popular among some librarians. However, through the murk I can see the librarians**

## [Anne Arundel County library wins international award](#)

The International Association of Workforce Professionals has honored officials from the Anne Arundel County (Md.) Public Library system for its efforts to help job seekers in the area with an IAWP Group Citation Award. During a ceremony at the West County Area branch in Odenton on July 21, IAWP officials praised the library system for its role in creating a "Community Career Connections" program to supplement existing career centers in the county. Five branches are offering one-stop career centers developed with the help of the Anne Arundel Workforce Development Corporation....

*Odenton (Md.) Patch, July 22*

## [Gwinnett County gets a load of Dummies](#)

One copy of every *Dummies* book in print is a lot of books—over 1,800 as Gwinnett County (Ga.) Public Library recently found out. As the winners of Wiley's *For Dummies 2011 Library Contest*, the library won the full set of the books by creating a *Dummies* Fan Page on Facebook and gathering the most "Likes" (5,002). GCPL mascot Dewey the Dinosaur was assisted in unloading the books by The Dummies Man (right)....

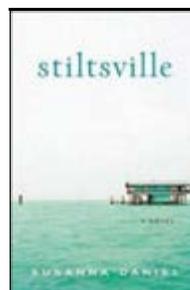


Early Word: The Publisher | Librarian Connection, Aug. 9

## [2011 PEN Literary Awards](#)

PEN American Center, the largest branch of the world's oldest literary and human rights organization, announced August 10 the winners and runners up of the 2011 PEN Awards, the most comprehensive literary awards program in the United States. This year, PEN will present 17 awards, fellowships, grants, and prizes, and will confer nearly \$150,000 in 2011 to some of the most gifted writers, editors, and translators working today. See the full list here....

Daily PEN American, Aug. 10



**of the future  
continuing to be  
inspired by enduring  
spirit of service,  
devotion to literacy  
and learning, and  
commitment to  
education and  
democratic values  
that has sustained us  
for so long."**

—Former ALA President  
Michael Gorman, [Broken  
Pieces: A Library Life, 1941–  
1978](#) (Chicago: ALA Editions,  
2011), p. 207.

@ [More quotes...](#)

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Reflects the Country's  
Changing Demographics](#)

[Brooke Gladstone:  
"Libraries Are Sanctuaries"](#)

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## Seen Online

### [Armed library guards uncommon in Arizona](#)

The controversy over whether libraries need armed security guards began in July after the Maricopa County (Ariz.) Library District reinstated security guards at the Southeast Regional branch in Gilbert. The decision to arm the guards followed complaints by staffers who were confronting rising incidents of theft and increasingly hostile encounters with irate patrons over late fees and other issues. Three other Maricopa branches also employ armed guards, but they are uncommon in libraries outside the district....

*Phoenix Arizona Republic, Aug. 7*

### [Homeless visitors prompt Bethlehem policy change](#)

A significant influx of homeless persons who have been spending their

days at the Bethlehem (Pa.) Area Public Library prompted Executive Director Janet Fricker to revise its acceptable patron-behavior policy. But some of the rules seem to target homeless patrons unfairly, according to William Kuntze, senior pastor at Bethlehem's Christ Church United Church of Christ. Kuntze met with Fricker about his objections, who brought them up to the library board for discussion....  
*Easton (Pa.) Express-Times, Aug. 7*

### [Prosser students to go without librarians](#)

The Prosser (Wash.) School Board voted 3–2 on August 2 to reassign all of its librarians to classrooms to help plug the district's \$1.3-million shortfall. The librarians will fill teaching positions that were vacated by retirement, which will save the district \$410,000. A public hearing before the vote drew a crowd of about 30 teachers, parents, and librarians. Rob Witcraft, the librarian at Prosser High who will now teach English, reminded the board that he also provided computer services and tech support for the entire high school in his now-former position. The teaching assistant who will replace him may not have those skills....  
*Kennewick (Wash.) Tri-City Herald, Aug. 3; KVEW-TV, Pasco, Wash., Aug. 3*



### [Indiana University libraries lay off 10](#)

Ten employees at Indiana University libraries have been laid off—the latest budgetary issue in a summer of pay raises, tuition increases, and financial cutbacks. Seven support staff and three professional staff were told August 2–3 their positions were being eliminated. The layoffs, which Dean of Libraries Brenda Johnson described as a difficult decision, are an attempt to reorganize the strengths of the libraries....  
*Indiana Daily Student, Aug. 3*

### [Explore the earliest known map of medieval Britain](#)

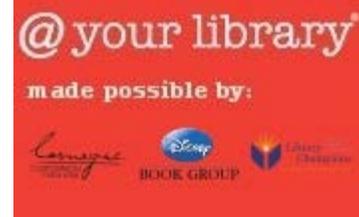
Oxford University's Bodleian Libraries have made public the results of a 15-month research project on the Gough Map, the earliest surviving geographically recognizable map of Great Britain. The Linguistic Geographies project has helped to explain how maps were produced in the Middle Ages. A newly launched [website](#) features a zoomable and pannable digital version of the map, which is fully searchable and browseable by place name (current and medieval) and geographical feature. Clicking on a chosen location yields information such as that location's geographical appearance, etymology, and appearance on earlier maps....



*Bodleian Libraries, Aug. 2*

### [Speeches stolen from FDR Presidential Library](#)

With a published presidential historian accused of theft in Maryland, federal officials are trying to determine how he allegedly stole hundreds of historic documents, including seven signed speeches by Franklin D. Roosevelt taken from the FDR Presidential Library and



### **TweetWatch**

#### **Follow:**

International Association of School Librarianship, Annual Conference, Kingston, Jamaica, Aug. 7–11, at: [#iasl](#)

IFLA World Library and Information Congress, San Juan, Puerto Rico, Aug. 13–18, at: [#wlic2011](#)

IFLA New Professionals SIG, San Juan, Puerto Rico, Aug. 15, at: [#npsig2011](#)

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

### **Calendar**

**Sept. 14–16:**  
[Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers,](#)

International Conference, Heythrop Park Resort, Oxfordshire, U.K.

**Sept. 15–18:**

Museum in Hyde Park, New York. Barry Landau faces charges of conspiring to steal documents from archives in several states. The thefts in Hyde Park allegedly occurred December 2, and Landau sold four of the speeches December 20 to a private dealer for \$35,000, according to a federal indictment....

*Poughkeepsie (N.Y.) Journal*, Aug. 3

### [Kansas librarian talks about sacks](#)

Nancy Jo Leachman, information services librarian at Salina (Kans.) Public Library, has a talent for reading old flour sacks. Valuable American history lessons are stitched into the simple pieces of cloth used to hold flour from the late 1800s through the 1960s. She gives presentations centered on her own flour sack collection, interwoven with fascinating tidbits about the history of Kansas. Sheets and pillowcases, towels, toys, dresses, and underwear were commonly made with the sacks, which were manufactured by more than 40 different companies....

*La Junta (Colo.) Ag Journal*, Aug. 5



### [Europe backs web privacy fights](#)

The 90 Spaniards who complained to the Data Protection Agency all wanted information deleted from the web. Among them was a victim of domestic violence who discovered that her address could easily be found through Google. Another, well into middle age now, thought it was unfair that a few computer key strokes could unearth an account of her arrest in her college days. They might not have received much of a hearing in the United States, but in Europe an idea has taken hold—individuals should have a “right to be forgotten” on the web....

*New York Times*, Aug. 9

### [Vogue's entire run hits the digital runway](#)

Curt Hopkins writes: “Rag trade blog [Fashionista](#) reports that *Vogue's* stealth website, currently under development for a December launch, will feature a digital version of every single number published since Arthur Baldwin Turnure started the magazine in the late 19th century. Whether or not you're a fan of fashion, this is huge news. *Vogue* is, for better or worse, a prominent lens onto a substantial segment of our cultural mores and it helps to bring history alive when you can picture the details. Now there will be an archive of the sartorial side of those details.”...

ReadWriteWeb, Aug. 3; *Fashionista*, July 25



### [Poems bound in human skin](#)

At first glance, its just an old book of poems, bound in slightly grubby beige leather with gold lettering and gold-edged pages. But open it up and you might want to drop it and recoil when you read the inscription on the first page: “Bound in human skin.” The book, owned by the National Library of Australia in Canberra, is one of only two known examples in Australia of anthropodermic binding, a practice that is described in book collecting circles as not rare, but uncommon....

*Canberra (Australia) Times*, Aug. 8



[Reforma](#), National Conference IV, Denver. “Elevating Latino Services to a Higher Level: Juntos in the Mile High City!”

**Sept. 22–25:**  
[8th Annual Artelibro Art Book Festival](#), Bologna, Italy. “Archaeology / Archaeologies.”

**Sept. 24–  
Oct. 1:**  
[Banned Books Week](#).

**Sept. 28:**  
[Banned Websites Awareness Day](#).

**Sept. 29–  
Oct. 2:**  
[LITA National Forum](#), St. Louis. “Rivers of Data, Currents of Change.”

**Oct. 1–9:**  
[27th Florence International Antiques Fair](#), Florence, Italy.

**Oct. 9–12:**  
[American Society for Information Science and Technology](#), Annual Meeting, New Orleans Marriott.

**Oct. 12:**  
[Second Virtual Summit on Ebooks](#), online conference presented by *Library Journal* and *School Library Journal*. “Ebooks: The New Normal.”

**Oct. 14–15:**  
[American Printing History Association](#), Annual Conference, University of California, San Diego. “Printing at

[Go back to the Top](#)

## Tech Talk

### [Smartphones are replacing library cards...](#)

Checking a book out on a smartphone rather than at a counter is becoming a more common occurrence at public libraries. For example, the Catawba County (N.C.) Library System recently began using an app, called LS2 Mobile, to give its registered patrons access to its catalog of available books and other media. The free app provides a searchable list of titles; users can also renew items, place items on hold, and check their account status. The Library Corporation developed the app....

*Government Technology*, Aug. 3



### [...but they store too much personal data](#)

Mike Isaac writes: "An uncomfortably large percentage of mobile applications are storing sensitive user account information unencrypted on owners' smartphones, according to a [new survey](#) of 100 consumer smartphone apps. Some 76% of the apps tested stored cleartext usernames on the devices, and 10% of the tested applications, including popular apps LinkedIn and Netflix, were found storing passwords on the phone in cleartext. The testing spanned multiple categories, ranging from social networking applications to mobile banking software."...

*Wired*: Threat Level, Aug. 8; viaForensics, July

### [Make your computer launch everything you want](#)

Adrian Covert writes: "So you're tired of getting to work each day and having to launch all your apps and websites and arrange everything just so. What if your computer could do it automatically for you every time you start it? It can and here's how."...

*Gizmodo*, Aug. 2

### [Best free security and privacy utilities](#)

Preston Gralla writes: "Want to ensure that your PC and all of your files and data stay safe, secure, and private—without breaking the bank? We've rounded up 11 free security and privacy utilities that shield you against malware, protect your data at Wi-Fi hotspots, encrypt your hard drive, and do everything in between."...

*PC World*, Aug. 3

### [The best way to store stuff in the cloud](#)

Brent Rose writes: "We tested 11 of the most popular cloud storage services out there, looked at their price per gigabyte, and considered their various features and functionality. Read on to meet our gladiators, and to see which was the one cloud to rule them all."...

*Gizmodo*, Aug. 9



### [10 free Chrome apps to increase productivity](#)

Zoe Fox writes: "Since Google launched its [Chrome Web Store](#) in December, extensions have sprung up to speed up and simplify the messy world of internet browsing. If you're a member of the club that spends more time looking at screens than people, some simple browser add-



the Edge."

### **Oct. 14–16:**

[Sheboygan Children's Book Festival](#), John Michael Kohler Arts Center and Mead Public Library, Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

### **Oct. 19–23:**

[Salzburg Global Seminar](#), Schloss Leopoldskron, Salzburg, Austria. "Libraries and Museums in an Era of Participatory Culture."

### **Nov. 8-12:**

[Association for Educational Communications and Technology](#), Jacksonville, Florida. "Celebrate 3.0: Design.Learn. Community."

@ [More...](#)

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American Libraries Direct



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ons can streamline many of your daily processes on the job. Here are 10 new apps that are sure to increase your web productivity.”...

Mashable, Aug. 8

### [A guide to Google+ privacy and information control](#)

Melanie Pinola writes: “Google+ is the new social networking kid on the block, and one of the main reasons so many people are interested in the service over Facebook is Google+’s proclaimed focus on protecting users’ privacy. Here’s the lowdown on Google+’s privacy controls, including a few of the more buried settings you’ll want to know about.”...

Lifehacker, Aug. 4

## E-Content

### [Kindle Cloud Reader app rebuffs Apple](#)

On August 10, Amazon launched its [Kindle Cloud Reader](#), a web-based app that allows you to read your Kindle e-books from Chrome or Safari on your PC or tablet, including the iPad. It also has a link to the Kindle Store, something that’s now missing from the Kindle apps for iPad and iPhone, after Apple enforced its new in-app subscription rules that require app developers to strip out any links to external mechanisms for purchasing digital books. The app will be available on [additional web browsers](#), including Internet Explorer, Firefox, and the BlackBerry PlayBook browser in the coming months....

CNET News: Digital Media, Aug. 10; TeleRead, Aug. 10



### [Hold off on that Kindle purchase](#)

Matt Burns writes: “The Kindle is the hottest e-reader on the planet, but I wouldn’t buy one right now. The next-gen model is right around the corner. Amazon just slashed the prices of refurbished Kindles, and the last time the company did that, the Kindle 3 launched just a month later. New Kindle models always bring better e-ink screens, more memory, and cleaner styling. The fourth-gen Kindle line might even lose the physical keyboard.”...

TechCrunch, Aug. 5

### [Amazon’s new\(ish\) Kindle social network](#)

Tim Carmody writes: “Amazon’s [Public Notes](#) feature for Kindle has been available for months. So why did my following and follower counts rocket up overnight to five times what they had been? It’s simple. When it was [introduced](#) in February, you had to manually add users you wanted to follow. Now, if you’ve linked your Twitter or Facebook accounts to Public Notes, you automatically follow other connected users that you follow on those networks. The new way is a little bit creepy, particularly since there was no announcement that they were changing how links would be used.”...

Wired: Epicenter, Aug. 8; Kindle Daily Post, Feb. 7



### [E-textbooks: Four keys to going all-digital](#)

John K. Waters writes: “When Daytona State College, a 53-year-old former community college in Florida, now a state college offering a four-year degree, set out to implement an all-electronic book program in 2009, its goal was to drive down the cost of textbooks by 80%. The school is well on its way to achieving that goal, and along the way it made some discoveries about what it takes to make a successful transition to e-texts.”...



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Campus Technology, Aug. 3

### [When knowledge isn't written, does it count?](#)

"Making fun of Wikipedia is so 2007," a French journalist said recently to Sue Gardner, executive director of the Wikimedia Foundation. Once routinely questioned about its reliability, the site is now used every month by upwards of 400 million people worldwide. But with influence and respect come responsibility, and lately Wikipedia has been criticized from without and within for reflecting a Western, male-dominated mindset similar to the perspective behind the encyclopedias it has replaced....

*New York Times*, Aug. 7

### [The serendipity of the unexpected](#)

Sarah Werner writes: "My [last post](#) focused on my frustration with the assumption that digitization is primarily about access to text. In this post I want to offer some examples of why we might want to look at books rather than digital surrogates as a way of approaching the relationship between digital and physical from another angle. Why might we want to look at physical books rather than digital surrogates, other than a fetish of smell and a sense of the magical presence of the original? Here are a few examples that start to get at what physical books offer that digital surrogates miss."...

Sarah Werner, July 24, Aug. 1



### [When data disappears](#)

Kari Kraus writes: "If we're going to save even a fraction of the trillions of bits of data churned out every year, we can't think of digital preservation in the same way we do paper preservation. We have to stop thinking about how to save data only after it's no longer needed, as when an author donates her papers to an archive. Instead, we must look for ways to continuously maintain and improve it. In other words, we must stop preserving digital material and start curating it."...

*New York Times*, Aug. 6

### [Interview with Peter Hirtle](#)

Debra Schiff writes: "Recently, I had the great pleasure of meeting and interviewing Peter Hirtle, senior policy advisor of Cornell University Library. Over the past few years, Peter has unwittingly become my copyright mentor, answering my emailed questions when I was an MLIS student at Rutgers and providing checklists to follow in Copyright and Cultural Institutions. I asked if he would be willing to be interviewed for this blog." In [this clip](#) (3:14), he speaks about EAD (encoded archival description), the semantic web, and linked open data. Check the related YouTube features for other topics....

Here and There, Aug. 4; YouTube, July 31



### [Enhanced e-books and portal books](#)

Sylvia Miller writes: "A new kind of publisher-library partnership could happen at the level of the individual book. I would like to see archiving, digitizing, and publishing happen in tandem. For example, when an author has conducted oral-history interviews and consulted archival documents for a book, the interviews can be put into an archive and made available digitally and the documents digitized at a library. The book would be edited and produced at the publishing

house. Thus, you could publish the book as an enhanced e-book with archival material imbedded in it and outbound links to primary-source collections included as well.”...

Publishing the Long Civil Rights Movement, Aug. 5

### [Adding descriptions to digital photos](#)

Since digital photography is instantaneous, we take and collect an enormous amount of photos. But as our personal collections grow, it becomes more and more difficult to find specific photos. If your digital photos are difficult for you to manage, how will you be able to make sense of them in the future? This Library of Congress [video](#) (3:14) explains how you can add descriptions and tags to your digital photo files to make it easier to organize and search your collection. Gloria Gonzalez explains [how the video was made](#)....

Library of Congress: Digital Preservation, Aug.; The Signal: Digital Preservation, Aug. 9



### [A Google Book deal in France](#)

France has caused plenty of headaches for Google. Its politicians have denounced the U.S. internet giant as a cultural imperialist; its publishers have called it a copyright cheat. Yet France is suddenly the only country in the world in which Google has managed to achieve a longstanding business goal. In late July, Google finalized an agreement with the publisher Hachette Livre under which tens of thousands of French-language books will be digitized. A Google spokesperson said [discussions](#) are underway with other French publishers....

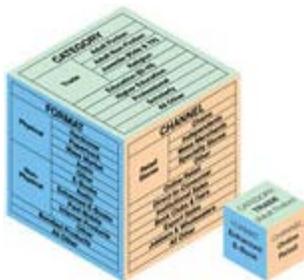
*New York Times*, Aug. 7; *The Bookseller*, Aug. 2

## Books and Reading

### [Publishing industry shows hints of revival](#)

The publishing industry has expanded in the past three years as Americans increasingly turned to e-books and juvenile and adult fiction, according to a new [BookStats survey](#) that challenges other predictions of doom and gloom. The survey encompassed five major categories of books: trade, K–12 school, higher education, professional, and scholarly. Higher education was especially strong, with sales up 18.7% from 2008 to 2010. The survey does not include sales data from 2011, a year of substantial e-book growth....

*New York Times*, Aug. 9; Association of American Publishers, Aug. 9



### [Back-to-school stories](#)

Becky O'Neil writes: "As teachers and librarians across the country wrap up their Summer Reading programs, it's impossible to ignore what lurks ahead. Older readers know very well that, in the fall, school becomes a universal backdrop—if not the main setting—of everyday teen life. School stories are great for fleshing out booktalks, which is what got me pondering subsets of the traditional school-story genre. Here's what I have so far."...

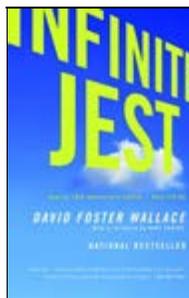
YALSA The Hub, Aug. 9



## [10 alternative books you should have read in high school](#)

Emily Temple writes: "This week, we came across this [list](#) of 'books you really should have read in high school' over at NBC's *Today* Books. While their picks are definitely classics, most of which we did in fact have to read in high school, we think today's youth (and any adults playing catch-up) would be better served by a few alternate choices. The classics are wonderful, but the canon should be fluid, allowing some experimental choices as well as the tried-and-true."...

Flavorwire, Aug. 7; *Today*, NBC, Aug. 1



## [The growth of U.S. newspapers, 1690–2011](#)

With newspapers under stress from changing economics, technology, and consumer behavior, it's easy to forget how ubiquitous and important they are in society. This visualization plots more than 140,000 newspapers published over three centuries in the United States. The data comes from the Library of Congress "Chronicling America" project, which maintains a regularly updated directory of newspapers....

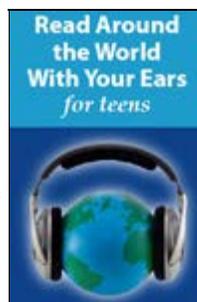
Stanford University, Rural West Initiative, July 20



## [Read around the world with your ears](#)

Mary Burkey writes: "Audiobooks provide an authentic cultural listening experience. You'll find selected titles for both kids and teens in two full-color handout flyers perfect for libraries gearing up for the start of the school year. Part of the resources available on the ALA Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table [website](#), the audiobook recommendations for kids ([PDF file](#)) and teens ([PDF file](#)) are ideal to have as flyers near the audiobook collection, as handouts for teachers, or as selection guides for building your personal or library collection."...

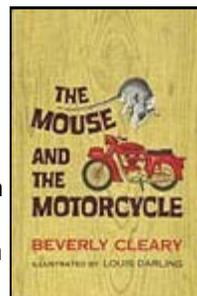
Booklist Online: Audiobooker, Aug. 9; EMIERT



## [Librarian lit](#)

Elizabeth C. writes: "AbeBooks has enjoyed a long-running love affair with librarians. Immersed in books, dedicated to their preservation, organization, and accessibility—these champions of literacy are just our kind of people. This selection of [librarian lit](#) comes from a wide range of authors who all worked in libraries at one time or another. And most of these suggestions on this list came from librarians themselves."...

Reading Copy Book Blog, Aug. 5



# Actions & Answers

## [Myths about fair use](#)

Patricia Aufderheide writes: "Academics potentially enjoy some of the greatest benefits of U.S. copyright law's doctrine of fair use—which lets them use copyrighted material without permission or payment, under some circumstances. Now if only they knew they did. In Peter Jaszi's and my research for *Reclaiming Fair Use*, which charts the

resurgence of fair use and explains how to use it, we came across as much mythology as knowledge among our colleagues. Here are some of the most common myths we've encountered."...

Inside Higher Ed, Aug. 2

### [Librarians and Threshold Concepts](#)

Brian Mathews writes: "The hottest thing to me right now is the idea of Threshold Concepts. When I found out that this was a code for 'troublesome knowledge' I was hooked. These are the big ideas in each discipline that people struggle with for a variety of reasons. There is an article in the current issue of *portal* titled "[Threshold Concepts and Information Literacy](#)," which applies this framework to the library context. I am not interested in applying this to library instruction, but rather to the enterprise level of learning across campus."...

*Chronicle of Higher Education: The Ubiquitous Librarian*, Aug. 3; *portal* 11, no. 3 (July)

### [D.C. Public Library rips the runway](#)

Imagine a season of *Project Runway* where the designers have never used a sewing machine, one of the models becomes a winning designer, and all the contestants are in their teens and nice to each other.



That's what happened at the "Rip This Runway" competition, where eight District of Columbia teens took a turn at designing and constructing original garments. The brainchild of DCPL's Teens of Distinction Program Coordinator Rebecca Renard and professional designer (and former *Project Runway* contestant) Carmen Webber (above), the August 6 event brought together girls and boys ranging from 13 to 17 years of age....

*DCist*, Aug. 8

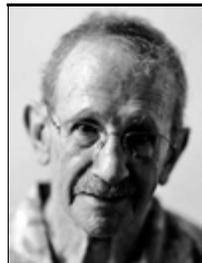
### [Reports of 25 national libraries](#)

The Conference of Directors of National Libraries compiles reports from national libraries around the world for its meeting at IFLA. Here are direct links to the most recent reports from 25 national libraries and the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec....

*InfoDocket*, Aug. 10

### [LC appoints Philip Levine Poet Laureate](#)

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington announced August 10 the appointment of Philip Levine (right) as the Library's 18th Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry for 2011–2012. Levine will take up his duties in the fall, opening the library's annual literary season with a reading of his work at the Coolidge Auditorium on Monday, October 17. He succeeds W. S. Merwin in the post. Levine is the author of 20 collections of poems, including most recently *News of the World* (2009)....



Library of Congress, Aug. 10

### [Why you didn't get an interview](#)

Karen G. Schneider writes: "This is a bummer of a job market for librarians, and if you're fresh out of library school you are probably crying in your beer, wondering why you didn't get a degree in something practical and career-oriented, like medieval cookery. But a few months back a newish librarian asked me in frustration why she was having a hard time getting interviews—let alone job offers—and we chatted back and forth on Facebook. Let me attempt to sum up what I shared."...

Free Range Librarian, Aug. 7

### [Promoting libraries with t-shirts](#)

Kathy Dempsey writes: "It happened again the other day. I was in the grocery store, pushing my cart of food. As I was heading back a couple aisles to get that last item, a man in a crisp white shirt called out to me, 'How do you vote for libraries?' And so began a short, pleasant conversation with a total stranger. My bright t-shirt had started it all. This is something I do a lot—wear t-shirts everywhere and use them as conversation starters. It's simple but effective, and I meet lots of people that way."...



The 'M' Word: Marketing Libraries, Aug. 6

### [How will we save our profession?](#)

Jennifer Laboon writes: "This is the question that I've been struggling with more than usual lately, as I plan for two days of professional development with the librarians in my district. It's going to be harder than ever to be positive. The fact is, with no way to get a firm count, we've had many school librarian layoffs this past year. Many others had to reapply for a newly titled position with different duties. What can we use to shore up our defenses? Four things."...

AASL Blog, Aug. 9

### [Swear like a librarian](#)

Brian Herzog writes: "When not at work, some librarians I know have the filthiest mouths of anyone I've encountered. But at the desk they obviously can't use bad words, so I got curious about the public-safe language librarians use to replace swear words. I asked around a bit and here's a list of some choice 'safe' words library staff use."...

Swiss Army Librarian, Aug. 9



### [Tumblr is more than porn](#)

Buffy Hamilton writes: "On August 3 at work I was attempting to add content to my Tumblr account when I discovered it had been blocked at the district level because it was found to be hosting pornography on one of its sites. Like many web-authoring sites and content-hosting spaces, Tumblr can be used in educational ways that I think outweigh the less than school-friendly applications. Consequently, I feel compelled to assemble a portfolio of educational uses of Tumblr as a tool for learning and digital composition."...

The Unquiet Librarian, Aug. 6



### [Facing the challenge of blocked websites](#)

Richard Byrne writes: "I have the good fortune to work in a school that has a progressive policy toward internet filtering. In my school there is rarely a site that I want my students to use that is blocked. But it wasn't always this way. A few years ago I returned to school after the summer break to find that all of the sites (VoiceThread, Wikispaces, Blogger, Animoto, and others) that I had planned to use were blocked by the new filter in place. Here are some useful tactics for getting access to the websites you want to use."...

Free Technology for Teachers, Aug. 4

### [450+ tweeting librarians](#)

Ellyssa Kroski writes: "I have finally sorted

through and organized all of my contacts on  Twitter and like a good librarian I have categorized everyone using Twitter's [List](#) feature. I have created [a list of over 450 librarians who tweet](#) which you can easily subscribe to by following the link. This will give you a curated list view of just tweets by librarians and library associations. If I have missed anyone, please leave your Twitter handle in the comments and I'll be sure to add you."...

iLibrarian, Aug. 9

### [370+ search engines to explore](#)

Phil Bradley writes: "I have been updating my collections of search engines, adding in new ones that I've previously blogged about and removing ones that no longer exist. It's of course not a complete listing, but the majority of them are ones that I think are worth looking at in different subject areas. There's more to search than Google. You can access them all via my [Which Search Engine When](#) page and pull-down menus, but here's an overview."...

Phil Bradley's Weblog, Aug. 5



### [New web-search formulas have huge implications](#)

Dennis Pierce writes: "A quiet revolution has taken place in recent months, as Google, Microsoft, Facebook, and other internet gatekeepers have revised their search algorithms in an attempt to bring users more personalized information. This subtle shift has enormous implications for students, researchers, and society at large, experts say. All the major search engines have revamped their formulas to include social media data as key indicators of a website's importance."...

eSchool News, Aug. 10

### [We need a Euro-Google](#)

Frank Schirmacher writes: "The outsourcing of our knowledge into the web, in short, corresponds to outsourcing our memory to the web—precisely what the Google chiefs have always declared to be their true vision and their business model. Why should we be upset by this? Mankind has been outsourcing knowledge and memory forever. The externalization of knowledge takes place in every library. But this way of reading overlooks something important."...

Frankfurter (Germany) Allgemeine Zeitung, Aug. 9

### [Article search and catalog search](#)

Jonathan Rochkind writes: "While libraries typically spend more resources on catalog search, a significant portion of users in academic libraries probably spend more time looking for articles instead. So, many of us are trying to support article search in a way that is integrated into our web infrastructure. However, some interesting research from the University of Virginia suggests that users may not want actual merged search results and may indeed specifically prefer not to have it. This would actually open up our options some."...

Bibliographic Wilderness, Aug. 8

### [Libraries can also help users disconnect](#)

Jessie Mannisto writes: "In some circles, the suggestion that constant connection might be less than ideal gets you a scarlet 'L' pinned to your shirt, marking you as the Luddite you must be. But library users

who come in seeking a quiet space to do research don't want connected devices purged from the library; they just want a place to think without a constant stream of disruptions. Those of us who want to improve our focus don't want to banish Facebook forever; we just need help taming our impulses to check it every six minutes."...

District Dispatch, Aug. 9

### [THOMAS gets a Twitter widget](#)

Andrew Weber writes: "Today we launched another update to [THOMAS](#): Our [@THOMASdotgov](#) Twitter feed is now dynamically updating on the homepage in the right column. It is just below the Weekly Top Five. If you hover over any item in the top five you can see the title. One of our goals with the Twitter account is to provide timely alerts about legislative developments and, with this change, now we can do that directly from the homepage."...

In Custodia Legis: Law Librarians of Congress, Aug. 9



### [New United States Code website](#)

There are multiple ways to view the *United States Code* online, including the [Cornell Legal Information Institute](#), [FDsys](#), and the [Office of the Law](#)



[Revision Counsel](#) of the U.S. House. In fact, you can find a link in [THOMAS](#) to the Office of the Law Revision Counsel site for the U.S. Code (on the left-hand navigation bar) as well as the XML version of the text of legislation. Now there is about to be another option from the Office of the Law Revision Counsel, which is currently in beta testing. The office is seeking comments from the public on this [new version](#)....

In Custodia Legis: Law Librarians of Congress, Aug. 9

### [Abbreviated glossary of rare book terms](#)

New to the rare book world and need to brush up on some important trade-related jargon? Check out the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America's abbreviated Glossary of Rare Book Terms for those most commonly encountered....

Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America

### [Beyond content and container](#)

Andy Woodworth writes: "Julie Strange wrote a thought-provoking post titled '[The Knowledge Moved](#).' She writes that the media of information and literature (container) have changed and yet libraries in general have stuck with the standards (content). Content versus container represents a constantly shifting dynamic in which works are judged on the merits of each. It is a 'chicken or the egg' riddle for librarians going forward as the number of literacies and media continues to expand. Here is what I am proposing to add to this conversation."...

Agnostic, Maybe, Aug. 7; The Strange Librarian, Aug. 2

### [Leading with heart](#)

Eric Frierson writes: "Mega-corporation IBM recently released a [commercial](#) (0:31) that featured 'Buzzword Bingo,' in which cynical employees in a meeting with the CEO of the company mark off squares on special bingo cards as he spits out buzzword after buzzword (Web 3-dot-0, out-of-the-box

Bricks-and-clicks	Design pattern	Convergence
Collaboration	<b>BINGO</b>	Blog
Dot-bomb	Benchmarking	Digital Rights Management

thinking, value-added). Perhaps you haven't played [Buzzword Bingo](#), but you've exchanged knowing glances with coworkers during planning meetings. Now more than ever, libraries are in search of authentic leaders who, by virtue of their transparency, self-discipline, and high ethical standards, enhance employees' engagement with the organization and inspire behavior that goes beyond what is expected."...

In the Library with the Lead Pipe, Aug. 10

### [Why archivists go to library school](#)

Stephanie Bennett writes: "Archivists, in some ways, are fighting a battle even more uphill than librarians. We archivists appeal to a more niche population. I spend a lot of time trying to explain what archives are and, most importantly, what they can do for 'normal people,' because I don't know how to duck those questions. As we learn to share the bounties and benefits of archives with a wider public, archives students benefit from working with our library and information colleagues in master's programs."...

Hack Library School, Aug. 9

### [Milwaukee Public Library retires its wheel](#) (PDF file)

The Milwaukee Public Library's rotary table, known to library staff as "the wheel" and used in the Ready Reference room, was retired on August 9 after more than 46 years of service. The automated device sat in the middle of the room with ready reference staff positioned around it. The wheel would then rotate to offer access to dozens of dictionaries, phone books, encyclopedias, manuals, handbooks, and pamphlets to help answer millions of customer questions. But the books have been replaced by the internet and online resources....

Milwaukee (Wis.) Public Library, Aug. 4



### [Fooducate yourself](#)

[Fooducate: Eat a bit better](#) is a new app that will help you eat healthier. After taking a picture of a bar code of a product, the app displays the food's value for health, rated from A to D. It also analyzes the nutritional information and notes if there is excessive sugar, trans fats, preservatives, additives, or food coloring or if it has "confusing serving sizes." There are now more than 200,000 products in the database and users are encouraged to take a picture of foods and bar codes not in the system and the site will try to add them....

Booklist Online: Points of Reference, Aug. 10



### [Is your YA librarian trying to be hip?](#)

Will Manley writes: "It's Friday Fun Day. Time to pick on someone. How about young adult librarians? What is the occupational hazard about being a YA librarian? Pretty simple. If children's librarians have a tendency to revert to childhood, YA librarians often have a desire to be hip. Here are some signs that a YA librarian is trying to be hip. (By

the way, I understand that the word hip is no longer hip.)”...  
Will Unwound, Aug. 5

### [What people don't get about working in a library](#)

Derek Thompson writes: “We’re asking readers to tell us what the public doesn't understand or appreciate about their jobs.” Here are some responses from librarians. “We are not mere cart pushers, let me assure you. This job requires a master’s degree for a reason.”...  
*The Atlantic*, Aug. 9

[Go back to the Top](#)

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# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | August 17, 2011

## Contents

[American Libraries Online](#)  
[ALA News](#)  
[Booklist Online](#)  
[Division News](#)  
[Awards & Grants Seen Online](#)  
[Tech Talk](#)  
[E-Content](#)  
[Books and Reading](#)  
[Actions & Answers](#)  
[New This Week](#)  
[Calendar](#)

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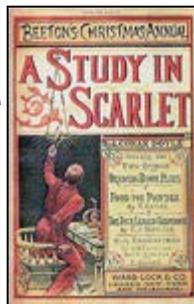
american libraries BUYERS GUIDE

## American Libraries Online

### [Sherlock Holmes novel vanishes from school reading list](#)

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's first Sherlock Holmes novel, *A Study in Scarlet*, was removed from 6th-grade reading lists in Albemarle County, Virginia, August 11 after a parent complained about its anti-Mormon content. More than 20 former students from the Albemarle County Public Schools' Henley Middle School turned out at the school board meeting to protest the action. The school board followed the recommendation of a committee commissioned to study the novel, which concluded it was not age-appropriate for 6th-graders....

AL: Censorship Watch, Aug. 16



Among the Best Master's LIS Programs Online



### [ACLU files suit in Missouri over blacklisted LGBT sites](#)

The American Civil Liberties Union and the ACLU of Eastern Missouri filed suit August 15 on behalf of four gay-rights organizations whose websites are blocked by the Camdenton (Mo.) R-III School District. The complaint [contends](#) that Camdenton's custom-built filtering software blocks through its "sexuality" category all LGBT-supportive information, including many websites that are not sexually explicit in any way....

American Libraries news, Aug. 17; ACLU, Aug. 15

### [IFLA opens with tears, text, and a lot of Puerto Rican heart](#)

Leonard Kniffel writes: "At the IFLA opening session August 14, Fernando Picó (right), historian and professor at the University of Puerto Rico, set earphones ablaze with his erudite analysis of 'The Afterlife of Texts: When Paradise Is an Internet Site,' as translators struggled to convert his literary allusions and articulate rundown of the history of text from speedy Spanish into IFLA's six other languages simultaneously. He named translation and censorship as two of the major factors in preserving text."...

AL: Global Reach, Aug. 14



## [Speakers recount tales of library disasters](#)

On August 14 at the IFLA conference in Puerto Rico, representatives of stricken libraries in New Zealand, Chile, and Japan offered the 2,500 delegates an opportunity to hear firsthand accounts of the horror of earthquakes and tsunamis, and about how librarians coped during those dreadful days. Taro Miura (above) gave a stunning account of the magnitude 9.0 earthquake that hit Japan March 11....



AL: Global Reach, Aug. 15

## [FAIFE, hope, and charity](#)

Leonard Kniffel writes: "'How to Fix the World' was the provocative and cheeky title of a Sunday program sponsored by the Committee on Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE) during the IFLA conference. Presentations by delegates from Egypt and Norway left many in the audience in tears. Shawky Salem asked for a moment of silence for Amro Ghareeb (above), a librarian who was killed in the Egyptian uprising that began January 25."...



AL: Global Reach, Aug. 16

## [Novelist dissects fear and awe of books in Puerto Rico](#)

"Puerto Rico is a strange country, a colony of the U.S.," said novelist, poet, and professor Mayra Santos-Febres of the University of Puerto Rico. "Because of this relationship, we have 60–70 libraries and many schools, but we have literacy issues and a situation where people do not read." Santos-Febres was the August 16 plenary session speaker at the IFLA conference. She explained that "people are afraid of books but they respect them."...



AL: Global Reach, Aug. 16

## [Puerto Rican filmmaker indebted to libraries](#)

Luis Molina-Casanova, filmmaker and professor in the communications department of Sacred Heart University in San Juan, was the last plenary speaker at the 77th IFLA World Library and Information Congress on August 17. He has devoted his life to making educational films because of what he has discovered in libraries and archives—things he was never taught in school or saw on television and that were not in his textbooks....



AL: Global Reach, Aug. 17

## [For Americans, IFLA in Puerto Rico is international](#)

Independence for Puerto Rico, an American territory, was the hottest topic you didn't see on the agenda as some 2,500 librarians, archivists, and other information professionals from all over the world met at the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions 77th annual conference in San Juan. The American caucus of some 300 people (above) gathered August 13 to get the lay of the land and



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**New this week**  
in American Libraries

preview key programs....

AL: Global Reach, Aug. 14

### [On My Mind: Mentorship from both sides](#)

Aniko Halverson Nijhoff writes: "Librarianship is a profession with a strong tradition of mentorship. At some point in grad school, every future librarian has the daunting assignment to 'find a librarian and interview him or her about his or her job.' You groan, you sigh, you poke around on the internet, you start sending emails or making calls, hoping to find someone who has time for you. My own mentor is someone I sought out before I decided to go back to school for my MLIS."...

*American Libraries* column, July/Aug.

### [The number of YA books](#)

**Q.** There's been a [discussion](#) online about how many YA (young adult) books were published in the last few years. **A.** As this blog explained in its December 8, 2010, entry, [Number of Children's Books Published](#), we use the numbers provided in the annual [Library and Book Trade Almanac](#), which includes a report on book title production. The 2011 (56th) edition was received here at the ALA Library just over a month ago....

AL: Ask the ALA Librarian, Aug. 17; Read Roger, Aug. 3

### [From the Editors: What you told us](#)

George M. Eberhart and Beverly Goldberg write: "In April, we conducted an online survey of our readers, in order to find out what *American Libraries* is doing right and what we could be doing differently. Although this was not a scientific survey, we learned many things about how you read, what you want and don't want to read, and how you prefer to receive information. In the summary that follows, we've identified some of your more frequent comments and preferences."...

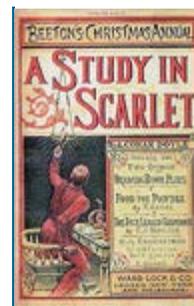
*American Libraries* column, July/Aug.



## ALA News

### [40 libraries to host "Manifold Greatness"](#)

The ALA Public Programs Office, the Folger Shakespeare Library, and the National Endowment for the Humanities have announced that 40 public and academic libraries will host "Manifold Greatness: The Creation and Afterlife of the King James Bible," a traveling exhibition to America's libraries. The 40 selected libraries are listed [here](#). The year 2011 marks the 400th anniversary of the first printing of the King James Bible. Follow the celebrations on the [Manifold Greatness blog](#)....



### [On My Mind](#)

### [What You Told Us](#)

### [Global Reach](#)

### [Censorship Watch](#)

### [Currents](#)

### [Perpetual Beta](#)

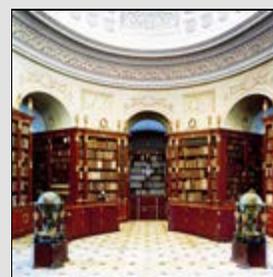
### [Inside Scoop](#)

### [Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

### [Solutions and Services](#)

### [AL Focus](#)

## Great Libraries of the World



### [Klosterneuburg Abbey Library.](#)

Klosterneuburg, Austria. This 12th-century Augustinian abbey has the largest private research library in Austria. The library hall was completed in 1842 when the abbey was rebuilt. The library owns a prayer book and a 12th-century

Public Programs Office, Aug. 15

## [10 quick and painless steps to effective library advocacy](#)

You've probably heard that big budget and policy changes are afoot in Washington and that constituent voices are more important than ever. In fact, advocacy is the buzz word du jour. But does the word itself resonate with library supporters who are not already engaged in grassroots activities? [Join](#) this August 30 webinar to learn about 10 easy actions you can take....

District Dispatch, Aug. 15

## [Still time to Step Up to the Plate](#)

All entries for the Step Up to the Plate @ your library program must be [submitted](#) by September 1, giving baseball fans of all ages their final opportunity for a chance to win the grand prize, a trip to the Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, New York. One grand prize winner will receive a trip to the Hall of Fame in October....

Campaign for America's Libraries, Aug. 16



## [Council supports Out of School library programs](#)

ALA Council passed a resolution June 26 encouraging members to tell their legislators, as well as local and national organizations and associations, about the value to their library of Out of School library programs. It also urged directors, trustees, school board members, and government bodies to ensure that libraries of all types dedicate the proper funding to maintain comprehensive Out of School library programs for children and teens....

Public Information Office, Aug. 16

## [Council continues opposition to Section 215](#)

ALA Council passed a resolution June 28 continuing its opposition to the use of Section 215 of the USA Patriot Act and the use of National Security Letters to violate reader privacy. The resolution calls for continuing to support reforms that protect reader privacy and civil liberties, especially the freedom to read without fear of government surveillance....

Public Information Office, Aug. 16

## [Council urges confidentiality in hold practices](#)

ALA Council, in a resolution passed June 28, urges all libraries that implement self-service holds to protect patron identity by adopting practices and procedures that conceal the user's personally identifiable information in connection with the materials being borrowed. The resolution urged librarians to work with vendors to incorporate cost-effective identity safeguards....

Public Information Office, Aug. 16

## [Council endorses United Nations report](#)

ALA Council passed a resolution June 28 endorsing the May 16 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of the Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression ([PDF file](#)). The report emphasized that there should be as little restriction as possible to the flow of information via the internet, except in few, exceptional and limited circumstances prescribed by international human rights law....



bible belonging to the abbey's founder, St. Leopold III, margrave of Austria.



## [Kremsmünster Abbey Library](#)

Kremsmünster, Austria. A library dates back to the founding of this Benedictine abbey in 777. The library was famous even in the Middle Ages, drawing eminent scholars to study and write at the abbey, where histories of the bishops of Passau, the dukes of Bavaria, and the abbey itself were compiled. The current facility was built in 1680–1689 by Italian architect Carlo Antonio Carlone. Its most famous manuscript is the richly decorated 9th-century [Codex Millenarius](#), which contains all four gospels in Latin written in solemn Carolingian uncial script.

**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 later this year by ALA Editions.

Public Information Office, Aug. 16

### [ALA issues RFP for national salary survey](#)

ALA seeks proposals to conduct a national web-based salary survey for the 2012 edition of the *ALA-APA Salary Survey: Librarian—Public and Academic*. The survey is sent to directors and human resources staff in a random sample of both public and academic libraries. The RFP can be downloaded in [PDF format](#). Responses are required by September 15....

ALA—Allied Professional Association, Aug. 16

### [Questions answered about ALA student chapters](#)

Don Wood writes: "A new FAQ, [ALA Student Chapters: Frequently Asked Questions](#), helps explain how the ALA and ALA student chapters partnership works and provides easy access to chapter resources. It also shows ways to get involved, how to start a new student chapter, and what the benefits are."...

ALA Student Membership Blog, Aug. 10



### [Wayne Wiegand's Melvil Dewey notes](#)

Larry Nix writes: "Noted library historian Wayne Wiegand is making available to an institution or an individual an invaluable library history research resource, the voluminous notes he compiled in researching *Irrepressible Reformer* (ALA, 1996), his definitive biography of Melvil Dewey. All that is necessary to obtain this resource is to make a modest donation to the ALA Library History Round Table's Ed Holley Lecture. Wiegand had intended that the note cards be auctioned off at a fundraising event last September, but that fell through."...

Library History Buff Blog, Aug. 16



### [In defense of ALA](#)

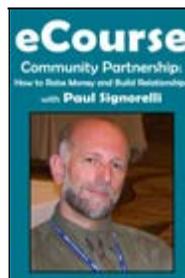
Will Manley writes: "The more library blogs I read, the more I see ALA being used as a punching bag. In the name of balance, therefore, I feel I have a responsibility to defend ALA. Here are 15 good things about the American Library Association."...

Will Unwound, Aug. 17

### [Raise money through community partnerships](#)

ALA Editions announces a new facilitated eCourse, [Community Partnership: How to Raise Money and Build Relationships](#). Paul Signorelli (right), former director of staff training and volunteer services for the San Francisco Public Library system, will lead this four-week course, which begins on October 3. Signorelli will show how to build productive community partnerships that will help your library engage in meaningful projects while enhancing its standing in the community....

ALA Editions, Aug. 16



### [Radically rethink the library collection](#)

ALA Editions is offering a new workshop, [Patron-Driven Acquisition:](#)



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#### [E-Resources Cataloging Specialist](#)

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois. This is an academic professional position for an entry-level librarian with the requisite skills or coursework, or for a non-MLS professional with appropriate experience and skills. The E-Resources Cataloging Specialist will work in the Content Access Management unit within the Technical Services Division of the Main Library in a team environment with those Division faculty and staff responsible for the management of e-resources and the delivery of metadata and cataloging services. The E-Resources Cataloging Specialist will provide support for the bibliographic control and metadata related to electronic resources of all types, with a focus on commercially produced resources. This position reports to

[Radically Rethinking the Collection](#) with Rick Anderson, who invites you to step back and revisit fundamental assumptions about the purpose of the academic library collection. The concept of patron-driven acquisition is an attractive alternative: In a largely digital information environment, library users can find and identify desired content, which the library will then purchase for their use. The workshop takes place in two 90-minute sessions on October 5 and 26....

ALA Editions, Aug. 16

### [Learn to integrate iPads into library services](#)

ALA TechSource is offering a new workshop, [Integrating iPads and Tablet Computers into Library Services](#), with Rebecca Miller, Carolyn Meier, and Heather Moorefield-Lang. Tablet computers offer major potential for library services, including the ability to increase productivity and improve your library's programs. The workshop consists of two 90-minute sessions that take place on October 13 and 20....

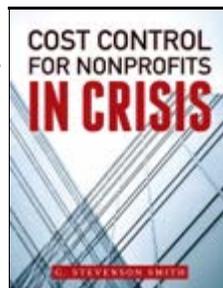
ALA TechSource, Aug. 16



### [Controlling costs during fiscal crises](#)

Libraries, like many other cultural institutions such as museums, art councils and theater groups, are looking for answers to the pressing problems of financial stability and, ultimately, survival. Published by ALA Editions, [Cost Control for Nonprofits in Crisis](#) by G. Stevenson Smith helps managers and directors tackle the harsh realities before them. Discover techniques for determining the most cost-effective methods of providing services to clients and patrons...

ALA Editions, Aug. 16



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## Digital Library of the Week



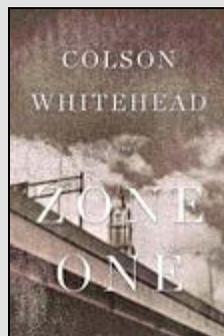
The [University of Arkansas Library](#) in Fayetteville launched a digital collection August 9 documenting the life and work of Brooks Hays (1898–1981), a leading Democratic congressman from Arkansas's Fifth District from 1942 to 1959. The collection, titled "Principles and Politics: Documenting the Career of Congressman Brooks Hays," includes more than 170 items, including articles, campaign materials, cartoons and drawings, correspondence, diaries, photos, poems, prayers, and speeches. Special Collections Department Head Tom W. Dillard [notes](#) that Hays worked to mediate the escalating civil rights conflicts during the 1950s and

# Booklist ONLINE

## [Featured review: Horror fiction for adults](#)

Whitehead, Colson. *Zone One*. Oct. 2011. 272p. Doubleday, hardcover (978-0-385-52807-8).

As different in focus and approach as each of Whitehead's novels are, the dark lyricism of this jump-in-with-both-feet zombie apocalypse tale works in chilling contrast to the macabre plot and doomsday comedy. A zombifying plague has ravaged the land. New York City has been sealed off, the marines have eradicated the "pustulant hordes," and now, as part of the much-diminished government's propagandistic American Phoenix project, "sweepers" are eliminating the "stragglers," lone, inexplicably bewitched zombies unable to leave their old haunts. Our guide through this ravaged world is sweeper Mark Spitz (he earns his ironic alias under harrowing circumstances), a self-identified paragon of mediocrity who possesses a surprising



"knack for apocalypse," which is actually a proclivity for compassion....

### [Read-alikes: Zombie time](#)

Donna Seaman writes: "Zombies are the new vampires, starring in movies, TV shows, commercials, and novels. What is the resurgent appeal of the undead? Could it be that zombies are lurching, gnashing metaphors for how stress, financial worries, disasters natural and political, and digital overload are making us feel—grotesquely numb, dumb, sluggish, and mindlessly devouring? In any case, these zombie epics are creepy and comedic, entertaining and provocative, and take fresh approaches to the genre."...



### [What it's like to work at Booklist](#)

Dan Kraus writes: "Decided last night to watch *The Best of Everything* (1959), a *Valley of the Dolls*-style movie about three young secretaries slaving away at a New York City publishing house and trying to work their way up to the vaunted position of *Editor*. I was dumbstruck by the movie's unfaltering realism. Why, this is exactly how things play out at *Booklist*! When our esteemed Editor and Publisher Bill Ott makes a new hire (always in tuxedo, of course) these are the exact words he says (see dialogue above)."...



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

## Division News

### [Voting now open in Teens' Top Ten](#)

YALSA invites all teens to get out the vote for the Teens' Top Ten. Teens can vote for their favorite books from the last year in the annual poll. The 25 nominees for this year's Teens' Top Ten are available [online](#), along with a toolkit for librarians to promote the initiative to the young adults visiting their libraries. Voting is open now through September 15....

YALSA, Aug. 16

### [Webinar on teen information literacy](#)

Social media has altered the information landscape by expanding the flow of information from books, newspapers, and journals to instant reports from Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube. How can librarians help teens learn to separate the wheat from the chaff? Join YALSA for "From 140 Characters to 10 Pages: Teens, Social Media, and Information Literacy." The [live webinar](#) will be presented by Laura Pearle at 2 p.m. Eastern Time on August 18....

YALSA, Aug. 15

### [RUSA's fall online learning opportunities](#)

The RUSA fall online learning schedule is now available and includes new courses on health reference and spatial literacy. Topics are

refused to join Gov. Orval Faubus in his efforts to prevent the integration of Little Rock Central High School in 1957.

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



**Public Perception**  
How the World Sees Us

**"At the very least, all library closures must now cease. Especially in inner-urban areas, buildings recently shut should reopen. Professional staff must provide the backbone of their service, although volunteers can and should play their part. All those turf-war squabbles about priorities—new books vs. new technology, pure reading vs. community outreach—should end. And central and local government could stop passing the buck.**

**"Prevention always costs less than cure. The prospect of friendly, busy branch libraries diverting even a few of the**

relevant to a variety of library professionals and library types, including public, academic and special libraries. With the exception of Readers Advisory 101, all courses are asynchronous. Group discounts are available for two or more participants registering from the same library, library system or network....

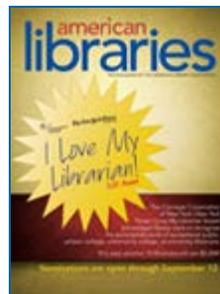
RUSA, Aug. 16

## Awards & Grants

### [I Love My Librarian! Award digital supplement](#)

*American Libraries'* digital supplement on the 2011 Carnegie Corporation of New York / *New York Times* I Love My Librarian! Award is now online. In addition to a call for nominations (open through September 12 at [atyourlibrary.org](http://atyourlibrary.org)), the supplement features photos of previous winners and excerpts from their nominations....

*American Libraries* / Public Information Office



### [African network wins \\$1-million Access to Learning Award](#)

"It's indeed hard to describe my pleasure in standing before you today," said James Nguo (right), "to receive the 2011 Access to Learning Award on behalf of the Arid Lands Information Network and the people of East Africa." Nguo was in San Juan, Puerto Rico, August 16 to accept the \$1-million prize, bestowed annually by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to a library or similar organization outside the United States in recognition of its efforts "to connect people to information through free access to computers and the internet."...

AL: Global Reach, Aug. 17



### [RUSA Morningstar Public Librarian Support Award](#)

Suzanne Kaller, business librarian at the Arapahoe Library District in Englewood, Colorado, is the 2011 recipient of the RUSA Morningstar Public Librarian Support Award, an annual award administered by the division's Business Reference and Services Section. The \$1,000 grant provides professional development opportunities at the ALA Annual Conference for a public librarian who has performed outstanding business reference service....

RUSA, Aug. 15



### [Article on vernacular literacy practices wins RUSA award](#)

The article "Describing Vernacular Literacy Practices to Enhance Understanding of Community Information Needs: A Case Study with Practical Implications" by Denice Adkins, Jenny S. Bossaller, and Kim M. Thompson is the 2011 Reference Service Press Award winner, an annual honor administered by RUSA. The award recognizes the most outstanding article published in RUSA's *Reference and User Services Quarterly* during the preceding two years....



**disaffected or the dispossessed from crime and despair sounds like sheer fantasy. But every little helps, as the slogan on the looted supermarket has it."**

—Boyd Tonkin, "[Not One More Library Must Close.](#)" *The Independent* (U.K.), Aug. 12.

**"The library saved my life. If anyone in my family wondered where I was, they had only to drop by the reading room to find me. The librarian, Mrs. Anna Baker, was my first true friend— someone who listened carefully, responded truthfully, and gave me every scrap of knowledge she could muster through the books she controlled."**

—Songwriter and musician Janis Ian, [speaking at a gathering](#) of Nashville, Tennessee, school librarians, Aug. 9.

@ [More quotes...](#)

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[Reading for Life: Oprah Winfrey](#)



[A Treasury of Sounds and Images: Part 2](#)

[Nominate a Librarian for the 2011 I Love My Librarian Award](#)

RUSA, Aug. 16

### [YALSA's 2011 Spectrum Scholar](#)

As part of its commitment to furthering diversity in the profession, YALSA has chosen Hannah Gomez as its 2011–2012 Spectrum Scholar. She will attend Simmons College in Boston in the fall, pursuing an M.A. in children's literature and M.S. in library science. Gomez cited her time working at a social service agency facilitating workshops for youths who had been arrested as her inspiration to go into librarianship....

YALSA, Aug. 16



### [Tim Blevins wins 2011 Filby Award](#)

The National Genealogical Society has presented Tim Blevins, manager of special collections at the Pikes Peak Library District in Colorado Springs, with its 2011 P. William Filby Award for Genealogical Librarianship. The award, which carries a \$1,000 prize from award sponsor ProQuest, honors his significant work to support family history research. Blevins is a bit [embarrassed](#) by all the fuss, saying the award really belongs to his library colleagues, the Pikes Peak Genealogical Society, and volunteers....

ProQuest, May 24; *Colorado Springs Gazette*, Aug. 13



### [Cuyahoga County Public Library receives innovation award](#)

Cuyahoga County (Ohio) Public Library has received the 2011 Organization Innovation Award, presented by the Mandel Center for Nonprofit Organizations at Case Western Reserve University, for its commitment to enhancing the quality of life for county residents through innovative materials, services, and collaborations. The library will be honored at an evening reception on October 10 at the Cleveland Botanical Garden....

Cuyahoga County (Ohio) Public Library, Aug. 11

### [Jay Jordan IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellows](#)

OCLC, along with the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions and the American Theological Library Association, named five librarians August 15 to participate in the Jay Jordan IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellowship Program for 2012. The program supports library and information science professionals from countries with developing economies. The five are from Ghana, Kenya, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Nigeria....

OCLC, Aug. 15

### [Chicago Tribune literary awards](#)

It is the breadth, impact, and influence of composer and lyricist Stephen Sondheim's (right) writing that have won him the 2011 *Chicago Tribune* Literary Prize for lifetime achievement. Sondheim will be honored at the Chicago Humanities Festival on November 6, the same day that the *Tribune's* 2011 Heartland Prizes will be presented to Jonathan Franzen for fiction (*Freedom*) and Isabel Wilkerson for nonfiction (*The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration*)....

*Chicago Tribune*, Aug. 6



[Andrea Davis Pinkney: "The Library Card Was a Golden Ticket" \(video\)](#)

[Experiencing Cooperstown: An Intern's Perspective](#)

[Donna Seaman Interviews Robert Pinsky](#)

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IFLA World Library and Information Congress, San Juan, Puerto Rico, Aug. 13–18, at: [#wlic2011](#)

Society of American Archivists, Annual Meeting, Chicago, Aug. 22–27, at: [#saa11](#)

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

**Calendar**

**Sept. 19–21:**

## Seen Online

### [Central Falls library reopens with all-volunteer staff](#)

The Adams Memorial Library in Central Falls, Rhode Island, closed in July due to a \$5.6-million budget deficit. But on August 1, with about two dozen volunteers, it opened for business again, though for three days a week instead of the old six. The chairman of the library trust and a former library director recruited a group of teenagers and senior citizens to staff the library. For now, the Adams Library Trust's \$200,000 building endowment is being used to cover operating expenses, but that money cannot be used for salaries. Hence the volunteer staff....

*Providence (R.I.) Journal, Aug. 17*



### [Sugar Grove Library loses its Friends](#)

Now that the Friends of the Sugar Grove (Ill.) Public Library have disbanded, supporters say they do not know what will happen to the library's ability to keep up programming and other services. Friends president Pat Graceffa told the library board in early August of the decision to disband as part of the continuing fallout of the board majority's decision to fire longtime library director Beverly Holmes-Hughes in July. She said people could not separate supporting the library as volunteers from their anger at the firing. Trustee Bill Durrenberger said she was fired because of a [difference of opinion](#) over the direction of the library....

*Kane County (Ill.) Chronicle, Aug. 13, 15*

### [School librarians help Joplin sort donated books](#)

Two and a half months after an unpredictable tornado nearly destroyed schools in Joplin, Missouri, five Marshall school librarians heeded the call of Library Media Specialist Bonnie Turner without hesitation. Marshall School District approved the one-day trip they took on August 5 to assist Turner with organizing the busloads of 70,000 donated books. Throughout the day, they separated quality books from the rest, then divided them by grade levels....

*Marshall (Mo.) Democrat-News, Aug. 12*



### [Winnetka library flood damage is costly](#)

It will cost the Winnetka (Ill.) Public Library \$200,000 to recover from damage following the torrential rainfall on July 22-23. David Seleb, executive director of the Winnetka-Northfield Library District, said a sub-grade door at the library gave way to the pressure of accumulated rain during the storm and water deluged the building's basement, leaving two feet of standing water and forcing the branch to remain



### [12th Interlending and Document Supply Conference.](#)

Feinberg Theater, Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies, Chicago.

### **Sept. 20-**

### **Oct. 17:**

### [Rethinking Reference Collections.](#)

Infopeople Online Learning Course.

### **Sept. 29-30:**

### [Reaching Forward South Conference for Library Support Staff.](#)

Northfield Inn, Springfield, Illinois. "Reflecting on 15 Years of Change."

### **Oct. 2-5:**

### [Pennsylvania Library Association.](#)

Annual Conference, Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel, State College. "Touchdown! Winning Strategies for Libraries."

### **Oct. 10:**

### [Association of Library Communications and Outreach Professionals.](#)

Inaugural Conference, Washington, D.C.

### **Oct. 14-15:**

### [American Printing History Association.](#)

Annual Conference, University of California, San Diego. "Printing at the Edge."

### **Oct. 17-19:**

### [Internet Librarian 2011.](#)

Monterey Conference Center, Monterey, California. "Revolutionizing the

closed for two days. Six inches of rain fell within an hour during the 100-year storm....

*Winnetka-Northfield (Ill.) TribLocal, Aug. 16*

### [Former Yonkers library staffer denies stealing](#)

A former Yonkers (N.Y.) Public Library worker pleaded not guilty August 8 to charges that she swindled \$163,582 out of the public library system over more than six years. Margo Reed was arraigned in Westchester County Court on an 18-count felony indictment. She had worked in the library's business office and was responsible for collecting fines and other revenue from the three branches.

Prosecutors say she stole the money between July 7, 2004, and December 7, 2010....

*White Plains (N.Y.) Journal News, Aug. 10*

### [Russell Crowe lunches at Batavia Public Library](#)

A Batavia (Ill.) Public Library patron created a bit of a stir among staff August 16 when she mentioned she thought she had spotted A-list actor Russell Crowe in the building. Crowe has been seen throughout the area in recent weeks as he films the Superman movie *Man of Steel*. Then Library Director George Scheetz (right) spotted Crowe sitting in the courtyard with two other men and munching on a sandwich from the library's café. The three had arrived on bicycles....

*Batavia (Ill.) TribLocal, Aug. 17*



### [Grafton summer readers sponsor a water buffalo](#)

They came, they read, they bought a water buffalo. Grafton (Mass.) Public Library readers have now logged 3,012 reading hours to fill the library's 'Read to Feed' guide all the way up to the top with beads measuring reader progress. As a result, the library will be able to purchase all the animals on their gift wish list at Heifer International: a flock of chicks, a flock of ducks, a hive of bees, two goats, two sheep, two llamas, and a water buffalo....

*The Daily Grafton (Mass.), Aug. 15*



### [Brooklyn library art exhibit follows borrowers around](#)

Follow the books out of the Brooklyn (N.Y.) Public Library and into borrowers' homes. That's what Brooklyn Heights artist Joey O'Loughlin did for her exhibit "[Where Do the Books Go?](#)" now at the main library. O'Loughlin scoured 15 borough library branches, seeking interesting people who have special relationships with their libraries. When she found them, she asked if she could follow them home to snap photos and learn more about where they do their reading and the role it plays in their lives. Watch the [video](#) (12:59)....

*New York Daily News, Aug. 14; YouTube, July 7*



### [At this library, check out the tomatoes](#)

Robert Cox walked into the City Island branch of the New York Public Library in the Bronx to read the daily papers and grab a handful of cherry tomatoes from a bowl of fresh produce next to the checkout

Net with Content, Connections, and Conversations."

### **Oct. 18–20:**

[Illinois Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont.

### **Oct. 18–21:**

[Educause](#), Annual Conference, Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia.

### **Oct. 19–21:**

[South Carolina Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Embassy Suites / North Charleston Convention Center.

@ [More...](#)

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counter. Services at libraries can be vast and varied these days, but try finding a library whose staff grows fruit and vegetables for the patrons in a garden out back....

*New York Times*: City Room, Aug. 16

### [Sports memorabilia taken from school library](#)

A pair of bronze-dipped running shoes and two medals, all belonging to former running sensation John Baker (1944–1970), have been stolen from the elementary school in Albuquerque, New Mexico, that bears his name. A librarian at John Baker Elementary first noticed on August 8 that the shoes and medals were missing from their case in the school library. The sliding metal lock that had secured the trophy case was also missing. Baker’s life story was told in *A Shining Season* by William Buchanan (1978)....

*Albuquerque (N.Mex.) Journal*, Aug. 14

### [John Rylands Library buys missing Colonna Missal](#)

A Renaissance manuscript made for use in the Sistine Chapel has been reunited with six similar volumes to complete a rare collection in Manchester. Six parts of the 471-year-old Colonna Missal have been held at John Rylands Library since 1901. The seventh “missing” part recently came up for auction, allowing the library to buy it for £188,750 (\$312,648 U.S.). Director Jan Wilkinson said it was the library’s “most important single-volume acquisition in the last 40 years.”...

BBC News Manchester, Aug. 16



### [World record scream attempt at Weymouth](#)

Bookworms from Weymouth Library in the U.K. have an anxious wait to see if they will be crowned the loudest people in the world. The 30 youngsters recently attempted to beat rocker Ozzy Osbourne’s previous world record attempt for the longest group scream. They are now awaiting confirmation that their 63-second unbroken cry will make it into the Guinness World Records....

*Dorset Echo* (U.K.), Aug. 11



### [Brazilian bibliotaxis](#)

[Bibliotaxi](#), a new project launched in São Paulo, is Brazil’s latest version of a mobile library. The Bibliotaxi contains a number of books inside the vehicle. Passengers can read any of the available books during their trip or borrow the books by registering their names and returning them to the taxi or other city locations. The [objective](#) of Bibliotaxi is to promote reading and build a sense of community in the Vila Madalena neighborhood of São Paulo....

PSFK, Aug. 17; São Paulo *Vila Mundo*, Aug. 11



[Go back to the Top](#)

## Tech Talk

### [Millions of websites are malware landmines](#)

Some 8 million web pages, published mostly by smaller merchants

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and professional firms, were hijacked this summer and set up to usurp control of the PCs of unsuspecting site visitors. That's the latest development in a new style of hacking sweeping across the web, according to research by website security firm Armorize. A single criminal gang using computer servers located in the Ukraine is responsible for the latest twist in converting legitimate websites into delivery mechanisms for "driveby downloads."...

USA Today, Aug. 11

### [9 ways to prevent identity theft by computer hackers](#)

Tina Sieber writes: "In this digital age, where almost all of human knowledge is stored online, some of the most valuable information you possess is your own identity. Hackers have



found many ways to come by this information, for example cracking email account passwords, introducing keyloggers that record your every keystroke, or intercepting their victim's internet traffic and recording the transmitted information. Likewise, there are a multitude of steps you can take to protect yourself and your personal information from these attacks."...

MakeUseOf, Aug. 16

### [How to buy a Blu-ray player](#)

Wendy Sheehan Donnell writes: "If you want to make the most of your 1080p HDTV, you should upgrade to a Blu-ray player. There's never been a better time to do it. The current crop of players offer stellar HD picture quality, fast disc-handling, and extras like integrated Wi-Fi, 3D support, and audio and video streaming. Here's what you need to consider when choosing the right Blu-ray player."...



PC Magazine, Aug. 2

### [Manage your Facebook page from your iPhone](#)

Brian Honigman writes: "Believe it or not, you *can* administer a Facebook page from your smartphone, to some extent. Scheduling posts ahead of time with a third-party tool often has the ability to hide your content in the news feed. You can contribute to conversations on your pages, while also giving you the ability to share content on your wall using a smartphone. We're going to focus on how to use the iPhone in particular to manage a page."...



All Facebook, Aug. 15

### [Free tools for creating book trailer videos](#)

Richard Byrne writes: "If you would like to add a new element to book reports, ask students to add audiovisual components and create book trailers. Book trailers are short videos designed to spark a viewer's interest in a book. A great place to find examples of book trailers is [Book Trailers for Readers](#). If you would like to have your students try to create book trailers, here are five free video tools that are well-suited to that purpose."...



Free Technology for Teachers, Aug. 12

### [iPad storytime tools](#)

Jennifer Hopwood writes: "E-book apps like Kindle, OverDrive, Nook, and iBooks can give us instant access to favorite stories. Interactive

storybook apps can bring *Winnie the Pooh* and *The Cat in the Hat* alive in new ways. With the addition of an Apple VGA Adapter or the Apple Digital AV adapter, the iPad2 can mirror on a a VGA-equipped TV, monitor, or external projector exactly what appears on the iPad 2 screen for sharing with a larger crowd.”...

ALSC Blog, Aug. 13

## E-Content

### [A first look inside Pottermore](#)

From flying letters to a 4,500-word discourse on wand woods, early access to J. K. Rowling’s move into the digital arena, [Pottermore](#), reveals a richly-imagined, elaborately realized behind-the-scenes peek into the world of Harry Potter. Pottermore does not open to wider use until October, but has already been inundated by Harry Potter fans. The site is free to use—Rowling has said that she wanted to “give back to the Harry Potter readership” who number in their hundreds of millions worldwide—but it will be the only sales outlet for e-book versions of the seven Potter titles....

*The Guardian* (U.K.), Aug. 15



### [It's iPad or nothing, survey says](#)

Roger Cheng writes: “The tablet market continues to be summed up like this: the iPad and everything else. And everything else doesn't amount to much, according to a recent survey conducted by Robert W. Baird. The study found that out of more than 1,100 potential tablet purchasers, an overwhelming 94.5% cited the iPad as a device of interest. Hewlett-Packard’s TouchPad was the second-most-cited device, garnering just 10.3% of the people surveyed, while Research in Motion’s PlayBook was a laggard.”...

CNET news: Wireless, Aug. 17

### [The unquiet Nook Simple Touch](#)

Buffy Hamilton writes: “In 2010–11, we used our Kindle e-readers for recreational reading; for 2011–12, the library is purchasing sets of Nook Simple Touches to support literature circle studies in content area courses as well as whole class readings of specific texts. Students will have a choice as to whether they prefer to read a print copy of a text or read it on the Nook Simple Touch. As of August 11, we have submitted an order for 50 Nook Simple Touches, 50 covers, and 50 two-year warranties. So why are we going with the Nook Simple Touch?”...

The Unquiet Librarian, Aug. 11



### [New app turns your iPad into Hitchhiker's Guide](#)

Charlie Jane Anders writes: “Finally, a reason to own an iPad. They’ve created an app that lets you access the *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, that most indispensable resource, via your iOS device. It’s basically an interactive edition of Douglas Adams’s masterwork. To celebrate, we had a nice chat with Simon Jones, the original Arthur Dent, who told us how Douglas Adams predicted the iPad.”...

io9, Aug. 16



## [Federal action needed to expand digital learning](#)



Raishay Lin writes: "A new report by the Alliance for Excellent Education says more federal action is needed to encourage the effective use of educational digital technology. According to the report, 'Digital Learning and Technology: Federal Policy Recommendations to Seize the Opportunity—and Promising Practices That Inspire Them' ([PDF file](#)), the federal government should do more to help state and local education systems with this major transition in education."...

*eSchool News*, Aug. 15

## [Share your favorite books on Google+](#)

Abe Murray writes: "Say you've found a hidden gem on auto mechanics for your grease monkey friends or want to hop down memory lane with [Peter Rabbit](#) and your family. Good news for monkeys and rabbits alike: You can now share info about any of the millions of books on the Google Books index worldwide with your circles on Google+. Simply click on the Google+ Share box on the About the Book page or in a Google Books preview, enter your message, then select which circles you'd like to share details with."...



Inside Google Books blog, Aug. 11

## [Lawsuit alleges e-book pricing conspiracy](#)

Michael Kelley writes: "A Seattle-based law firm filed a nationwide class-action suit on August 9 against Apple and five of the Big Six publishers alleging that the companies conspired to illegally fix e-book pricing in an effort to undermine Amazon's 'pro-consumer, discounted pricing.' The suit, filed by Hagens Berman in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, claims that Apple, HarperCollins, Hachette Book Group, Macmillan Publishers, Penguin Group, and Simon & Schuster colluded to restrain trade and violated antitrust laws."...

*School Library Journal*, Aug. 10

## [Amazon cracks down on spammy e-books](#)

Chris Foresman writes: "Amazon has begun to crack down on authors who upload copycat e-books via the Kindle Direct Publishing service. Amazon has [emailed](#) a notice that it will filter and delete 'undifferentiated or barely differentiated' e-books submitted for publishing on the Kindle store." Such [private label rights](#) allows supermarkets to place their name on canned food even though another company unknown to the shopper produced the goods....



*Ars Technica*, Aug. 15; *Warrior Forum*, Aug. 9; *New York Times*, Aug. 12

## [Digital bookmobile visits West Virginia](#)

OverDrive's Digital Bookmobile stopped by the Kanawha County (W.Va.) Public Library's main branch August 9, giving patrons a look at the library's digital offerings. "We want to introduce people to the world of downloading," said KCPL Adult Services Manager Toni Blessing. Inside the 74-foot-long, air-



conditioned trailer, visitors can browse the West Virginia Digital Entertainment Library Initiative [website](#) at computer stations, or see e-readers and other mobile devices in action....

*Charleston (W.Va.) Daily Mail*, Aug. 10; WCHS-TV, Charleston, Aug. 9

### **E-books now eligible for National Book Awards**

Thanks to tablets and e-readers, the definition of a book is expanding. So much so that the National Book Foundation has accepted its first interactive e-book as a submission to the National Book Awards this year. National Book Foundation Executive Director Harold Augenbraum explained that the e-book did not fit into existing submission guidelines; however, the judges consider changing those rules every year....

GalleyCat, Aug. 11

### **The Library of Congress: Software developer**

Leslie Johnston writes: "There are a number of groups at the Library of Congress that develop and customize software: the ILS Office, the U.S. Copyright Office, the Network Development and MARC Standards Office, and the central Library IT Systems department. I have the distinct pleasure of working with the Repository Development Center at the library, which is responsible for the development of a number of web applications and tools that support the acquisition, management, preservation, and delivery of digital collections."...



The Signal: Digital Preservation, Aug. 16

### **Two great interactive picture books**

Angela Alcorn writes: "Despite the obvious attraction of paper-based books, the digital world has begun to create some really special adaptations of great stories. These somehow blur the line between books, movies, and games by providing page-by-page format, interactivity, and audiovisual segments. They're also usually highly customizable, enabling parents to choose how much glitz to add to an already-worthwhile story. Take a quick look at two prime examples."...



MakeUseOf, Aug. 12

## **Books and Reading**

### **Last gasp summer reading suggestions for kids**

Monica Edinger writes: "It is August and an odd time for kids. Wherever they are, they are probably doing a bit of reading, some because they want to and some because they have to. I asked my friend Betsy Bird, New York Public Library children's librarian, if she'd like to join me in suggesting a few final fun reads. She did, and so here is an entertaining [video](#) (10:36) featuring the two of us, a bunch of books, and the occasional baby sound effects."...



*Huffington Post*, Aug. 11; Vimeo, Aug. 9

### **We hate the "I Hate Reading"**

## [Facebook page](#)

AbeBooks writes: "And to cap off a great week of plunging share prices and riots on the streets, there is an '[I Hate Reading](#)' Facebook page with 444,198 likes.

Somebody should set up the 'I Hate the I Hate Reading Page' page on Facebook. Here is the official AbeBooks.com reply. It's a [video](#) (1:15) titled 'Long Live the Book' created by Lindsay Thompson, an account manager in our Victoria, B.C., office."...

Reading Copy Blok Blog, Aug. 11; YouTube, Aug. 10



## [BookLamp launches a Pandora for books](#)

Sarah Kessler writes: "You don't want a book recommendation from someone who hasn't read the book. So why, asks a new project called [BookLamp](#), would you want to rely on an electronic recommendation based on marketing data rather than book content? Much like Pandora assigns specific qualities to music, BookLamp measures the story components of a book (characteristics like history, domestic environments, physical injury) and how it's written (density, pacing, dialog, description, motion) to suggest books you might like based on what you've liked in the past."...

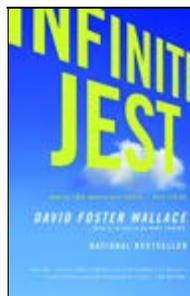
Mashable, Aug. 16



## [Is it really the end of books?](#)

Sam Leith writes: "Sci-fi author Cory Doctorow has called the internet 'an ecosystem of interruption technologies.' There are two main schools of thought. One is that modern culture is making us cleverer; the other is that the web is making us stupider. But if it really were the case that our attention spans are shortening, you might expect to see a wholesale revival of interest in short stories. Instead we're seeing *Wolf Hall*, *Fingersmith*, *The Crimson Petal and the White*, *The Corrections*, *Underworld*, *Infinite Jest*, *Tree of Smoke*, and fat Stephen King after fat Stephen King."...

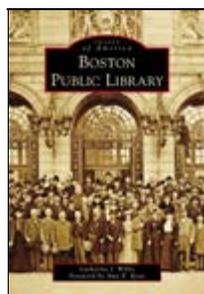
*The Guardian* (U.K.), Aug. 14



## [New book illustrates Boston Public Library history](#)

The first pictorial history of the Boston Public Library has reached bookstore and library shelves. The author of *Boston Public Library* (in Arcadia's Images of America series) is Catherine Willis, BPL technical services manager. Willis worked for months to research the project, selecting images and writing the text. Her research took her to archives few people had ever seen. The result is this 128-page book, which includes 201 images spanning the library's 163-year history....

Boston Public Library, Aug. 9



## [The best reasons to get excited about sci-fi comics this fall](#)

Cyriaque Lamar writes: "Fall is right around the corner, and so is a veritable slew of intriguing new comics. What's in store for you? A new Spider-Man, new Buffy tales from Joss Whedon, and an absolute

deluge of DC titles. Let's take a peek. First, in the course of overhauling their alternate universe Ultimate line, Marvel has tapped a new Spider-Man (one who isn't Peter Parker), due out September 7."...

io9, Aug. 16



### [Everything's coming up zombies](#)

Maria Kramer writes: "Zombie-themed books, movies, graphic novels, games, and even [zombie conventions](#) are emerging like the unhallowed dead from their shallow graves. In fact, if you're reading this, you've probably participated in a hypothetical 'how I would survive a zombie apocalypse' conversation at some point in your life. So what's behind the amazing popularity of zombies? *The Hub* has put the finest minds of our generation to work answering this question, and the results are: The Four Pillars of Zombie Popularity."...

YALSA *The Hub*, Aug. 17



## Actions & Answers

### [Reforma celebrates a milestone](#)

Reforma (the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-speaking) will celebrate its 40th anniversary in Denver at its fourth [National Conference](#), September 15–18. The conference inaugurates the first day of National Hispanic Heritage Month on September 15. Special galas and programs are planned to pay tribute to Reforma's founding and active members....

Reforma, Aug. 7



### [ATLA seeks proposals](#)

The American Theological Library Association is seeking proposals from librarians who specialize in theology and religion to present workshops, papers, or panel discussions at its 66th annual conference in Scottsdale, Arizona, June 27–30, 2012. The call for proposals closes on September 30....

American Theological Library Association, Aug. 15

### [Duke Libraries receive \\$13.6-million gift](#)

Duke University trustee David M. Rubenstein will give \$13.6 million to the libraries in support of the Rare Book, Manuscript, and Special Collections Library (right), President Richard H. Brodhead announced August 17. The donation is the largest ever to the libraries. In recognition of Rubenstein's gift, the special collections library will be renamed the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book and Manuscript Library, following approval by the board of trustees....



Duke Today, Aug. 17

### [Apply for a free Moon viewing kit](#)

The Lunar and Planetary Institute invites public and school libraries to apply for a free Moon viewing kit. To qualify, applicants must commit to hosting an [International Observe the Moon Night](#) event on October 8. In addition, each successful applicant must commit to fulfilling reporting requirements. Each kit is valued at \$400 and includes binoculars, children's books, a lunar map, and other resources for families to enjoy. [Apply](#) by August 22....



Programming Librarian, Aug. 16

### [RDA vocabularies now published](#)

The first group of RDA controlled vocabularies have been reviewed, approved, and their status in the Open Metadata Registry changed to "published." This status change, from "new-proposed" to "published," signals that the final steps have begun in reviewing the work of the DCMI/RDA Task Group and ensuring that the RDA vocabularies (both elements and controlled vocabularies/concepts) are available in a stable form for the builders of applications. The finished vocabularies can be viewed using these links....

Cataloguing Aids, Aug. 16

### [Libraries wanted for IMPACT](#)

#### [Survey pilot](#)

The University of Washington, with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, is extending the benefits of the 2009 U.S. IMPACT Study web survey by making it available to all public libraries to use in their own data collection, evaluation, and advocacy efforts. The pilot will launch in August with approximately 400 library systems nationwide. Pilot libraries will receive support throughout their involvement and will be asked to provide feedback on the process and support materials. To register, visit the [survey website](#). Participating libraries must begin their survey fielding period by September 12...



Impact Survey, July 5

### [Moving up the organization](#)

Jamie LaRue writes: "I am annually reviewed by my bosses, a 7-person board. A few years ago one board member asked me what I was doing about succession planning. I thought, 'Uh oh.' Was this code for 'Pick your replacement, bub, you're outta here'? In fact, succession planning means something far broader and more significant. Here's the idea in my own words, but very much derived from that board member's deep professional experience in organizational development work."...

LaRue's Views, Aug. 25

### [Institutionalizing self-directed learning](#)

Mary Beth Faccioli writes: "Many of us are familiar with the [Learning 2.0 program](#) started by Helene Blowers. This training program has been riffed on by many libraries, and some are now using the model to deliver other kinds of training beyond Web 2.0 tools. In early August I had the pleasure of talking to Missy Shock, training director at the Douglas County (Colo.) Libraries, on her development of this model. She and her trainers implemented [Colorado's version](#) of Web 2.0 training with all the public service staff in her libraries."...

ALA Learning, Aug. 16

## [ERIC gets social](#)

Joyce Valenza writes: "While many of us weren't watching, [ERIC](#), the granddaddy of education research, has grown a lot more social. As we prepare for a fall filled with professional development, it might be a good idea to share some of ERIC's new coolness with the faculty. ERIC, the Education Resources Information Center, is an online digital library of education research and information sponsored by the Institute of Education Sciences. So what's new with ERIC?"...

*School Library Journal*: NeverEndingSearch, Aug. 13



## [Lost titles, forgotten rhymes](#)

Locating a novel, short story, or poem without knowing its title or author can be very difficult. This guide by the Library of Congress Digital Reference Section is intended to help readers identify a literary work when they know only its plot or subject, or other textual information such as a character's name, a line of poetry, or a unique word or phrase. It was created by Peter Armenti, digital reference specialist....

Library of Congress Digital Reference Section



## [Library school starter kit: The first term](#)

Z. Frazier writes: "Here is a timeline that roughly follows my own experience in library school and what I have noticed other successful library students doing. Most of the activities are simple non-time intensive ways to help create opportunities to improve the quality of your library education. Day 0: Start a blog."...

Hack Library School, Aug. 15

## [To the MLS Class of 2013](#)

Andy Woodworth writes: "Most library science graduate programs around the country are now preparing for another year of instruction for a mix of returning students and new blood. For the fresh faces, I thought I'd offer some advice for their tenure in their graduate programs. While I am a relatively new person on the library scene (having graduated in 2006), I'd like to share some of things I've observed in my time and travels."...

Agnostic, Maybe, Aug. 14

## [A quick guide to using Creative Commons images](#)

Most guides for working with Creative Commons images are for those who want to pick a license for making their own work available. Even the CC site itself is geared toward Creative Commons license users, and not Creative Commons-licensed content users. So as a small public service announcement, here is a brief intro to CC image usage. First, Creative Commons licenses are divided up into six main license types, and each one can be tweaked to cover text, images, video, and other types of works....

Ars Technica: Law and Disorder, Aug. 9

## [EU group devises a public domain calculator](#)

Determining whether a work has passed into the public domain in Europe and Scandinavia can prove very difficult—especially when attempting to determine the status of content in multiple jurisdictions. Thanks to new [research](#), however, users can determine the copyright status of works in for 30 countries (the European Union



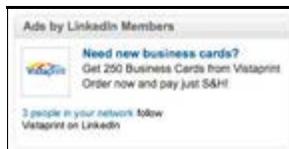
plus Switzerland, Iceland, and Norway) by using a [public domain calculator](#) developed by Europeana Connect....

Open Knowledge Foundation Blog, Aug. 15; Europeana Connect

### [LinkedIn reconsiders third-party ad policy](#)

Steve Woodruff writes: "After two volatile days of [negative user reaction](#), LinkedIn has [reconsidered](#) its plan to use the names and pictures of members in third-party advertising. I had no earthly idea, when putting up this [blog post](#) on August 10, that such a firestorm would be the result. While it's too soon to fully gain perspective on all this, it's not too soon to dispel misconceptions that may occur."...

Connection Agent, Aug. 12; Technology, Aug. 11; LinkedIn Blog, Aug. 11



### [Amazon.com now uses targeted advertising](#)

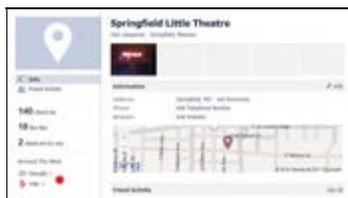
Jay Habegger writes: "Amazon flew under the radar in late June when it announced it will now use its huge supply of data to pool consumers into buckets based on the products they looked at or purchased on the retailer's website. The company will help advertisers reach these consumers with targeted media, using behaviorally targeted display ads to drive them to any URL."...

Advertising Age: DigitalNext, Aug. 11

### [Recent Facebook upgrades of interest to nonprofits](#)

Heather Mansfield writes: "Facebook has been making a flurry of changes to the functionality of Facebook Pages, Facebook Community Pages, and Facebook Places Pages over the last few weeks. The good news is that the upgrades signal that Facebook is working towards merging these three types of pages (when possible), thus making managing your nonprofit's presence on Facebook much easier."...

Nonprofit Tech 2.0, Aug. 11



### [Ten skills every student should learn](#)

Meris Stansbury writes: "What students should learn in school is at the forefront of education-reform debates. Ed-tech stakeholders for years have been touting the need for students to learn 21st-century skills such as problem solving, critical thinking, and media literacy to prepare for the new global, digital economy, while others are calling for students to have strong math and science skills. But what do educators and other school stakeholders think are the *most* important skills?"...

eSchool News, Aug. 11



### [Ten rules for law library management](#) (PDF file)

Gail M. Daly writes: "When Earl Charles Borgeson passed away on Christmas Day, 2010, the law library profession lost one of its most prominent leaders. As Earl's successor at Southern Methodist University, I was introduced to the management rules he had developed during his career and which he applied during his tenure at SMU. They have stood me in good stead, and are worthy of sharing."...

Law Library Journal 103, no. 3 (Summer): 515-519

### [Professional journals fail to address LGBTQ issues](#)

Elizabeth Koehler provides a look at the challenges faced by lesbian,

gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning teenagers in the United States in "The Silent Message: Professional Journals' Failure to Address LGBTQ Issues." How well are professional journals supporting librarians in their efforts to include appropriate resources in their library collections and to serve LGBTQ teens? To find out, she performed a study on the representation of LGBTQ-themed articles in nine professional journals commonly read by librarians serving young adults....

*Journal of Research on Libraries and Young Adults*, Summer

### [How do academics feel about ratings?](#)

Brian Mathews writes: "Netflix lets subscribers rate films. Wikipedia lets readers rate entries. This is nothing new. You see it everywhere online. User feedback sways our opinions. Perhaps we're even timid to trust things that have not undergone (or received little attention from) this form of peer review. This got me thinking about academics and how they react to reactions of their work. They labor over a book or article. Do they care what the reaction is? Do they even pay attention to it?"...

*Chronicle of Higher Education: The Ubiquitous Librarian*, Aug. 10

### [Library Girl anime](#)

The music is from fictional Norwegian boys band Boyzvoice, but the anime is taken from the Japanese TV series *Fushigi Yūgi*, part of which features a mysterious book in a high school library. The [video](#) (3:01) was put together by YouTube user Johnnie....

YouTube, Apr. 24, 2007



### [How to make chocolate books](#)

Beth Jackson Klosterboer writes: "I had been thinking of unique ways to make schoolbooks, and knew the white modeling chocolate could easily be cut into rectangles to form the pages of some edible books. To create the book covers, I knew I could have wrapped the white pages in a thin layer of colored modeling chocolate, but I wanted more texture and flavor. I once again went searching through my pantry and came across some bars of cherry fruit leather."...

*Hungry Happenings*, May 31



[Go back to the Top](#)

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# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | August 24, 2011

## Contents

[American Libraries Online](#)  
[ALA News](#)  
[Booklist Online](#)  
[Division News](#)  
[Awards & Grants](#)  
[Seen Online](#)  
[Tech Talk](#)  
[E-Content](#)  
[Books and Reading](#)  
[Actions & Answers](#)  
[New This Week](#)  
[Calendar](#)

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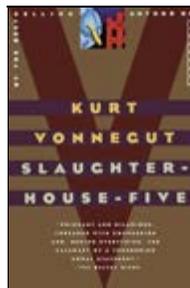
american libraries  
**BUYERS GUIDE**

## American Libraries Online

### [Under fire, Republic board to rethink its book ban](#)

The Missouri school board that banned Kurt Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse-Five* and Sarah Ockler's *Twenty Boy Summer* from the Republic High School library and curriculum says it will reconsider its decision in September. The announcement at an August 22 meeting of the Republic School District board came four days after the National Coalition Against Censorship wrote a letter expressing its dismay over the books' removal....

AL: Censorship Watch, Aug. 24



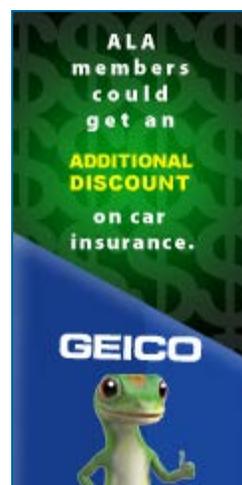
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### [IFLA selects Singapore for 2013 World Congress](#)

It's official! Singapore is scheduled to host the 2013 World Library and Information Congress of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. IFLA President Ellen Tise made the eagerly awaited announcement at the closing session of IFLA's 77th annual conference in Puerto Rico. National Library Board of Singapore CEO Elaine Ng (right) extended the invitation and expressed her gratitude to IFLA for selecting Singapore....

AL: Global Reach, Aug. 18



### [Balancing copyright and library rights](#)

Copyright was created to protect the rights of literary and creative artists, said Trevor C. Clarke (on left) of the World Intellectual Property Organization. Librarians have now challenged WIPO to protect libraries' rights, he said, noting that WIPO has also moved to secure its own position in a rapidly changing information world. Speaking August 15 at the second plenary session of IFLA's 77th World Library and Information Congress in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Clarke spent a sizeable chunk of time talking about what librarians must do to secure their positions....



AL: Global Reach, Aug. 17

## [The Arid Lands Information Network](#)

The Arid Lands Information Network, which operates 12 [Maarifa centers](#) in remote areas of Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania, won the 2011 Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Access to Learning Award. In this video (2:44), ALIN Regional Director James Nguo addresses the IFLA World Library and Information Congress, and speaks to ALA's Leonard Kniffel about the award and what it will mean for East Africa....



AL Focus, Aug. 24

## [The IFLA finale](#)

Local organizers of the 77th World Library and Information Congress in Puerto Rico pulled out all the stops August 16 for a "Cultural Evening," the high point in a conference peppered with local flavor. A section of the convention center was transformed into an enormous nightclub against a streetscape of old San Juan, where musicians and dancers entertained in traditional dress....



AL: Global Reach, Aug. 19

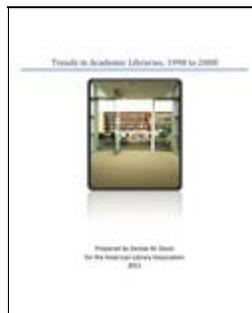
techlogic **Mobile Self Check-Out App** Powered By: boopsie Libraries My Mobile Library APP

## ALA News

### [Study shows increased need for academic libraries](#)

The need for libraries on college and university campuses has increased, according to a new study released by the Office for Research and Statistics. In *Trends in Academic Libraries, 1998 to 2008* ([PDF file](#)), researcher Denise M. Davis analyzes data from the Academic Library Survey administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, identifying changes in the number of academic libraries, circulation and reserve collections, interlibrary loan transactions and documents received from commercial services, public service hours, volumes held and added, library staffing, library expenditures, electronic services, and information literacy activities....

Office for Research and Statistics, Aug. 23

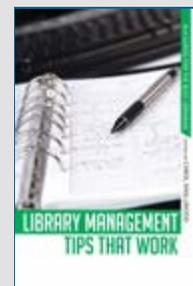


### [Library civic engagement survey](#)

The ALA Center for Civic Life is mapping civic engagement activities in libraries. If you haven't already filled out the short [civic engagement survey](#), it's not too late to be counted and get onto ALA's civic engagement map. Public, school, academic, government, state, and special libraries that are undertaking exciting programs to engage their communities in civic life have already responded. Return the completed survey to [Nancy C. Kranich](#)....

Center for Civic Life, Aug. 17

Live anywhere.  
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There's no shortage of library management books out there—but how many of them actually tackle the little details of day-to-day management, the hard-to-categorize things that slip through the cracks of a larger handbook? [Library Management Tips that Work](#) by Carol Smallwood does exactly that, addressing dozens of such issues facing library managers.

## [2011 Virtual Diversity and Outreach Fair](#)

Held on June 25 at Annual Conference in New Orleans, this year's Diversity and Outreach Fair highlighted innovative and successful library outreach initiatives and programs during a poster session open to all ALA attendees. The following "virtual" fair is meant to provide a glimpse of those presentations and includes links to resources provided by this year's participants....

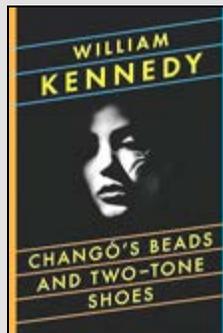
OLOS Columns, Aug. 17

# Booklist ONLINE

## [Featured review: Historical fiction](#)

Kennedy, William. *Changó's Beads and Two-Tone Shoes*. Oct. 2011. 326p. Viking, hardcover (978-0-670-02297-7).

The Pulitzer Prize-winning bard of Albany, New York, is back with a jazzy, seductive, historically anchored novel of politics and romance, race and revolution. Young Daniel Quinn awakens one night in 1936 to watch his amiable father, George, preside over a jam session involving Jimmy, a prominent black club owner; Cody, an exceptional black piano player; the future mayor of Albany; and Bing Crosby. Turn the page, and it's 1957. Quinn, now an impulsive and romantic newspaperman, is in Havana, drinking with Hemingway and falling hard for Renata, a rich and daring gunrunner of "hyperventilating beauty" and "perpetual intensity and mystical need." The reporter and the femme-fatale revolutionary meet Castro and marry in a Santeria ceremony invoking Changó, the god of thunder. When next we see them, it's 1968 and racial tension in profoundly corrupt Albany is on the boil. An incandescent and enrapturing tale of the heroic and bloody quest for justice and equality and the gamble of love....



## [Pillar-to-post perfect](#)

Bill Ott writes: "Golf etiquette requires that one acknowledge outstanding play by others in your group. 'Great shot!' usually does the job, or even just 'Shot!' suggesting that the little punched five-iron you



just hit into the wind was the real deal. Of course, I wouldn't know that from personal experience. Still, there are occasions when I do hit the ball cleanly and in the general direction of my target. It happened last summer, as a matter of fact, and my usual playing partner, Art Plotnik, responded with 'Eldorado!' I knew something was up. It turned out that Art was working away on a new book, *Better Than Great: A Plenitudinous Compendium of Wallopingly Fresh Superlatives* (he does have a way with titles), which is devoted to providing adjectival alternatives to the overworked *great* (and its equally taxed brethren, *amazing* and *awesome*)."

**NEW!** From ALA Editions.

## New this week in American Libraries



[Global Reach](#)

[Censorship Watch](#)

[Currents](#)

[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

[Solutions and Services](#)

[AL Focus](#)

## Great Libraries of the World



[Lambach Abbey Library](#). Lambach, Austria. The library in this 11th-century Benedictine abbey was built around 1691. Its importance lies not only in the rich collection of monastic archives, but also in

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

## Division News

### [Banned Websites Awareness Day](#)

Connie Coyle writes: "When someone in my professional network invited me to write a blog post for Banned Websites Awareness Day, September 28, I was fired up. The filters and website bans that are pushed in libraries oftentimes have consequences that may or may not be intentional. One of my mantras is: Educate, don't regulate. Children are routinely denied access to timely and accurate information. Students who are issued school laptops are often denied access to information even after they have made a case for having access."...

AASL Blog, Aug. 22



### [Network with AASL in Minneapolis](#)

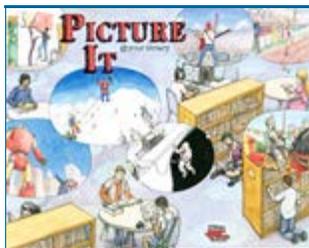
During its 15th National Conference and Exhibition, October 27–30 in Minneapolis, AASL will offer new and veteran attendees two special events focused on networking with their peers. On October 26, AASL will present Dinner with a Local Librarian, informal dinners at restaurants across the city. And on October 27, first-time attendees are invited to attend Celebrate Conference to help them get the most out of the conference....

AASL, Aug. 23

### [Teen Read Week publicity tools](#)

With Teen Read Week just around the corner, ALA is offering online resources to help public and school libraries publicize their activities. YALSA and the Public Information Office coordinate publicity efforts for Teen Read Week 2011, October 16–22. Librarians can find a [publicity toolkit](#) featuring free tools that libraries can use to publicize Teen Read Week activities....

YALSA, Aug. 19



### [Gretchen Kolderup to lead \*The Hub\*](#)

YALSA has named Gretchen Kolderup, teen services librarian at New Canaan (Conn.) Library, the member manager of [The Hub](#), its young adult literature blog. Kolderup began her term as editor in August and will serve through July 2013. The mission of *The Hub* is to provide a one-stop shop for finding information about teen reads....

YALSA, Aug. 23



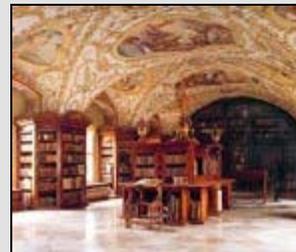
### [Webinar on e-reader loan programs](#)

On September 21, PLA will host a live, hour-long webinar, "[Check out E-Readers! Sacramento Public Library Did It and You Can Too!](#)," as part of the division's monthly webinar series. Five panelists from SPL will share how they built the e-reader loan program from the ground up. The deadline to register is September 19....

PLA, Aug. 23

### [Apply for the ALSC Bill Morris Seminar](#)

its 18th-century Viennese music scores, among them a symphony by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, the [Lambacher Symphony \(K.45a\)](#), a gift by Mozart himself in January 1769.



### [Lillienfeld Abbey Library](#)

Lillienfeld, Austria. Founded in 1202 by Leopold VI, duke of Austria, this Cistercian abbey library was refurbished in the early 17th century. Ceiling frescos by Johann Jakob Pianck were added later. Despite the loss of much of its collection in 1789, the library currently owns 40,000 items, among them a 14th-century biblical concordance by Ulrich von Lillienfeld.

**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 later this year by ALA Editions.

ALSC is seeking applications for its third biennial "Bill Morris Seminar: Book Evaluation Training," to be held on January 20, prior to the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas. This invitational seminar supports and honors William C. Morris's dedication to connecting librarians and children with excellent children's books. [Applications](#) must be received by September 16....

ALSC, Aug. 23

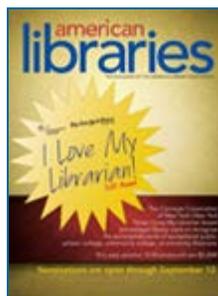
## Awards & Grants

### [Nominations open for 2011 I Love My Librarian! Award](#)

Nominations are now open for the 2011 Carnegie Corporation of New York / *New York Times* I Love My Librarian! Award. The award invites library users nationwide to recognize the accomplishments of librarians in public, school, college, community college and university libraries for their efforts to improve the lives of people in their community.

[Nominations](#) are being accepted online through September 12....

Public Information Office, Aug. 17



### [Apply for the 2011 Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award](#)

The Public Programs Office is accepting nominations for the 2011 Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award for Exemplary Humanities Programming. School libraries, public or private, that served children in any combination of grades K-8 and conducted humanities programs during the 2010-2011 school year are eligible.

[Nominations](#) must be received by December 15....

Public Programs Office, Aug. 23

### [Children and Libraries wins APEX Award](#)

The ALSC journal *Children and Libraries* has received a 2011 APEX Award for Publication Excellence. Three "Children and Technology" columns from the 2010 volume year won an Award of Excellence in the category of "Writing: Regular Departments and Columns." The CAL columns were among 192 winners in the Writing category, which received 643 entries judged primarily on the basis of editorial quality....

ALSC, Aug. 17

### [Connecticut children's librarian wins award](#)

Shahla Zarinejad, children's librarian at Rockville (Conn.) Public Library, has received a 2011 Faith Hektoen Award from the Connecticut Library Association. The annual Hektoen Awards recognize the often unsung efforts of children's librarians throughout the state. Zarinejad received the award for more than 20 years of service to children's library programming....




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### Career Leads from JobLIST

#### [Director of Discovery and Access](#)

Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, Massachusetts.

The Library, Information, and Technology Services (LITS) division is looking for a collaborative and service-oriented colleague to join us in providing forward-looking library services. The Discovery and Access (DnA) unit includes Access Services, Archives and Special Collections, and Library Technical Services and their experienced and committed employees who manage the circulation, acquisitions, cataloging and processing, archives and rare materials, e-resource access, library systems support, and resource-sharing functions. If you're interested in working collaboratively within LITS, the MHC community, and with Five Colleges consortium colleagues,

Hartford (Conn.) Courant, June 6

### [Librarian wins 2011 Hugo Award](#)

Of the many winners of the Hugo Awards for science fiction announced August 20 in Reno, Nevada, at the World Science Fiction Convention, one was Lynne Marie Thomas (on left), head of special collections at Northern Illinois University. Thomas and her coeditor Tara O'Shea won the award for Best Related Work, *Chicks Dig Time Lords: A Celebration of Doctor Who by the Women Who Love It* (Mad Norwegian). The Hugo Award for Best Novel went to Connie Willis for her two-part *Blackout* and *All Clear* (Spectra)...  
Hugo Awards, Aug. 20

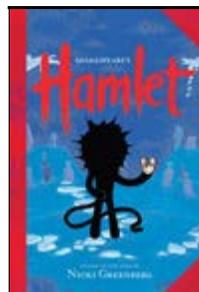


### [2011 Kelpies Prize for Children's Fiction](#)

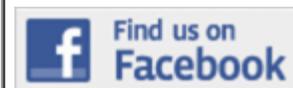
Edinburgh writer Alette J. Willis was announced as the winner of the 2011 Kelpies Prize for Children's Fiction at an August 18 award ceremony at the Edinburgh International Book Festival for her quirky novel featuring a mud-monster, *How to Make a Golem (and Terrify People)*. The annual prize, worth £2,000 (\$3,291 U.S.), is run by publishers Floris Books and supported by Creative Scotland. Floris Books will publish Willis's winning story in November...  
Books from Scotland, Aug. 19

### [Children's Book Council of Australia awards](#)

The Children's Book Council of Australia has announced the winners of its Book of the Year awards. The winner in the older readers category was Sonya Hartnett's *The Midnight Zoo* (Viking), and in the younger readers category, it was Isobell Carmody's *The Red Wind* (Viking). There were two winners for Picture Book of the Year: Jeannie Baker's *Mirror* (Walker) and Nicki Greenberg's *Hamlet* (Allen and Unwin). [Greenberg said](#) her award-winning book, which depicts sex and incest, is not for young children...  
Children's Book Council of Australia, Aug. 20; *Sydney (N.S.W.) Morning Herald*, Aug. 20



taking a leadership role to plan strategically, thoughtfully, and proactively; and work effectively with a diverse community of faculty, staff, and students, we hope you apply....



@ [More jobs...](#)

### Digital Library of the Week



The [Digital Library of Georgia](#) connects users to a million digital objects in more than 200 collections from 60 institutions and 100 government agencies. Though this represents only a fraction of Georgia's cultural treasures, the DLG continues to grow through its partnerships with libraries, archives, museums, government agencies, and allied organizations across the state. Based at the University of Georgia Libraries, the DLG is an initiative of GALILEO, the state's virtual library. The



## Seen Online

### [Anti-privatization bill gains support](#)

Dozens of California librarians went to Sacramento August 22 to support a bill that would make it more difficult for local governments to contract with private firms to run libraries. The noise they were making was in support of Assembly Bill 438 by Assemblyman Das Williams (D-Santa Barbara), awaiting a vote in the Senate. The rally concluded with the reading of a homemade, hand-illustrated children's storybook titled *The Privatization Beast Comes to Our Town* and the appearance of a person dressed in a bright yellow



costume playing the role of the fictional beast....

*Ventura County (Calif.) Star*, Aug. 22; YouTube, Feb. 14

### [E-rate puts spotlight on internet safety](#)

The Federal Communications Commission released an order ([PDF file](#)) August 11 that will require schools to educate students about internet safety in order to comply with the federal e-rate program, which provides funding for schools to achieve online connectivity. The measure will require schools to provide education around appropriate online behavior in chat rooms and on social-networking websites, as well as information about cyberbullying....

*Education Week*: Digital Education, Aug. 18

### [LC offers buyouts to staffers](#)

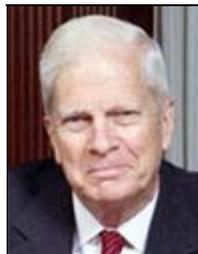
The Library of Congress will lose nearly 10% of its workforce by November 3. In a sweeping cost-cutting move, LC will offer targeted buyouts to 349 employees through a voluntary early retirement program. The staff cuts come in response to the legislative branch budget passed by the House on July 22. The bill would slash \$53 million from the library's budget, bringing its total funding level to \$575 million. It's the largest single cut to any legislative branch agency....

*Roll Call*, Aug. 19

### [James Billington on leading the nation's library](#)

James Hadley Billington has been the Librarian of Congress for nearly a quarter of a century and is the 13th person to hold the position. In this interview, he explains how to keep employees motivated, what the elements of success are for a federal leader, and the benefits of working with private-sector partners....

*Washington Post*: The Federal Coach, Aug. 18



### [Don't kill America's databook](#)

Robert J. Samuelson writes: "If you want to know something about America, there are few better places to start than the [Statistical Abstract of the United States](#). Published annually by the Census Bureau, the *Stat Abstract* assembles about 1,400 tables describing our national condition. With some interruptions, the government has published it since 1878. No more. The *Stat Abstract* is headed for the chopping block. The 2012 edition, scheduled for publication later this year, will be the last, unless someone saves it."...

*Washington Post*, Aug. 21

### [Detroit Public Library may lose six branches](#)

Detroit Public Library officials again are considering branch closures, saying layoffs from March have stretched staffing too thin. Administrators on August 23 said the system needs to close six of 23 branches by October—an announcement that comes three months after officials abandoned massive branch closure plans. Officials are considering closing the Chase, Chandler Park, Lincoln, the Mark Twain Annex, Monteith (right), and Richard branches and replacing the children's library at the Douglass branch with a technology center....



*Detroit News*, Aug. 24

### [A Worcester bookmobile resurgence](#)

DLG also provides digital library, photographic, and micrographic services; and provides leadership for cooperative digital initiatives throughout the state.

**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 have often thought that nothing would do more extensive good at small expense than the establishment of a small circulating library in every county, to consist of a few well-chosen books, to be lent to the people of the country under regulations as would secure their safe return in due time."**

—Thomas Jefferson, letter to John Wyche, May 19, 1809.

@ [More quotes...](#)

### **Upcoming ALA Conferences**

For decades, big, boxy bookmobiles lumbered through neighborhoods across the nation, bringing a sampling of the printed word to people unable to make trips to downtown libraries. Now, bookmobiles in many places are going the way of the trucks once used to make daily milk deliveries. That might not be the case in Worcester, Massachusetts, however, where local book lovers and some city councilors are looking to buck the trend....

*Worcester (Mass.) Telegram and Gazette, Aug. 22*



### [Student mentoring with PLNs](#)

Julia Albaugh's high school in Van Meter, Iowa, didn't have a course that would teach her about marketing and public relations, so a librarian at the school helped her expand her horizons—via Twitter. Under the librarian's supervision, Albaugh connected with Liz H. Kelly, a Santa Monica, California, author and marketing consultant, who offered her career advice. This fall, thousands of students will develop Personal Learning Networks (PLNs) that use social networking to match experts with students....

*USA Today, Aug. 15*

### [My favorite libraries](#)

Meg Campbell writes: "On August 17, my colleague Thabiti Brown called me in California from the beautiful courtyard inside the Boston Public Library. Like me, Thabiti is happy to spend a precious summer vacation day at the library. The only public library to house a presidential library (John Adams's library is on the top floor), the BPL under Director Amy Ryan has undertaken a comprehensive community process to solicit input on which [principles](#) should guide the library's future. As a Compass Committee member, I am biased about the value of these guiding principles; but I think they would be useful guideposts for any library."...

*Huffington Post, Aug. 18*



### [Librarian shuts down web page about the Met](#)

The Metropolitan Opera, irked by a website's regular disclosure of its programming, asked its operator to cease and desist. The site's author—Bradley E. Wilber, head of reference at Houghton (N.Y.) College—graciously agreed to discontinue his [Met Futures page](#) on August 8, after 15 years. Wilber had managed to sketch out the operas being planned by the Met, their casts, and conductors often five or six years into the future, a subject of passionate interest to opera buffs. Wilber acknowledged that the request came as no surprise....

*New York Times, Aug. 17*

### [Historical harmony at the Buffalo Central Library](#)

It was a good day for Buffalo, the day in 1958 when the library of the NBC Symphony Orchestra went on the auction block. The NBC Symphony, known for its mighty broadcasts, was the stuff of legend. The Buffalo and Erie County (N.Y.) Central Library stepped in—with cash—and nailed a



**2012 Midwinter Meeting, Dallas:**  
January 20–24, 2012

**2012 Annual Conference, Anaheim, California:**  
June 21–26, 2012

**2013 Midwinter Meeting, Seattle:**  
January 25–29, 2013

**2013 Annual Conference, Chicago:**  
June 27–July 2, 2013

**2014 Midwinter Meeting, Philadelphia:**  
January 24–28, 2014

**2014 Annual Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada:**  
June 26–July 1, 2014

**2015 Midwinter Meeting, Chicago:**  
January 23–27, 2015

**2015 Annual Conference, San Francisco:**  
June 25–30, 2015

**2016 Midwinter Meeting, Boston:**  
January 22–26, 2016

**2016 Annual Conference, Orlando, Florida:**  
June 23–28, 2016

**2017 Midwinter Meeting, Atlanta:**  
January 20–24, 2017

**2017 Annual Conference, Chicago:**  
June 22–27, 2017

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good part of the collection. More than a half century later, the NBC Symphony trove anchors a music collection that Buffalo's library can boast is one of the biggest in North America....

*Buffalo (N.Y.) News*, Aug. 20

### [Rebuilding Slave Lake, one book at a time](#)

The town of Slave Lake, Alberta, was devastated by a wildfire that raced through the community on May 15. Linda Duplessis, director of Peace Library System, said the library, which was also destroyed, has been on the receiving end of hundreds of boxes of books as it slowly restores its collection. So far, the regional library system has received more than 33,000 books, DVDs, and CDs. The public can begin borrowing again when a temporary library opens up across the street from the original structure on October 1....

CTV Edmonton, Alberta, Aug. 21



### [Cut-and-paste students learn to be wary of websites](#)

Monte Sant' Angelo Mercy College, an independent Catholic girls' school in North Sydney, is one of the frontrunners in Australia to alert its students to check the authenticity of websites. Teachers get the message across with a spoof website called [Pop! The First Male Pregnancy](#),



which features supposed scans of the fetus and links to what appears to be an interview with Oprah Winfrey. School Library Manager Stacey Taylor said there was still room for improvement, and failing to get the message across could leave some pupils in danger....

*Sydney (N.S.W.) Morning Herald*, Aug. 23

### [Taipei opens an airport branch](#)

The Taipei Songshan Airport Intelligent Library, Taiwan's first airport library, has drawn more than 20,000 readers since its opening this June as a branch of the Taipei Public Library. The unstaffed library is equipped with an automatic checkout system so that readers, mainly travelers, can serve themselves. Both locals and foreigners can borrow books using their EasyCards, the electronic card widely used in Taipei to pay for public transport or buy small-value goods....

*Taipei Times*, Aug. 21

### [Austrian librarian charged with "air rage" in Ireland](#)

Three male passengers had to restrain a librarian during an air rage incident on board a transatlantic flight August 20. At Ennis District Court in Ireland the following day, police said that at one stage Harald Albrecht made a lunge for a female flight attendant. The Austrian Airlines flight en route from Washington to Vienna had to divert to Shannon Airport after the incident and Albrecht was forcibly removed. Albrecht, an assistant librarian at the Medical University of Vienna's [Library for the History of Medicine](#), had been in New York for a five-week internship on Holocaust studies. He was released after paying a €400 fine for the offense....

*Irish Examiner (Cork)*, Aug. 23

[Go back to the Top](#)

### [Music to Her Ears: Julie Andrews](#)



### [Black Wings: Dreams of Flight and Freedom](#)

### [Scandinavian Literature @ your library](#)

### [Tayari Jones: "Librarians Were the Book Pushers" \(video\)](#)

### [Norman Rockwell's Impactful Anti-Racism Painting Exhibited at the White House](#)

### [The Galloping Ghost Scandalized College Football When He Turned Pro](#)

### [Singing Cowboys Captured the Imagination of Baby Boomers](#)

### [Fighting Our National Waste 'Torrent': One Cup at a Time by Wanda Urbanska](#)



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Society of American Archivists, Annual Meeting, Chicago, Aug. 22-27, at: [#saa11](#)

## Tech Talk

### [As PCs wane, companies look to tablets](#)

Computer makers are expected to ship only about 4% more PCs this year than last year. Tablets, in contrast, are flying off store shelves. Global sales are expected to more than double this year to 24.1 million. More than two-thirds of those tablets, however, are sold by Apple. Buyers see little need to buy any tablet other than the iPad, even if it is slightly more expensive than some of its rivals. "The performance still isn't there for a lot of them," said Richard Doherty, research director for the Envisioning Group, a market research and consulting firm. "And it's not just the product, it's the ecosystem behind it."...

*New York Times*, Aug. 19



### [iFixit brings user manuals into the tablet era](#)

Christina Bonnington writes: "Your laptop keyboard isn't working, and you want to try your hand at mending it yourself? Chances are you've turned to the online repair community [iFixit](#) for a detailed, step-by-step account of how best to do that. If not, you've probably seen one of their gorgeous teardowns that strip a gadget apart piece by piece to reveal what makes it tick. iFixit will soon be releasing its innovative manual-making software to the masses. It's called [Dozuki](#), and it features two products, [Guidebook and Answers](#), that aim to provide service manuals that don't suck."...

*Wired*: Gadget Lab, Aug. 18



### [LC releases Recollection software platform](#)

Trevor Owens writes: "Recollection is a Library of Congress web application that enables librarians, archivists, curators, and historians to create dynamic interfaces to cultural heritage collections. If you are unfamiliar with the project, I blogged about how you can use the tool to [explore cultural heritage collections](#) in July. If you think Recollection might be useful to your organization, we encourage you to take a minute to [request an account](#) for the beta instance of the tool."...

The Signal: Digital Preservation, July 5, Aug. 22



### [Future mobile phones could be powered by walking](#)

John P. Mello Jr. writes: "Two researchers at the University of Wisconsin in Madison have discovered a novel way to generate enough energy from walking to keep small electronic devices powered. Tom Krupenkin and J. Ashley Taylor use an energy-harvesting technology called 'reverse electrowetting' that converts mechanical energy into electrical energy. The harvester could be used to directly power such devices as smartphones, radios, laptops, GPS units, and flashlights, or it could be integrated into a Wi-Fi hotspot and serve as an intermediary between devices using the network and the network itself."...

*PC World*, Aug. 24

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

## Calendar

**Sept. 20:**

[Enhanced eBooks and BookApps: The Promise and Perils](#),

sponsored by Science Online NYC, Rockefeller University, New York City.

**Sept. 21–23:**

[International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications](#),

National Library of the Netherlands, The Hague.

**Sept. 23:**

[SEFLIN Virtual Conference](#). "Library Resource Sharing: Emerging Trends and Technologies."

Sponsored by the Southeast Florida Library and Information Network.

**Sept. 23–24:**

[Research Symposium](#). American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Massachusetts. "The Cosmopolitan Lyceum: Globalism and Lecture Culture in Nineteenth-Century America."

**Oct. 9–12:**

[Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education](#),

Annual Conference and

## [17 web resources for improving your design skills](#)

Mollie Vandor writes: "Long summer days and relatively relaxed offices might provide the perfect setting for web education. Just think, while other people are rounding out their summer tans, you could be ringing in autumn with a whole new skill set—in this case, web design expertise. Here's a look at some of the best web resources for web design education, from Design 101 through continuing education."...

Mashable, Aug. 19



## [Mobile-friendly library databases](#)

Aaron Tay writes: "Library vendors are keeping pace with mobile-friendly databases, either as a native app or more commonly as a mobile web version. The question is: Do users actually want or desperately need the ability to search library databases on the go? The surveys done so far have been mixed."...

Musings about Librarianship, Aug. 22

## [TLC releases LS2 Mobile for Android](#)

The Library Corporation has released a version of its LS2 Mobile app for Android smartphone users. Originally released in November 2010 for the Apple iOS, LS2 Mobile allows users to connect with their public or school libraries 24 hours a day from any place with mobile or Wi-Fi internet service. It can search a library catalog, place or cancel holds, and check account balances. LS2 Mobile is available as a free download to library users....

The Library Corporation, Aug. 17



## [A technique for photos real and surreal](#)

Roy Furchgott writes: "The eye can see a much wider range of light and dark than a camera. That's why windows come out as blurry masses of white in your daytime indoor shots but it doesn't look that way to the naked eye. But a controversial fix is becoming a popular technique to adjust images to look more like the way you perceive them. It is called high dynamic range photography. HDR uses software to mash together the best parts of several photos shot at different exposures so that over-lit and under-lit sections are eliminated."...

New York Times: Gadgetwise, Aug. 14



## [Can you do real work with a 30-year-old PC?](#)

Benj Edwards writes: "When IBM released its first personal computer, the 5150 in 1981, it was deliberately drab—black, gray, and low-key. That's because IBM intended it to be a serious machine for people doing serious work. But can a PC that's as old as I am manage to email, surf the web, produce documents, edit photos, or tweet? I sequestered myself for four days amid boxes of 5.25-inch floppy drives and serial cables to find out. The answer to my question turned out to be both yes and no—but more interesting was all the retro-computing magic I had to



Expo, David L. Lawrence Convention Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

## **Oct. 12–14:** [Ohio Educational Library Media Association](#), Annual Conference, Columbus Convention Center.

"21st Century Learning @ your school library."

## **Oct. 12–16:** [Frankfurt Book Fair](#), Messegelände, Frankfurt, Germany.

## **Oct. 24–25:** [The E-Books Environment](#), Tremont Plaza Hotel, Baltimore, Maryland. "The E-Book Renaissance: Exploring the Possibilities Exposed by Digital Books." Sponsored by the National Information Standards Organization.

## **Nov. 4:** [Brick and Click](#), Academic Library Symposium, J. W. Jones Student Union, Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville.

## **Nov. 17:** [Augustana Information Literacy in Academic Libraries Workshop](#), Faith and Life Centre, Augustana Campus, University of Alberta, Camrose. "Building the Information Literate University: From Concept to Strategic Change."

## **Nov. 26– Dec. 4:** [Guadalajara](#)

perform." ...  
PC World, Aug. 11

## E-Content

### [Google Books settlement, 2008–2011](#)

James Grimmelman writes: "The Google Books settlement, a book collector whose audacious plan to remake copyright law was ultimately for naught, died August 17. It was caught in the blast from a recent court decision, and received fatal injuries. Ironically, the settlement, which had been seriously injured in the spring, had been rumored to be planning a comeback tour. In the end, however, doctors declared that its internal divisions were incurable." ...  
The Laboratorium, Aug. 17

### [IFLA e-books discussion presses many bibliobuttons](#)

Leonard Kniffel writes: "What was arguably the most provocative program of the entire IFLA World Library and Information Congress in San Juan, Puerto Rico, was also the least formal and structured of the entire conference. 'Can the New Book Economy Guarantee Freedom of Access to Information?' was a freewheeling August 15 session, with Kenneth Crews of Columbia University's Copyright Advisory Office moderating a panel of publishing experts who made some surprising predictions about the future of publishing and how libraries fit into the picture....  
AL: Global Reach, Aug. 24

### [How to convert PDFs to ePub or Kindle files](#)

Jason Boog writes: "Many publishing professionals, writers, reviewers, and readers have a stack of PDFs that they wish they could read on a Kindle, Nook, or Kobo. However, the conversion process is a bit daunting and many converted files end up with unseemly page numbers or headers floating around the text. If you follow our step-by-step tutorial below, you can convert and clean up a PDF file relatively easily. Here are the steps." ...  
eBookNewser, Aug. 23



### [Bells and whistles for a few e-books](#)

In the film version of *Pride and Prejudice* the music jumps and swells at all the right moments, heightening the tension and romance of that classic Jane Austen novel. Will it do the same in the e-book edition? [Booktrack](#), a startup in New York, is planning to release e-books with soundtracks that play throughout the books, an experimental technology that its founders hope will change the way many novels are read. Its first book featuring a soundtrack is *The Power of Six*, a YA novel published by HarperCollins. Watch the [video](#) (1:55)....  
New York Times, Aug. 23; YouTube, Aug. 22



### [E-book spam: Seven steps to identification](#)

Will DeLamater writes: "There was a news story this summer that has been a long time in the making: Spam hits the world of e-books. Anyone who has been following the Amazon Digital Text Platform since its beginnings has seen this coming a long way off. A search for

[International Book Fair \(FIL\)](#),  
Guadalajara, Mexico.

**Nov. 29–  
Dec. 1:**  
[Online Information Exhibition and Conference](#), Olympia Conference Centre and National Hall, London. "Information and Collaboration: Meeting the Challenges of a Mobile Generation."

**Nov. 30:**  
[Repositories in Science and Technology](#), workshop sponsored by CENDI and NFAIS, Mumford Room, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

@ [More...](#)

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a copy of *Pride and Prejudice* a few months ago brought up so many results that the average book buyer had no way of picking among them. So what can you do to avoid purchasing a spam book?"...

EduKindle, Aug. 22

### [Why print can exist in harmony with digital](#)

Mike Tyson writes: "We'd like discuss a rarely raised argument for print, from a designer's perspective. To begin, we think the winner for content delivery will always be digital. Print has too many restrictions to contend with the vastly more nimble digital method. However, consider the *New Yorker* cover from September 24, 2001 (right), the first issue released after the 9/11 attacks, designed by illustrator Art Spiegelman.



The image is lost in digital reproduction and only reveals itself subtly as you handle the printed piece and adjust it around the light."...

Unplgdd, Aug. 12

### [Book piracy: A non-issue](#)

Paul Carr writes: "Earlier today, I found myself looking back at the columns I wrote for *The Guardian* back in 2003. Inevitably, with industries as fast moving as media and technology, my 23-year-old self made a whole load of terrible predictions. One prediction I'm happy to stand by, though, is that [the way to solve media piracy](#) would not be through legislation but through making it easier and cheaper for customers to buy legitimate versions of movies, music, and books. The reason: Books have *always* been free to those who don't want to pay for them."...



TechCrunch, Aug. 23; *The Guardian* (U.K.), July 21, 2003

### [U.K. libraries reject raw deal on e-journals](#)

Major research libraries have told the two largest journal publishers that they will not renew their Big Deals with them if they do not make significant, real-terms price reductions. Research Libraries UK has told Elsevier and Wiley-Blackwell that universities will not renew their current blanket orders when they expire at the end of this year unless concessions are made. Big Deals involve libraries paying a blanket fee for electronic access to a publisher's entire journal catalog...

*Times Higher Education* (U.K.), Aug. 18

### [The changing nature of resource sharing for e-books](#) (PDF file)

Michael Levine-Clark writes: "When we demand the ability to loan e-books to other libraries, we are confusing the means (ILL) with the end (getting a book to the user who needs it as quickly and cheaply as possible). Instead, we should be demanding that publishers make e-books available to vendors who can manage an easy short-term lease process that will be cheap enough to replace ILL. ILL is a relatively efficient system for sharing physical resources, but not the right system at all for delivering e-books."...

*Collaborative Librarianship* 3, no. 2 (2011): 71-72

### [Who has the most e-textbooks?](#)

Sarah Kessler writes: "Just about every



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Mashable, Aug. 18

### [Ebrary signs 12 more university press partners](#)

(PFD file)

E-book publisher ebrary announced 12 new university presses have joined as publishing partners, bringing the total to 120. The publishers' scholarly monographs and other materials will be available under a mix of models to address libraries' evolving collection strategies and acquisition workflows....

Ebrary, Aug. 22

### [Digital preservation, curation, or stewardship? Define](#)

Butch Lazorchak writes: "I admit it: I've been prone to using the terms 'digital preservation,' 'digital curation,' and 'digital stewardship' interchangeably without thinking too hard about their origins or subtle differences. Where do these different terms come from and what do they imply? Let's briefly explore the slightly different (though often overlapping) approaches of preservationistas, curators, and stewards."...

The Signal: Digital Preservation, Aug. 23



### [Yale partners with National Library of Korea](#)

Yale University's East Asia and Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript libraries have undertaken a collaborative project with the National Library of Korea to digitize Yale's holdings of rare Korean works, totaling 140 volumes. Korea will provide funds for the digitization and plans to include the bibliographic information and page images of the Yale works in the Korean Old and Rare Collection Information System (KORCIS), an online full-text repository for Korean rare books....

Yale University, Aug. 19



### [Medical libraries and information devices](#)

Michelle Kraft writes: "Personal information devices allow doctors to access medical information on the go. They aren't tied down to a computer or laptop. How does this relate to medical libraries? Once the decision is made, librarians can get on board by supporting the devices. That means helping with the selection of apps, looking at library and information apps, and helping doctors use the apps or the device itself. Even if your hospital has adopted a mobile technology policy, you will still get questions (especially on e-books, e-journals, and what databases have apps)."...

The Krafty Librarian, Aug. 17



### [10 iPad apps based on classic children's books](#)

Dianna Dilworth writes: "Kids are growing up reading on iPads today. In hopes that they'll still read classic books, we've made a list of 10 iPad book apps based on classic children's books. All the apps are interactive. [Alice in Wonderland](#) lets readers use the app to make Alice shrink or grow, and others, like [The Velveteen Rabbit](#), allow readers to record their own voices into the story."...

eBookNewser, June 22



### **E-readers for kids**

Tony Cole writes: "Happily there are quite a few good e-readers made for young children now, which have the qualities that they need: bright colors, easy navigation, a good supply of e-books specifically aimed at young children, reasonably tough, and generally fun to use. These are mostly aimed at the age group between 3 and 7. I will also suggest here a couple of e-readers that I think would work for younger readers from 8 to about 10."...

eBookAnoid, Aug. 22

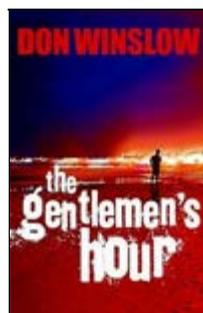


## **Books and Reading**

### **Rousing Reads: Surf's up**

Bill Ott writes: "I've never been on a surfboard, never even seen one up close, but after finally getting around to reading Don Winslow, I'm starting to dream about being able to hang 10, if only I was 40 years younger. It isn't that Winslow spends all that much time writing about actual surfing in *The Gentlemen's Hour*, his new book, or in *Dawn Patrol*, its predecessor. Most of the action in these two dynamite crime novels takes place on shore, but it's the portrait of surfer culture that's so intoxicating."...

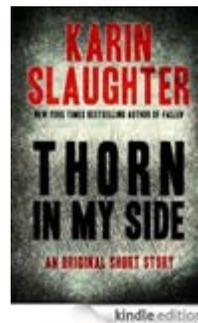
*American Libraries* column, July/Aug.



### **Karin Slaughter writes short story to benefit libraries**

Karin Slaughter, best-selling author of *Fallen*, announced August 22 that her next project will be a digital original short story titled "Thorn in My Side" published by Amazon's Thomas and Mercer imprint, available exclusively as a [Kindle Single](#) on August 25. Full proceeds from sales in the United States will benefit the DeKalb County (Ga.) Library System. Slaughter's organization [Save the Libraries](#) has raised over \$50,000 for DeKalb. The Single will also be available on [Amazon.uk](#) and 100% of proceeds there will benefit The Reading Agency in the United Kingdom....

booktrade.info, Aug. 22



### **Back from the dead: The state of book reviewing**

Jane Ciabattari writes: "Five years ago, when Twitter was just another startup and the iPad was a gleam in Steve Jobs's eye, the state of print book reviews in this country was undergoing a spectacular and noisy collapse. Five years later, we remain a nation of passionate

readers. No matter the form—digital, electronic, print, or spoken word—a majority of the nation’s readers recognize good writing and yearn for fresh voices from authors and critics. Here’s a snapshot of the state of book reviewing today.”...

*Poets & Writers*, Sept./Oct.

### [Cornell’s fake review detector](#)

As online retailers increasingly depend on reviews as a sales tool, an industry of fibbers and promoters has sprung up to buy and sell raves for a pittance. Determining the number of fake reviews on the web is difficult. But it is enough of a problem to attract a team of Cornell University researchers, who recently published a paper ([PDF file](#)) about creating a computer algorithm for detecting fake reviewers. The team developed an algorithm to distinguish fake from real, which worked about 90% of the time....

*New York Times*, Aug. 19; *Proceedings of the 49th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics*, Portland, Oregon, June 19–24, 2011, pp. 309–319

### [JManga opens web portal to Japanese comics](#)

In mid-August, the Digital Comics Association, a group of 39 Japanese manga publishers, launched the web manga portal [JManga.com](#) with plans to make a catalog of 10,000 titles available by 2013. The site serves both as a promotional vehicle for publishers and a destination site for readers looking for manga they can read and buy online....

*Publishers Weekly*, Aug. 22



### [Survey: More U.K. children read websites than comics](#)

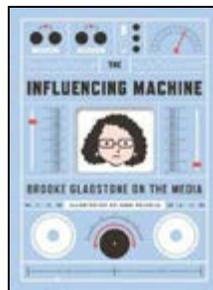
Children in the United Kingdom are far more likely to read emails and websites than comics, according to a National Literacy Trust [survey](#) of more than 18,000 kids aged 8–17. The research also found that while one in 10 children claimed to have read 10 books in the last month, 13% had not read any at all. Boys were nearly twice as likely as girls to say they never read. Some 29% of all children read every day....

*The Guardian* (U.K.), Aug. 23; National Literacy Trust, Aug. 22

### [10 masterpieces of graphic nonfiction](#)

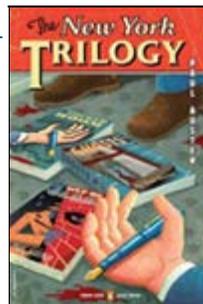
Kirstin Butler writes: “Who doesn’t love comic books? While infographics may be trendy today, there’s just something special about the work of the human hand. Good old-fashioned manual labor, literally, brings a unique richness to storytelling where words alone sometimes fall flat. I’ve put together a list of some of my favorite graphic nonfiction. These hybrid works combine the best elements of art, journalism, and scholarship, and provide the perfect way to mix some visual magic into your reading list.”...

*The Atlantic*, Aug. 10



### [Eight memes of the postmodern mystery](#)

Ted Gioia writes: “What do postmodern writers have against the mystery novel? For reasons that perhaps only a Lacan or Derrida could deconstruct, they have turned to it again and again, wreaking havoc with its rules and formulas, and transforming the conventional whodunit into a playground for the most experimental tendencies and avant-garde techniques. Here is a handy guide to the eight memes of the postmodern mystery.”...

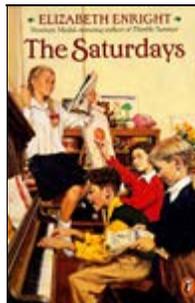


Postmodern Mystery

### [Fairies, witches, and supply and demand](#)

Motoko Rich writes: "These days, perhaps because I'm covering the national economy, I often stumble across passages in children's books that inadvertently teach economic principles. Earlier this year, I picked up *The Saturdays*, by Elizabeth Enright, to read to my 7-year-old daughter. I was struck by the chapter where Rush, one of the children, stops to watch a large snowblower at work on a Manhattan street. A crowd gathers, and an old man grumbles that 'hundreds of fellas' used to shovel the snow. 'Nowadays they do it all by machinery. Ain't no work for nobody.' Aha! Capital vs. labor."...

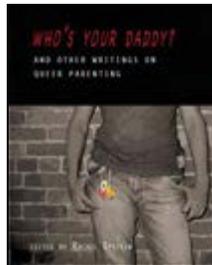
*New York Times*, Aug. 20



### [10 books every LGBT parent should read](#)

Dana Rudolph writes: "Books about LGBT parenting are few and far between, but here are 10 that I recommend for all LGBT parents and prospective parents. I chose works that each showcase a variety of voices, rather than single-person memoirs, so each one would resonate as widely as possible. I also chose books that focus on the emotional side of parenting rather than medical and legal how-to works, since the latter tend to be specific to particular segments of the LGBT community."...

Mombian, Aug. 22



### [Is print news easier to remember than online news?](#)

Todd Wasserman writes: "A study ([PDF file](#)) by three doctoral candidates at the University of Oregon School of Journalism and Communication found that print news readers remember 'significantly more' than those who read news stories online. Print readers also remember 'significantly more' topics than online readers, the report found. However, readers recalled headlines equally well no matter the medium." Among the findings: "The knowledge that the information they can find online, even if it disappears, is immediately archived and thus imminently retrievable may make readers less apt to feel they need to store it in their memory."...

Mashable, Aug. 22

### [Beware selling books bought overseas](#)

Mike Masnick writes: "The United States has long had a first-sale doctrine when it comes to works covered by copyright. The basic idea is that if you buy a book, you can resell it. Now we have our first case testing that exact theory. An appeals court has [ruled](#) that selling a book made outside of the U.S. is copyright infringement and there is no first-sale defense. In this case, the bookseller was found guilty of willfull infringement, because he was selling textbooks legally bought in Asia in the U.S., and told to pay \$75,000 per infringement."...

TechDirt, Aug. 18; Copyright Litigation Blog, Aug. 17

### [Book-related sneakers and iPhone cases](#)

Here's the idea: sneakers and iPhone cases that are inspired by some of the greatest literary works of all time. Each design pays tribute to one fantastic book, and shows off your love of classic fiction to the world. New



designs are produced "as often as time and creative energy permit." Included are designs for *Catcher in the Rye*, *Animal Farm*, *Slaughterhouse-Five* (right), and *The Scarlet Letter*....

foreverRebuilt

## Actions & Answers

### [The changing professional conversation](#)

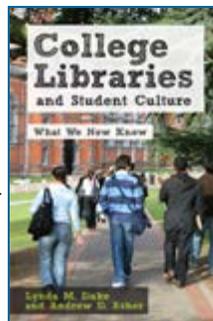
Meredith Farkas writes: "I have had some great discussions on Twitter. Professional discussions, discussions about parenting, conversations with friends. But if I try to recall those conversations, that great piece of advice, or that link to that article that someone posted to Twitter maybe a year ago, I usually find myself at a dead end. I know it's futile to argue for a return to blogging as the primary means of professional conversation in social media. But I think it's valuable to consider what we lose by *replacing* blogging with stream-based social media."...

Information Wants to Be Free, Aug. 23

### [What students don't know](#)

Steve Kolowich writes: "One sobering truth that librarians from a group of Illinois universities have learned over the course of a two-year, five-campus ethnographic study is this: Students rarely ask librarians for help, even when they need it. The ERIAL (Ethnographic Research in Illinois Academic Libraries) project enlisted two anthropologists to collect data using open-ended interviews and direct observation. One thing the librarians now know is that their students' study habits are worse than they thought." The ERIAL findings will be discussed in depth in an [ALA Editions title](#) to be published in September. Stephen Abram has some [comments](#)....

Inside Higher Ed, Aug. 22; Stephen's Lighthouse, Aug. 22



### [Facebook's privacy, tagging makeover](#)

Ben Parr writes: "Facebook is launching one of the largest privacy overhauls in its history, making it clearer with whom you're sharing photos, status updates, and locations." Facebook itself [notes](#) that "the main change is moving most of your controls from a settings page to being inline, right next to the posts, photos, and tags they affect." Dan Rowlinski [speculates](#) that the rollout over the next few days is in response to "the threat posed by Google+ and its 'circles' feature." Every single one of Facebook's 750+ million users will go through a tutorial about the updated privacy settings....



Mashable, Aug. 23; Facebook blog, Aug. 23; ReadWriteWeb, Aug. 23

### [How to cross-post from Twitter to Facebook](#)

Paul Boutin writes: "Do you find yourself posting the same thing to both Twitter and Facebook? There's a simple way to automate that, without cross-posting every single update. Login to Facebook, and go to the app page for the third-party [Selective Tweets](#) app. By using this, any Twitter post to which you append the Twitter hashtag #fb at the very end will also appear on your Facebook profile page."...

New York Times: Gadgetwise, Aug. 23

### [How to create a Foursquare page for your library](#)

Heather Mansfield writes: "Foursquare recently launched the ability for brands to create [Pages](#) on Foursquare. Until then, nonprofits were

limited to simply claiming their nonprofit's [Venue Page](#), making it almost impossible to be proactive on Foursquare. However, in recent weeks the site has made a number of upgrades that have rendered the site and its tool set much more interesting and relevant to the nonprofit sector. Now, to get started with launching a new Foursquare Page."...

NonProfit Tech 2.0, Aug. 22

### [Google Maps gets weather](#)

Jonah Jones writes: "Whether you're organizing a trip overseas or a picnic at a local park, knowing the weather forecast is a crucial part of the planning process. We've added a [weather layer](#) on Google Maps that displays current temps and conditions around the globe, and will make travel and activity planning easier. To add the weather layer, hover over the widget in the upper right corner of Google Maps and select the weather layer from the list of options." Watch the [video](#) (1:06)....



Lat Long Blog, Aug. 18

### [Library school starter kit: A class checklist](#)

Heidi Kittleson writes: "You are probably stuck taking required (core) courses this term, and that's good. So, while you're taking those first required courses, you can peruse the course catalog. You may think you have just started classes, but before you know it, an adviser will be contacting you and announcing class registration dates and times and instructions. Be prepared. Here's how."...

Hack Library School, Aug. 17

### [YouTube relaunches Music Page](#)

Brenna Ehrlich writes: "YouTube is aiming to make the musical experience easier for users on the hunt for new jams by relaunching its Music Page. YouTubers are now privy to a cadre of features, including recommended videos and artists based on your viewing history, local concert listings paired with artist vids, a new [YouTube Top 100](#) chart, and, perhaps most intriguing, another level of curation in the form of tastemaker partnerships." Watch the [video](#) (1:21)....



Mashable, Aug. 18; YouTube, Aug. 16

### [Will music lovers stream back to MySpace?](#)

Former social networking heavyweight MySpace will aim to reclaim its one-time position as a preeminent hub for music when it relaunches later this year. Its renewed focus on music will put MySpace up against a growing array of hot new players in on-demand music service like Rdio and European firm Spotify, which has [gained](#) 1.4 million users since [entering](#) the U.S. market in July. Sarah Houghton-Jan, who is "plotting ways to bring one or more of these services into the library and has some ideas which may or may not be legal," offers a [Spotify vs. Rdio](#) personal-listening-pleasure smackdown....



ReadWriteWeb, Aug. 23; *Wall Street Journal*: AllThingsD, Aug. 8; *New York Times*, July 13; Librarian in Black, July 21

### [Booking entertainers for special event programming](#)

Tami Finley writes: "Last summer I got a new perspective on the whole idea of hiring someone to come and entertain for payment when I took a program of my own on the road to 10 libraries. For those of you new to the concept of hiring performers or for anyone who needs some advice, I picked the brain of one of our local entertainers who does hundreds of shows. Here are 10 tips we came up with."...

ALSC Blog, Aug. 21

### [How humanity created so much data and computable knowledge](#)

Marshall Kirkpatrick writes: "Steven Wolfram and team have gathered together a big [timeline](#) of key events in the history of systematic data and computable knowledge.

We are really at the dawn of a new age of data creation, so this timeline will likely look like prehistory relatively soon, but it's fascinating and important nonetheless. In terms of sheer quantity, far more data will be made measurable in the next few years than has been instrumented by any of the other developments on Wolfram's timeline. What will we do with all that data? That's up to us."...

ReadWriteWeb, Aug. 19



### [Pearson helps students remember September 11](#)

To help students understand the events surrounding the 9/11 attacks and the aftermath, learning company Pearson is offering teachers, librarians, students, and parents a free collection of online education lessons and activities, *Remembering September 11*, available at Pearson's [Online Learning Exchange](#). The downloadable materials include oral history interviews and a 16-page color booklet...

Pearson, Aug. 22



### [Five misused words and phrases in genealogy](#)

Michael Hait writes: "Over the past quarter-century, the field of genealogy has developed its own vocabulary to describe its evolving standards. Unfortunately, some of these terms are used in other fields with slightly different meanings. Here, in no particular order, are the top five most misused words and phrases in modern genealogy."...

Planting the Seeds, Aug. 19

### [When your school library budget is slashed](#)

Julie Greller writes: "Every year, my budget gets cut a bit more than the last year. In New Jersey, our 'beloved' governor took millions away and the pain of cuts has continued into the 2011–2012 school year. I have around 70% less than last year, and now my game plan has changed. Are you in the same situation? I bet you are. I have decided to share with you some of the things I'm doing this year to provide free resources to replace those we lost."...

A Media Specialist's Guide to the Internet blog, Aug. 18

### [Use the front door](#)

David Lee King writes: "If your library's like mine, you have staff-only ways to access library stuff: things like employee parking, a staff-only entrance, a back-end way to access the library catalog. Whenever I put a book on hold, I get it delivered via interoffice mail. Try using your library like a patron. Is it easy or hard? Is there something that frustrates you about the whole process? It's probably doing the same

thing to your patrons.”...

David Lee King, Aug. 18

### [A tour of Cornell’s Rare and Manuscript Collections](#)

Debra Schiff writes: “Recently, I had the great pleasure of spending the day at Cornell University, where I took a tour of the Rare and Manuscript Collections. My host was Elaine Engst, whose title is director and university archivist at the Kroch Library Rare and Manuscript Collections. It was enormous fun seeing some of Cornell’s treasures. I hope you’ll enjoy the photos and videos here, and be inspired to visit the collections yourself.”...

Here and There, Aug. 18



### [Jonathan Milder, Food Network librarian](#)

Before the Food Network, Jonathan Milder was living in Chicago working on a doctorate in performance studies. Then, “my mother sent me Anne Willan’s *La Varenne Pratique*, and there I was having friends over for quail, slaving over Tarte Tatin, spending entire weekends in total dereliction of my studies making veal stock. Grad school never had a chance.” Milder started at the Food Network in 2003 as a production assistant and then later moved into his current position that same year. Find out more in this interview....

I Love Libraries, Aug. 19



### [The Food Librarian interview](#)

Mary Yogi, [The Food Librarian](#) blogger, is a native Southern Californian who has worked in public libraries since 2005. She started The Food Librarian in 2007 to learn to bake from scratch (“no more box mixes . . . not that there is anything wrong with them if you use them, but I wanted to pick up cookbooks and make all the deliciousness myself”) and to learn more web skills. In this interview, she reveals some information about her day job and how she combines her baking job and being a librarian....

I Love Libraries, Aug. 19



### [The Fastest Librarian in the West](#)

The University of New Mexico Health Sciences Library and Informatics Center was the first runner-up in a video contest held by the National Library of Medicine in which the public was invited to create original short videos promoting awareness of NLM’s products and services. The [video](#) (0:59) was filmed on location in Peralta, New Mexico, and shows the value of the PubMed Mobile app. Watch the extended [director’s cut](#) (3:50) with credits and bloopers....

National Library of Medicine, May 11; YouTube, Mar. 22, 24



### [The Secret Life of the Hobo Librarian](#)

Richard Patient is the inexcusably excellent Hobo Librarian (with narration by Richard Copperwaite) in this



Pythonesque "[documentary](#)" (4:03) from the dramatic production "The Highborn and the Hobo," part of the University of Southampton's Light Operatic Society's 40th anniversary Summer Show. It was written by Harry Campbell and Phillip Moxley. "Though ostensibly omnivorous, the Hobo Librarian is surprisingly picky about its food."...

YouTube, Aug. 12

[Go back to the Top](#)

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# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | August 31, 2011

## Contents

[American Libraries Online](#)  
[ALA News](#)  
[Booklist Online](#)  
[Division News](#)  
[Awards & Grants Seen Online](#)  
[Tech Talk](#)  
[E-Content](#)  
[Books and Reading](#)  
[Actions & Answers](#)  
[New This Week](#)  
[Calendar](#)

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american libraries BUYERS GUIDE

## American Libraries Online

### [East Coast libraries endure Hurricane Irene](#)

The week of August 22 was anything but your typical end-of-summer week on the East Coast. First, a 5.8-magnitude earthquake in Virginia on August 23 set a startling tone, shutting down numerous buildings, including libraries, all along the coast. Then, on August 26 Hurricane Irene came ashore in North Carolina and moved relentlessly northward through Vermont and into Quebec. As of August 31, it was responsible for 54 deaths and about \$10.1 billion in damage. The old building housing the Center for Cartoon Studies' [Charles Schulz Library](#) in White River Junction, Vermont, may have suffered irreparable damage from floodwaters, but the entire collection was saved by intrepid volunteers and staff (above) and moved to a secure location a few blocks away....

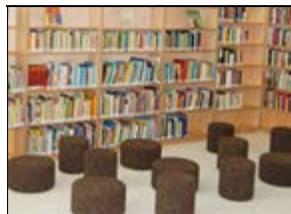
*American Libraries news*, Aug. 31; *The Beat*, Aug. 30



### [A library home for poetry](#)

The new [library of the Poetry Foundation](#) in Chicago has a simple goal. "The mission of the library echoes that of the foundation: to place the best poetry in front of the most people," explains Librarian Katherine Litwin. But poetry can have a reputation for inaccessibility. The Poetry Foundation Library was designed to make the collection enjoyable and accessible. The library is located off the main entrance of the foundation's new headquarters, only three blocks from ALA headquarters....

*American Libraries news*, Aug. 31



### [Will's World: Networking without pity](#)

Will Manley writes: "I'm working on a new house project. It's one of the most complicated projects that I've ever taken on. There are a million details from the size of

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AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

the window jambs to the energy rating of the glass in the windows. For a novice like me, it's all very confusing and requires a great deal of research. Never have I needed a library so much. But a library only gets you so far. There is a network out there, and if you connect into it, will make life a lot easier."...

*American Libraries* column, Sept./Oct.

### [On My Mind: Librarians and the threat to free political speech](#)

Jeffrey Beall writes: "As librarians, we support freedom of speech and freedom of access to information. In early 2010, the U.S. Supreme Court handed down a decision that increased these freedoms. Known as *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, the decision declared unconstitutional some statutory restrictions on political speech—restrictions that carried the threat of fine or imprisonment for merely engaging in political speech. Specifically, *Citizens United* overturned some limits on corporate political speech."...

*American Libraries* column, Sept./Oct.



### [Currents](#)

On August 22 **Cindy Woodruff** (right) became youth services librarian at Laurel (Del.) Public Library. In July, **Richard Hume Werking** retired from the Nimitz Library at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, where he served for 20 years as library director and professor of history. **Dorothy Boone Dismuke**, 80, former reference librarian at the Oak Ridge (Tenn.) Public Library from 1967 to 1987, died August 11....

*American Libraries* column

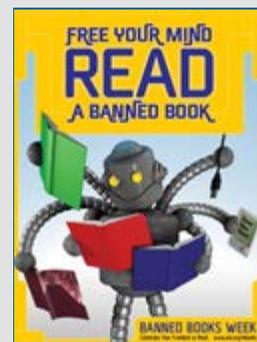


## ALA News

### [ALA bids farewell to John Chrastka](#)

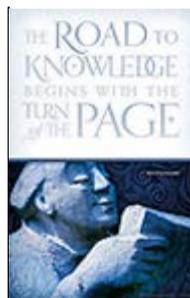
John Chrastka, ALA's director of membership development, is leaving the Association effective August 31 to become a partner in a Chicago-based association consulting agency. His immediate supervisor, ALA Associate Executive Director for Communications Cathleen Bourdon, says of John: "He was the friendly face of ALA to thousands of ALA members and a true colleague to ALA staff."...

*AL: Inside Scoop*, Aug. 29



Celebrate **Banned Books Week** this year (September 24–October 1) by freeing your mind and reading from a banned book. The Banned Books Week robot is back again by popular demand. The ALA

Information Literacy Awareness Month is a great time to honor teachers, librarians, and other underrecognized shepherds who guide all ages through the abundant information available online and in print. By teaching the rewards of lifelong learning, you can help young readers become future advocates for libraries as essential civic centers for learning and community. The new [Knowledge is Power poster set](#) illustrates the enduring importance of education. The four posters are handsomely illustrated, and each bears a thought-provoking quotation....



ALA Graphics, Aug. 30

### [Benchmarks are a process](#)

Larra Clark writes: "The ALA Office for Technology Information Policy is one of 13 organizations working to develop a beta set of national public access technology benchmarks for public libraries. Over the last decade, OITP has played a leadership role in advocating for policies supporting [e-rate](#), [high-speed broadband for libraries](#), and [fair copyright policies](#) through its [Program on Networks](#) and [Program on Public Access to Information](#). More recently, the new [Program on America's Libraries for the 21st Century](#) has recognized [cutting-edge technology](#) practices in all types of libraries."...

District Dispatch, Aug. 31

### [ALA partners with Library 2.011 worldwide virtual conference](#)

ALA is partnering with founding sponsor San Jose State University SLIS to present the Library 2.011 worldwide virtual conference, November 2–3, a unique chance to participate in a global conversation on the current and future state of libraries. The conference will be held online, accommodating multiple time zones over the course of two days, and will be free to attend. The [call for presentations](#) is now open and submissions are due by September 15. To be kept informed of the latest conference news and updates, please join the [Library 2.0 network](#)....



Library 2.011 Conference

### [ALA seeks two endowment trustees](#) (Word file)

Applications are now being accepted for two upcoming openings for endowment trustee to help manage the ALA Endowment Fund. One position is for the expiring term of Senior Trustee Dan Bradbury, and the other is for a newly added position that will expand the trustees from a committee of four to a committee of five. The deadline to apply ([Word file](#)) is November 15....

ALA Finance and Accounting, Aug. 30

## Booklist ONLINE

### [Featured review: Science fiction](#)

Stephenson, Neal. *Reamde*. Oct. 2011. 1,056p. Morrow, hardcover (978-0-06-197796-1).  
Not many writers can make a thousand-page

Store has [Banned Books Week posters](#), bookmarks, buttons, T-shirts, and the 2011 list of banned books. **NEW!** From ALA Graphics.

### New this week in American Libraries



[Will's World](#)

[On My Mind](#)

[Censorship Watch](#)

[Currents](#)

[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Ask the ALA Librarian](#)

[Solutions and Services](#)

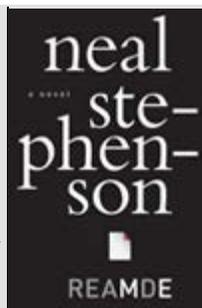
[AL Focus](#)

### Great Libraries of the World



[Melk Abbey Library](#). Melk, Austria. The abbey was founded in

book feel like it's over before you know it, but Stephenson, author of *Cryptonomicon* (928 pages), *Anathem* (981), and the three-volume Baroque Cycle (about 900 each), is a master of character, story, and pacing. Here, an unknown miscreant has created a computer virus, Reamde—a possibly deliberate misspelling of “read me,” a common file name—and is using it to extort money from users of a multiplayer online game. Meanwhile, a plan to sell stolen credit-card numbers to a Russian mobster goes horribly awry, catapulting a hacker and her cohorts into a race for their lives. The book feels like a video game—characters bouncing from one action set piece to another; new villains introduced out of left field; a sprawling, compelling, completely seductive story that keeps the reader flipping pages at near light-speed....



### [The lessons of weeding](#)

Joyce Saricks writes: “A column on weeding: What a way to start a year! I’m a packrat at heart, and weeding has always been anathema to me. I’ve taken the precaution of emailing my longtime friend, librarian Merle Jacob, the queen of weeding, to warn her that I had finally come around to her point of view, lest she faint in shock at seeing this column. This change of heart has happened over the last few months. I volunteer at my local library, and in addition to shelving DVDs (and always finding several to take home), I’ve been assisting Sue O’Brien, my successor as department head, with a fiction weeding project. Once again we’re out of room, and the director refuses to build a wing just so we won’t have to weed the almost 50,000-volume fiction collection.”...



### [New Corner Shelf e-newsletter with B&T](#)

Booklist Online launched its new [Corner Shelf e-newsletter](#) August 30 in partnership with Baker & Taylor. *Corner Shelf* is a free, bimonthly publication that addresses trends, ideas, and issues in collection development and readers’ advisory. Sign up [here](#)....

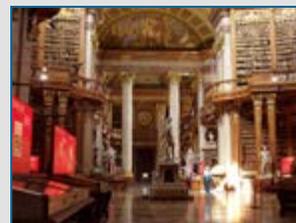


### [Free Booklist webinars in September](#)

*Booklist* editors host leading practitioners, authors, and publishers’ representatives at least once a month in webinars on a variety of topics offering immediate tips, tools, resources, and new ideas for collection development and readers-advisory work. The webinars are recorded and archived on the [Booklist Online webinars page](#) where there is also information about upcoming offerings. September’s webinars support librarians in enhancing their collections for fall and winter. All *Booklist* webinars are Tuesdays starting at 1 p.m. Central Time....

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

1089 when Leopold II, margrave of Austria, gave one of his castles to some Benedictine monks, and the library soon became renowned for its extensive manuscript collection. It is also well-known for its ceiling fresco, painted by Paul Troger in 1731–1732, which depicts an [allegory of Faith](#) surrounded by the four Cardinal Virtues. In his 1980 novel *The Name of the Rose*, Umberto Eco named one of the protagonists “Adso von Melk” as a tribute.



### [National Library.](#)

Vienna, Austria. The library dates back to 1368 and the personal collection of Albert III, duke of Austria. The Baroque [State Hall](#) (Prunksaal) was built in 1723–1726 to house the Habsburg imperial court’s manuscripts, incunabula, books, maps, and globes until late in the 19th century. It is decorated with statues of Emperor Charles VI and other Habsburg monarchs by Peter and Paul Strudel and [ceiling frescoes](#) by Daniel Gran. The court library became the Austrian National Library when the

## Division News

### Take advantage of AASL11 pricing

The deadline for advanced registration pricing for "Turning the Page" ends September 29. To be held in Minneapolis October 27–30, the AASL 15th National Conference and Exhibition is the premier biennial four-day event for school librarians, administrators of library services, educators of school library students, and school library supporters. Registration and program information can be found [online](#)....

AASL, Aug. 30

### Teens should vote now for the Teens' Top Ten

YALSA invites all teens to get out the vote for the Teens' Top Ten. Teens can vote for their favorite books from the last year in the [annual poll](#). Voting is open through September 16. The 25 nominees for this year's Teens' Top Ten are available on the YALSA website, along with a toolkit for librarians to promote the list to the young adults visiting their libraries. The final 2011 Teens' Top Ten list will be announced during Teen Read Week, October 16–22....

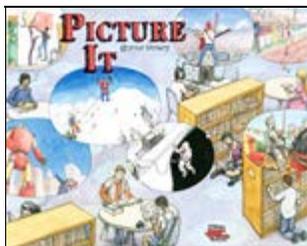
YALSA, Aug. 30



### Registration for Teen Read Week ends September 16

Registration for [Teen Read Week](#), YALSA's annual literacy event, will close on September 16. Visitors to the Teen Read Week website will also find activity ideas relating to this year's theme, planning resources and publicity tools, as well as details on the Teen Read Week Photo Contest, judged by TRW Spokesperson Jay Asher. Teen Read Week will be celebrated October 16–22, with a theme of "Picture It @ your library."...

YALSA, Aug. 30



### Strategize with social media @ your library

Social media is here to stay. Whether your library regularly communicates with teens through Facebook, Twitter, or a blog or if you are just establishing such a presence, a social media policy is a key to your success. To learn how a social media policy can help you reach teens and advocate for services in your library, join YALSA for its September 15 webinar presented by Linda Braun, "[Tweet. Like. Link: Creating a Social Media Policy for Your Library](#)."...

YALSA, Aug. 30

### Upcoming ACRL e-learning events

ACRL is offering a wide variety of online learning opportunities in fall 2011 to meet the demands of your schedule and budget. Full details and registration information are available on the [ACRL website](#). Registration for all online seminars and Webcasts qualifies for the ACRL [Frequent Learner Program](#). Register for three ACRL e-Learning events and receive one registration....

ACRL, Aug. 30

### ALCTS continuing education events for fall

republic was established in 1920. Its treasures include the largest Egyptian [papyrus collection](#) in Europe, a 6th-century Greek illuminated manuscript of *De Materia Medica* by Dioscorides, a museum of 380 [globes and scientific instruments](#) from before 1850, and a [map collection](#) that includes the 17th-century *Atlas Blaeu–van der Hem*, a 50-volume set of more than 2,400 maps, prints, and drawings.

**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 later this year by ALA Editions.

A graphic for JobLIST DIRECT. It features the logo "JobLIST DIRECT" at the top, followed by the text "The e-newsletter that keeps you current on job seeking and hiring" in a stylized font.

A graphic with the text "Career Leads from JobLIST" and the JobLIST logo.

[Chair of Cataloging and Metadata](#)

ALCTS offers a wide variety of online continuing education opportunities through webinars, web courses and e-forums. Here is a list of upcoming web courses and webinars for fall. Additional details and registration information are available online....

ALCTS, Aug. 30

## Awards & Grants

### [IEEE Science Kits for Public Libraries grant](#) (PDF file)

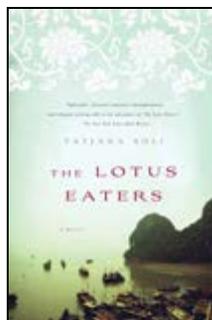
The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Chicago Section has announced a Science Kits for Public Libraries grant. The grant will provide funding to up to 20 public libraries in the Midwest for the development of math and science collections for K–12 students through the creation of science kits—especially kits that provide prepared experiments for use by students and librarians. Applications will be accepted from October 1 until November 15....

Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Chicago Section, Aug. 22

### [James Tait Black Memorial Prizes](#)

The winners of this year’s James Tait Black Memorial Prizes, given annually by the University of Edinburgh, were announced at the Edinburgh International Book Festival on August 19. The two £10,000 (\$16,400 U.S.) prizes are given for the best work of fiction and for the best biography during the previous year. The Fiction Prize was awarded to debut American novelist Tatjani Soli for *The Lotus Eaters*, set in the last days of the Vietnam War. The Biography Prize was won by Hilary Spurling for *Burying the Bones: Pearl Buck in China*, a biography of Nobel Prize–winning author Pearl Buck....

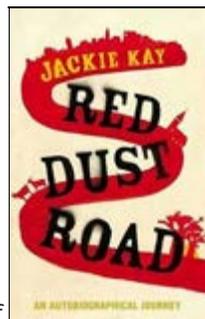
BBC News Scotland, Aug. 19



### [2011 Scottish Book of the Year](#)

Scottish author Jackie Kay has won the 2011 Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust Book of the Year for her autobiographical novel *Red Dust Road*. Kay received her £30,000 (\$49,250 U.S.) prize at an August 26 ceremony during the Edinburgh International Book Festival. Born in Edinburgh to a Scottish nurse and a Nigerian student, Kay was adopted at birth by a white couple and brought up in Glasgow. *Red Dust Road*, published by Picador, is an autobiographical account of Kay’s search to find her birth parents....

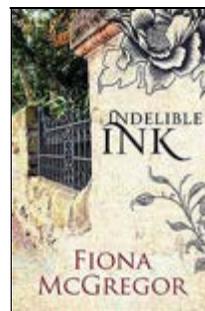
Edinburgh Reporter, Aug. 26



### [2011 Age Books of the Year](#)

The winners of the 2011 Age Book of the Year awards were announced August 25 at the opening keynote address of the Melbourne Writers Festival. Fiona McGregor’s *Indelible Ink* (Scribe) won the Aus\$10,000 overall prize, having also won the same amount for Fiction Book of the Year. Her third novel, *Indelible Ink* is an “utterly original, strangely charismatic” tale of society and a tattoo, set in the prosperous North Shore of Sydney....

The Age (Melbourne, Australia), Aug. 26



Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama. The chair of cataloging and metadata reports to the library director. The cataloging department is comprised of two librarians, three staff members, and some student workers. Responsible for original, complex and copy cataloging of materials in all formats including electronic resources; reviews and implements new workflows as technologies change; provides departmental supervision and training to staff and student assistants in cataloging and support tasks; previews cataloging policies and procedures and implements improvements; plans and implements metadata schema and standards and develops work flow procedures for metadata projects; participates in reference rotations which entail some weekend and some night duty....



@ [More jobs...](#)

**Digital Library of the Week**



## Seen Online

### [Missouri judge blocks new social media law](#)

A new law regulating how Missouri teachers communicate with their students on Facebook and other social media websites suffered a double-barreled setback August 26. Cole County Circuit Judge Jon Beetem awarded the Missouri State Teachers Association a [preliminary injunction](#) blocking the law (Missouri Senate Bill 54) from taking effect, saying it would have a "chilling effect" on free speech rights. And Gov. Jay Nixon said he will ask lawmakers during a special session in September to strip out the law's most controversial provisions, including the one the judge ruled on....

*Kansas City (Mo.) Star*, Aug. 26

### [Santa Cruz school librarian challenges textbook changes](#)

Furious about the chemical industry's footprint in a state-sponsored environment curriculum, a librarian at Santa Cruz (Calif.) High School has started a [petition](#) to have the industry's influence removed. As of August 30, Veronica Zaleha had garnered more than 25,000 signatures on the social networking platform Change.org. She started the petition in response to a [California Watch investigation](#) that showed the American Chemistry Council had successfully inserted edits and additions about the benefits of plastic shopping bags into an 11th-grade environmental textbook....

*California Watch*, Aug. 19, 29



### [Expand branch hours to support literacy](#)

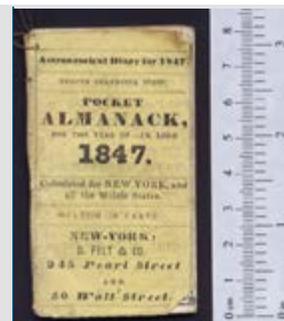
Maria Luisa Arroyo (right) writes: "Why do branch libraries matter? Some may argue that branch libraries are losing their relevance. Besides, who uses the library anyway nowadays? It just has old books, right? Neither cell phones nor home computers, though, can teach young children how to hold a book upright, how to turn pages, nor choose for them age-appropriate books to read. Neither cell phones nor home computers can teach any child how to read aloud or check for understanding while reading. Isn't it common sense to have the branch libraries in their neighborhoods open when they and their families need them?"...

*La Prensa de Western Massachusetts*, Aug. 29



### [Sugar Grove director was fired for defying authority](#)

The Sugar Grove (Ill.) Public Library board majority fired longtime library director Beverly Holmes-Hughes in July because she defied their authority, according to a statement released August 25. According to the statement, the board majority found that Hughes would not do what was asked and that this created a tension among



The [Miniature Book Collection](#) in the University of North Texas Digital Library includes a selection of contemporary and historical miniature books selected from the larger collection in the UNT Libraries Rare Book Room. In some cases, only the covers have been digitized. The collection also contains issues of the *Miniature Book News* and the *Miniature Book Society Newsletter*. Miniature books are defined as those books under 4" (3" in some places) in height.

**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 really love the book discussions we have in the prison"**

the four trustees, resulting in a deteriorated working relationship. Plans for a [new library Friends group](#) are on hold until the current group, which does not agree with the decision to fire Holmes-Hughes, dissolves at the end of its fiscal year in December....

*Kane County (Ill.) Chronicle, Aug. 27*

### [Illinois man charged with library book thefts](#)

According to police, a Glen Ellyn, Illinois, man stole thousands of books, DVDs, and other items from Chicago-area libraries and then sold some of them on the internet. James F. Jackson was taken into custody August 26 and charged with three counts of felony theft. A search of Jackson's apartment and vehicle turned up materials taken from libraries, including an unspecified number of items from the Lisle Public Library....

*Arlington Heights (Ill.) Daily Herald, Aug. 29*

### [Michigan library staffer killed by bear in Yellowstone](#)

Wildlife agents were trying to capture a grizzly bear in Yellowstone National Park on August 29 after it killed a hiker. The body of John Wallace, 59, was discovered August 26 in a backcountry area known for its high population of bears. Wallace had worked for about 20 years at the Portage Lake District Library in Houghton, Michigan. Library Director Shawn Leche said Wallace was a quiet, easygoing man and a conscientious worker who loved books, opera, and the outdoors....

*Associated Press, Aug. 29*

### [Murder of Coronado librarian in 1975 still unsolved](#)

A 74-year-old retired librarian and war widow, Ruth Quinn was found late on March 16, 1975, in her home on Pomona Avenue in Coronado, California, fully clothed, in bed, with gunshot wounds to her head and collarbone. The shots had been fired at close range. Police concluded Quinn's death was a premeditated murder. She had worked as a librarian, first at the main library in San Diego and later at the Coronado Public Library. The library was the last place she was seen alive....

*Coronado (Calif.) Patch, Aug. 29*



### [Layoffs expected in Santa Cruz](#)

A new service model that keeps all branches of the Santa Cruz (Calif.) Public Library open and increases their hours will require layoffs this fall that are expected to equal about 10% of the workforce. Director Teresa Landers has submitted a draft report to staff members and union leaders for input, and anticipates presenting it to the Library Joint Powers Authority board for a possible vote October 3....

*San Jose (Calif.) Mercury-News, Aug. 24*

### [Home libraries spring up in El Paso colonias](#)

All summer long, children of all ages streamed in and out of Maria Garcia's home in the colonia of Agua Dulce, in far East El Paso, Texas. Spearheaded by Sister Frances Hicks of the School Sisters of St. Francis, Garcia and four other mothers in the colonias of Agua Dulce, Ascencion, Las Colonias, and Dairyland opened mini-libraries in their homes. Hicks, who teaches ESL in the colonias, said she was able to get a donation of 2,000 books from St. Patrick's Catholic School in St. Charles, Illinois. Once the books were ready, she tried to get one house in each colonia to have a mini-library....

**library. You see, when we were on the street we have to show off that we were tough men. We don't show our feelings. In here we read this book and find the character in the book has the same issues we have. It takes a little while, but after a time the brothers in the book discussion group begin to open up. Nobody is judging you and we feel a little freer to explore our feelings since more or less we all share the same experience. It all happened in the library."**

—An inmate in a Maryland prison, quoted in [Prison Librarian](#), Aug. 28.

**"If past history was all there was to the game, the richest people would be librarians."**

—Business magnate and philanthropist Warren Buffett's librarian fantasy, "[81 Reasons We Love Warren Buffett](#)," no. 48, *The Motley Fool*, Aug. 30.

@ [More quotes...](#)

**ENJOY OUR LATEST CONTENT**

[Libraries Offer Free Entertainment for Life, According to CNN's Bob Greene](#)



*El Paso (Tex.) Times*, Aug. 26

## [Chicago organizes Library Lounge nights](#)

With the launch of the monthly Library Lounge nights, part of Chicago Public Library's recent "Not What You Think" campaign, the library wants to reintroduce the library to city residents—especially young, professional urbanites—in a place they likely already frequent: local bars. At each happy hour you can expect to learn about all the offerings at CPL, beyond just books, e-books, and audiobooks. You'll also get yourself a library card on the spot, a [library T-shirt](#), and a couple of drinks to sip....

*Huffington Post*, Aug. 24



## [San Jose's old MLK library demolished](#)

Scott Herhold writes: "On August 30, city officials began to demolish the old San Jose (Calif.) Public Library Martin Luther King building, replaced in 2003 by a gleaming new one, for a convention center expansion. City Librarian Jane Light led a last tour of the place a day earlier, billing it as the MLK ghost tour. The design on the outside smacked of Brutalism 101, and a moat around the building separated the library from the street, like a forbidding castle. For its time, the old MLK building was considered a Disneyland of a library. A postcard from the mid-1970s shows it lit up in a warmly translucent glow."...

*San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News*, Aug. 29

## [You can get \*that\* at the library?](#)

Gregory Karp writes: "Libraries have always been great money savers because of all the books and periodicals you can borrow and use for free. Offerings at libraries can vary widely, so the only way to know all that yours offers is to check out the website or visit in person. But here's a sampling of some unusual services you might find, with help from ALA President Molly Raphael."...

*Chicago Tribune*, Aug. 26

## [Librarian strike looms at University of Western Ontario](#)

David Rapp writes: "Unionized librarians and archivists at the University of Western Ontario in London have set a strike deadline for September 8, the first day of classes, as bargaining continues with university administration over staffing and compensation. Represented by the University of Western Ontario Faculty Association bargaining unit, UWO librarians have been without a contract since June 30."...

*Library Journal*, Aug. 25

## [Want a library card? Have you had a sex change?](#)

Local councils in the U.K. are asking residents who want to borrow books from public libraries whether they have AIDS or schizophrenia, or have had a sex change. The information is being gathered in an effort to comply with equal-opportunity rules. In Islington, people registering to borrow books are asked whether they have a "hidden impairment" such as cancer, HIV, or diabetes. Among the questions from Haringey council is this one: "Does your gender differ from your birth sex?"...

*The Telegraph* (U.K.), Aug. 27

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[Against All Odds: The Rescue of the Chilean Miners](#)

[Daniel Ellsberg: "The Library Was My Education" \(video\)](#)

[Connect with your kids: Read Comics Together](#)

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European Congress on E-Inclusion, Brussels, Sept. 6–7, at: [#ecei11](#)

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

**Calendar**

**Sept. 8:**  
[International](#)

## Tech Talk

### [How to buy a projector](#)

M. David Stone and Tony Hoffman write:

"Projectors have come a long way from the days when the most useful way to categorize them was by their weight class. Today there are any number of more meaningful kinds of categories, including intended use (business presentations, home theater, game playing), technology (LCD, DLP, LCOS), throw distance (how close the projector can be to the screen), and more. Here are some questions that will help you focus on the right category for your needs." And here are *PC Magazine's* [top 10 picks](#)....

*PC Magazine*, Aug. 25



### [Sarah's audio gadget showcase](#)

Sarah Houghton-Jan writes: "I get asked a lot what technology I *actually use*, as opposed to all the cool stuff I show people or talk about. So I started looking around and thinking about it. What do I use? What do I have? Do I like it or love it? And I decided to start posting about it by gadget subject area. So we begin with audio."...

*Librarian in Black*, Aug. 25



### [10 social networking add-ons for Firefox](#)



Sarah Jacobsson Purewal writes: "Move over, RockMelt. You don't need a dedicated social networking browser to stay überconnected. Here are 10 Firefox add-ons (all compatible with the latest version of Firefox) that will turn your browser into a social butterfly, including a Facebook toolbar, a Twitter search box, a HootBar, and a TinyURL generator (right)."...

*PC World*, Aug. 30

### [Repair a faulty Windows installation without reformatting](#)

Alex Castle writes: "Nothing will put a crimp in your computing style quite like a Windows error. Although Microsoft's OS has gotten exponentially more stable over the years, it's still very possible for Windows system files to become corrupt, which can cause your system to slow down, freeze, or (in the worst case) refuse to load your operating system at all. When you encounter a Windows error, your first instinct may be to back up your data, grab the installation disk, and weep silently as you press the Reformat button. We're here to tell you there's another way."...

*Maximum PC*, Aug. 31

## E-Content

### [Sony announces 6-inch, library-ready e-reader](#)

On August 31, Sony announced what it calls the lightest touch-screen, 6-inch e-reader ever, Reader Wi-Fi (PRS-T1), providing a natural and immersive reading experience. Reader Wi-Fi is smaller than an average paperback book, can easily fit into a bag or pocket, and is available in three color choices—black,

### [Literacy Day.](#)

**Sept. 8–11:**

[Association for Rural and Small Libraries](#), Annual Conference, Frisco, Texas.

**Sept. 29–**

**Oct. 1:**

[Tennessee Association of School Librarians](#), Annual Conference, Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center, Murfreesboro.

**Oct. 10–31:**

[K–12 Online Conference](#). Free online conference. "Purposeful Play."

**Oct. 12–14:**

[Managing Copyright Risk and Policy](#), Grand Hyatt Hotel in Buckhead, Atlanta.

**Oct. 17–19:**

[Internet Librarian 2011](#), Monterey Conference Center, Monterey, California.

**Oct. 20–23:**

[International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning](#), Annual Conference, Hilton Milwaukee City Center, Wisconsin. "Transforming the Academy through the Theory and Practice of SOTL."

**Oct. 22:**

[Barbara Elleman Research Library Lecture series](#), inaugural lecture. Patricia Lee Gauch presents "The Picture Book as an Act of Mischief," Eric Carle Museum of Picture

red, or white. It is also the first e-reader to offer wireless connectivity to public libraries in the U.S. and Canada via a dedicated icon on the device to allow convenient borrowing of free e-books with a valid library card. And it comes with a Pottermore e-book giveaway....

Sony, Aug. 31



### [Seven ways to use the iPad to help students excel](#)

Jeffry Thurana writes: "We are approaching the era where students don't have to carry stacks of thick heavy books to school anymore. Everything will be digitized and available at the tip of students' fingers and many schools have already adopted the iPad as their learning tool, while students and educators are slowly figuring out the best way to utilize the iPad for education. From using the iPad as a reference tool to taking class notes, here are seven ways that the iPad will change the way your student learns."...

MakeUseOf, Aug. 23



### [Amazon won't be adopting EPUB](#)

Nate Hoffelder writes: "Do you recall that rumor from three months back about Amazon [switching](#) to EPUB? Well, the new Kindle format called Print Replica [discovered](#) August 28 is a pretty good sign that EPUB just isn't going to happen. Here's the thing. Amazon didn't adopt PDF. They could have used PDFs if they wanted to, but instead they went with their own proprietary format: something like PDF but completely controllable."...

The Digital Reader, Aug. 28–29; TeleRead, Aug. 28



### [The emerging e-book app ecosystem](#)

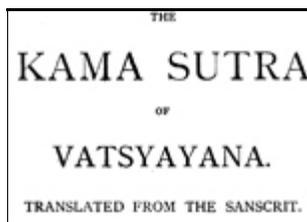
John Dupuis writes: "My intent with this post is to prod people to think of some of the hidden downsides of relying on the app model for distributing and monetizing e-books—in other words, the kinds of marketplaces we see emerging in the iTunes and Android app commercial developer ecosystem. If you want to read an e-book, you more or less have to buy it for your iPhone or iPad. You can't download it illegally, you can't borrow a copy from a friend or from the library unless your friend or library are also willing to lend you their device. So, what would I like to see in an e-book ecosystem?"...

Confessions of a Science Librarian, Aug. 29

### [The 25 most downloaded e-books on Project Gutenberg](#)

Jason Sockel writes: "When Michael Hart endeavored to create Project Gutenberg 40 years ago, he probably did not envision the No. 1 downloaded title being the *Kama Sutra*, but a surprising search revealed just that.

Project Gutenberg is an expansive set of free e-books, digitized and



Book Art, Amherst, Massachusetts.

**Oct. 26–28:**

[Internet Librarian International 2011](#),

Copthorne Tara Hotel, London, United Kingdom.

**Nov. 2–3:**

[Library 2.011](#), worldwide virtual conference.

@ [More...](#)

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assembled by Hart (who, incidentally, is the inventor of the e-book) when he was a college student in Illinois. Since that time, his team has digitized more than 30,000 public-domain titles.”...

OverDrive Digital Library Blog, Aug. 29

### [Academic library user attitudes towards e-books](#)

(PDF file)

As academic libraries ramp up their investments in e-book collections and experiment with a growing range of purchasing models, they need to know more about how their users view e-books, and what expectations users bring to library collections. In 2007–2008, a research team conducted a study using Q-methodology to identify opinions about e-books among the population of library users at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio....

*College and Research Libraries*, preprint, July 2012

### [Ungluing e-books](#)

Eric Hellman writes: “[Unglue.it](#) will be the name of Gluejar’s ungluing e-books website. For readers new to this blog, ‘ungluing e-books’ is what I’m calling the process of raising money to make creative-commons licensed e-book editions of the books that you love, so that everyone, everywhere, can read them. We’re developing the Unglue.it website on the [Amazon cloud](#). One of our big decisions has been to use an invitation-only rights holder strategy during the launch phase.”...

Go to Hellman, Aug. 30

### [Changing demographics of tablet and e-reader owners](#)

In the United States as recently as last summer, tablet and e-reader owners tended to be male and on the younger side. But according to Nielsen’s latest quarterly survey of mobile-connected device owners, this is no longer the case. Only 46% of tablet owners are now under the age of 34 and the percentage of those over 55 has increased to 19%; and 61% of all e-reader owners are now female, compared to a mere 46% in the third quarter of 2010....

Nielsen Wire, Aug. 25

### [Open access to research data is a lot tougher than you think](#)

Kyle Niemeyer writes: “Most readers of this blog are familiar with the current effort to make research articles open access, but there is also a parallel effort to develop public archives for the research data behind them. We’ve addressed how [funding questions](#) make this a difficult issue, and the difficulty in [preserving raw experimental material](#) (also limited by money), but the primary obstacle to widespread adoption of existing public research data repositories appears to be simply time and effort.”...

Ars Technica: Nobel Intent, Aug. 26



### [The metadata of classical music](#)

Steve Smith writes: “Finding classical music on Spotify is easy; finding a specific recording, on the other hand, can feel like anything but. As always seems to be the case, classical buffs have to work harder than pop-music fans to build and organize the virtual library of their dreams. The problem, as usual, comes down to metadata, the information that tells a computerized player what content the files on a compact disc contain and how to organize tracks you’ve downloaded from the



Jennifer Henderson,  
Contributing Researcher

Liz Humrickhouse  
Student Intern

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internet. As yet, no standard for classical metadata exists.”...

*New York Times*, Aug. 25

### [Three graduate projects and a dissertation](#)

Christopher Harris writes: “I am starting to think that it really isn’t totally our fault that we can’t figure out this whole e-book thing. There are two problems: what we don’t know, and what we think we know. For example, we think we know how many books to buy; public librarians look at the ratio of available copies to pending holds and then buy more copies if the ratio is off. Besides being totally reactive, I am not sure how effective that formula is. So I propose three graduate projects and one dissertation.”...

District Dispatch, Aug. 29

## Books and Reading

### [15 reasons why bookstore/library partnerships are good](#)

Naomi McEneely writes: “It is a truth universally acknowledged that libraries have readers, booksellers have books, and publishers have authors, and that each of the three is generally in need of the others. Lake Forest Book Store works with 15 of the 20 libraries in Lake County, Illinois, and has plans to partner with the remaining five by the end of 2011. The store brings in authors for library events, but only with the stipulation that it can sell the books. The partnership has been beneficial on every level.”...

Bookselling This Week, Aug. 24



### [How to host a video book club visit](#)

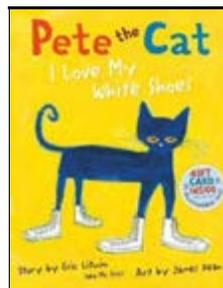
Jason Boog writes: “Skype made [book club headlines](#) August 29 as author Meg Wolitzer used the video chat service to visit book clubs around the country. If you want to have an author speak to your book club through video chat, check out GalleyCat’s [Authors Who Visit Book Clubs list](#) to find nearly 1,000 writers. Explore the Video Chat category to find a video-friendly author in your favorite genre.”...

MediaBistro: GalleyCat, Aug. 29; Reuters, Aug. 29

### [Selecting books for special-needs storytimes](#)

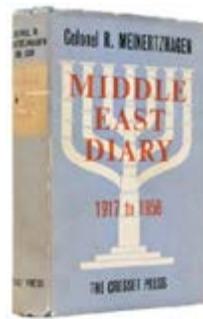
Renee Grassi writes: “Whether or not you have led a special-needs program before, the fact is that you may have already led one and not even known it. If your storytimes are drop-in and you don’t have information about a child’s special need ahead of time, selecting crowd-pleasing stories could be a challenge. So, in order to be prepared, plan ahead and ask yourself these questions.”...

ALSC Blog, Aug. 31



### [Collectible diaries from Che to Valentino](#)

Elizabeth C. writes: “Reading someone’s personal diary is an invasion of privacy, and yet libraries are filled with diaries that have been published over the years. The day-to-day memories of people in the public eye or just ordinary folks in extraordinary circumstances make for fascinating collections. This [selection of rare diaries](#) contains many notable



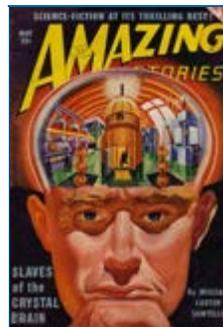
names, including adventurer Lawrence of Arabia, revolutionary Che Guevara, avant-garde artist Jean Cocteau, silent movie star Rudolph Valentino, and the green-fingered author who created Biggles.”...

Reading Copy Book Blog, Aug. 29

### [Astounding pulp cover artwork](#)

Natalie Baaklini writes: “Here’s our look at the evolution of science-fiction magazine and paperback cover art from 1930 to 1955, as pulp styles exploded into awesomeness. Pulp art is characterized by tight compositions focused on one or two figures, with highly saturated colors and a contrasting background. Brush strokes were often visible because of the speed the artists worked at to make deadlines. This added to the illusion of motion in the figures. Violence and sexual overtones appeared on covers like never before, no longer merely suggesting adventure but beating you about the head with it.”...

io9, Aug. 26



## **Actions & Answers**

### [Virginia earthquake knocked down books in Maryland](#)

Following the Virginia earthquake on August 23, more than 27,000 books [fell off the shelves](#) at the University of Maryland’s McKeldin Library in College Park. The library closed to the public following the tremors and reopened on August 26. Compact shelving on four floors was compromised; one unit tilted off its track. A free-standing bookshelf on the library’s fourth floor collapsed. Staffers have picked up all the books and loaded them onto book carts. Sorting and shelving is underway. Only about 700 items require preservation treatment....

University of Maryland, Aug. 29



### [Nothing right about this copyright ruling](#)

Maura Smale writes: “The world of copyright litigation is getting downright surreal. Recently a court struck down an appeal of a New York case, [John Wiley & Sons, Inc. v. Supap Kirtsaeng](#), involving reselling books from overseas in the United States. Essentially, the court ruled that the first sale doctrine applies only to works manufactured in the U.S. The takeaway is that libraries may not be able to loan out books that were manufactured outside the United States, and students may not be able to buy or sell used textbooks.”...

ACRLog, Aug. 30; Scholarly Communications @ Duke, Aug. 24

### [Google’s +1 button could affect search](#)

## results

Ryan Singel writes: "Google is making plans to turn its +1 button into a crowdsourcing tool that helps it reorder search results and fight web spam. Introduced in March, the +1 sharing button debuted with little incentive for web surfers to click on it. But in August, the button entered adolescence and can now be used to post stories to friends and followers on Google+ (and [Google Maps](#)), much as the Like button functions for Facebook. If Google's search results become heavily dependent on social signals from Google+, then there's going to be heavy pressure on the net's websites to embed the Google+ button."...

*Wired*: Epicenter, Aug. 29; Google Lat Long Blog, Aug. 29



## Three hidden features in Google Advanced Search

Google is continually improving its search engine. Not only does it work meticulously on the search algorithm change, but also the graphical user interface and its features constantly receive upgrades. Many changes are subtle and thus easily missed. Likewise, many advanced features are well hidden. Google has recently updated its advanced search features, making it easier for users to more quickly narrow down search results. Here are three features you may not know about....

MakeUseOf, Aug. 23

## Five things libraries can post on Foursquare Venue Pages

Heather Mansfield writes: "Here are five different types of tips that your nonprofit can post on Foursquare Venue Pages using your nonprofit's Foursquare Page (not your personal Foursquare account) to both gain new followers and inspire the Foursquare community. The more tips you post, the more exposure your Foursquare Page will get."...

Nonprofit Tech 2.0 Blog, Aug. 30



## Medify simplifies medical research

Sarah Kessler writes: "What you find when you search for health information online is not necessarily what you need if you're managing a disease. [Medify](#) attempts to find a productive compromise between the extremes of online health information. It aggregates published research from the U.S. National Institutes of Health's Medline, a database that contains more than 18 million references to journal articles going back to 1946. Then it scrapes data points like the number of patients studied, their treatments, symptoms, and side effects to generate insights about medical treatments and experts."...

Mashable, Aug. 27



## 10 tips for respectful and effective shared calendaring

Terri Griffith writes: "Shared calendars push our boundaries in the workplace and let other people see and touch our time in ways that have limited equivalents. Having a staff member manage your calendar used to be a status signal and implied that your time was important. Instead, shared calendars open your time to the world—a huge benefit for our ever more collaborative work. Unless they are effectively managed, however,



they can be a major drain on our time.”...

GigaOM, Aug. 22

### [The research paper controversy](#)

Barbara Fister writes: “An issue currently highlighted in the *New York Times* [Room for Debate](#) feature is on whether research papers are a ‘waste of time’ and no longer ‘justifiable as a means of grading a college student’s performance.’ I also have never heard the argument made that ‘it is outdated because the internet has made sources so readily accessible’ or that it promotes ‘deference to conventional opinions.’ Let’s take a closer look at these claims.”...

Inside Higher Ed: Library Babel Fish, Aug. 29; *New York Times*: Room for Debate, Aug. 28

### [WorldCat turns 40](#)

August 26 marks the 40th anniversary of the launch of WorldCat, the world’s most comprehensive database of resources held in libraries around the globe. On August 26, 1971, the OCLC Online Union Catalog and Shared Cataloging system (now known as WorldCat) began operation. That first day, from a single terminal, catalogers at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, cataloged 133 books online. Today, WorldCat comprises more than 240 million records representing more than 1.7 billion items in OCLC member libraries worldwide....

OCLC, Aug. 26



### [Three simple marketing rules for libraries](#)

Ned Potter writes: “You don’t need to be a genius to do this stuff, or have huge marketing budgets, or even loads of time. It’s just a case of reconfiguring our existing efforts to acknowledge some simple rules. Number 2: No one cares about the how. Libraries are seemingly process focused, but the the rest of the world is focused on results. When marketing a service we should concentrate on *what people aspire to*, not the tools that will get them there.”...

thewikiman, Aug. 25

### [Depository library user survey report released](#)

In its efforts to address the value of Federal Depository Library Program membership, the U.S. Government Printing Office developed a survey for depository library users. The survey ran from October 10, 2010, through March 4, 2011, and resulted in more than 3,300 responses from users of nearly 550 depository libraries. The final report, *FDLP Users Speak* ([PDF file](#)), presents the survey results....

FDLP Desktop, Aug. 24

### [My problem with Banned Books Week](#)

Rory Litwin writes: “The [Banned Books Week](#) project, well-intended as it may be, fails to model good standards for democratic communication. Here is what I mean. Book banning, good people agree, should be fought against and is a source of inspiration to fight for what is right. Banned Books Week taps into people’s responses to these historical narratives and aims to prevent the suppression of ideas from recurring. But what counts as a ‘banned book’ is actually a ‘challenged book,’ and what counts as a challenged book is something quite different from an effort to prevent a book from being published, sold, or even made available in a library.”...

Library Juice, Aug. 28



### [Library teen centers: A report from the field](#)

Steve Teeri writes: "My philosophy in running a teen center is 'No matter what, this will be a safe and respectful place.' Without those two things we cannot build anything else. This goes both for our teen customers and our library staff. We treat teens as adults, and let them know we expect them to behave as such. If a teen comes to us with an idea for a program or a concern we listen to them fully. The only time we bring our staff power to bear is when the fun gets a little too out of hand."...

Letters to a Young Librarian, Aug. 26

### [Topeka doesn't like social media](#)

David Lee King writes: "Wouldn't it be weird if Google, Kansas, blocked Google from its own computers? Unfortunately, that just happened. OK, it's really Topeka, Kansas (Topeka [renamed](#) the city in March 2010 for that Google fiber-optics project). And they didn't really block Google—they blocked YouTube (which Google owns). But still, there's some irony there, is there not?"...



David Lee King, Aug. 30

### [A new model of storytelling](#)

Laura Fleming writes: "As a school library media specialist, storytelling is at the core of what I do each and every day. I have seen many children who struggle with reading because of a lack of engagement with traditional books and stories. The new media that surrounds educators and learners forced me to rethink the concept of storytelling for our 21st-century learners. After some experimenting within my classes, I found a way to successfully engage and capture the attention of all of my students. As a result of this, a new model of storytelling emerged for me: Transmedia."...

Edutopia, Aug. 26

### [Holiday resources from September to June](#)

Julie Greller writes: "Here's a list you won't want to lose. Resources for all the holidays celebrated from September to June": Hispanic Heritage Month, Columbus Day, Halloween, American Indian Heritage Month, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, Chanukah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, and much more....



A Media Specialist's Guide to the Internet, Aug. 29

### [14 marvelous modern libraries](#)

The jaw-dropping intricacy of [antique libraries](#), with their leaded glass windows and tiers of dark wood shelves, is being replaced in favor of clean lines, open spaces, and a focus on new technology in library architecture of the late 20th century and beyond. These 14 (see [15 more](#)) modern libraries are just as beautiful, boasting dramatic shapes and volumes, high ceilings, transparent walls, and impressive stacks of books....



Web Urbanist, Aug. 22, 26; Dec. 10, 2008

### [Who cares about libraries? Canadians, apparently](#)

John Geddes writes: "To hear the uproar in Toronto, an avid book borrower might be forgiven for imagining that Canadian libraries are coming under financial siege. The administration of the city's right-leaning, populist mayor, Rob Ford, is taking a hard look at closing branches of the Toronto Public Library to cut costs. Yet top Canadian

librarians do not see the Toronto scrap as a sign that the international malaise has arrived here. They point to upbeat developments in other Canadian cities.”...

*Macleans*, Aug. 29

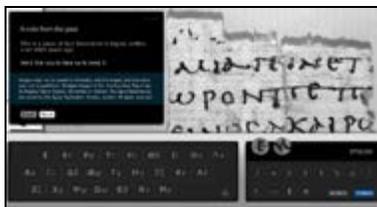
### [Bibliographic Framework Transition Initiative](#)

Karen Coyle writes: “While there is no question that MARC was originally developed by the Library of Congress and has been maintained by that body for over 40 years, it is surely time for that control to pass to a more representative body. LC recently announced the [Bibliographic Framework Transition Initiative](#) to ‘determine a transition path for the MARC21 exchange format.’ The next data carrier for libraries needs to be developed as a truly open effort.”...

Coyle’s InFormation, Aug. 25

### [Play a game and help decode the Oxyrhynchus Papyri](#)

Keith Veronese writes: “Want to help transcribe ancient Greek texts from the comfort of your couch? Have no understanding of the Greek language? No problem. With the Egypt Exploration

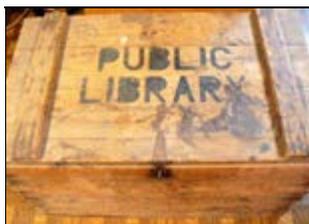


Society and Oxford University’s [Ancient Lives](#) project, you can contribute to the work of researchers who are digitizing the vast holdings of the Oxyrhynchus Papyri, a mysterious pile of Greek papers discovered in an ancient dump outside Egypt. And you can do it just by playing a puzzle game.”...

io9, Aug. 30

### [Library book boxes](#)

Larry Nix writes: “I try to say no when someone offers or lets me know about a large library artifact in order to keep my basement from becoming a library museum. A colleague caught me in a weak moment, however, when he alerted me to a wood library book box that was being offered on Craigslist. He even offered to pick up the book box, which was located in Sheboygan County, Wisconsin. The large wooden box was probably used to transport one of Wisconsin’s many [traveling libraries](#). Some other examples are shown here.”...



Library History Buff Blog, Aug. 24

### [Phyllis Diller’s gags on file at the Smithsonian](#)

The Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History opened an [exhibition](#) in the Albert H. Small Documents Gallery that features a “gag file” filled with over 50,000 jokes belonging to comedian Phyllis Diller. The joke cards are annotated, organized, and documented with a rigor that would please the most diligent of librarians. Each drawer is arranged alphabetically by subject. Many of the topics listed on the front of the drawers suit Diller’s self-deprecating persona of harried wife, mother, and homemaker. Watch the [video](#) (1:40)....



O Say Can You See?, Aug. 12; YouTube, Oct. 26, 2006

### [Library of the Congress, the movie](#)

Mike Ashenfelder writes: “[The Library of Congress](#), a 20-minute motion picture

from the 1940s, is blessed with a special mojo. It is not only a loving homage to the library, rich with Hollywood production values, but it is also associated with a few significant nodes in history: World War II, the creation of the library's motion picture archives, and the population of cyberspace with cultural treasure. The motion picture is a pleasure to watch. It has great dignity and pride, and it attempts to convey the library's significance, its roots in American history, and its reach into international collections."...



The Signal: Digital Preservation, Aug. 29

### [Mindset list for new librarians and teachers](#)

Doug Johnson writes: "I've enjoyed the [Beloit Mindset list](#) and use parts of it in presentations for years. Maybe it's time to dust off my librarian and teacher mindset lists and spruce them up a little. Librarians entering the field today: Have never had to type a catalog card. Have never looked something up in the *Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature*. Have always maintained a Facebook fan page for their library."...



The Blue Skunk Blog, Aug. 27

### [Kentucky welcomes students back with another Hubbub](#)

The University of Kentucky Libraries celebrated freshman orientation week with its fifth annual Hubbub event, which featured prizes, a [photo booth](#), video games, and a balloon artist. Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Research Stacey Greenwell said: "We kicked the video games up a notch with an Unreal Tournament from KY Trade in the lab and a full-size Galaga arcade game thanks to Louisville Arcade Expo, in addition to video games old (a Vectrex, seriously) and new."...



The Uncommon Commons, Aug. 24

### [The Librarian Sisterhood](#)

Corpses are piling up at the Eastern Kentucky University Libraries as Documentarianationalist Rupert Van Witherbottom compiles evidence of a secret and sinister Librarian Sisterhood whose punishment of patron transgressions is a "macramé of the macabre." This [video exposé](#) (15:24) will curdle your blood and "turn your kidneys inside out." Conceived by Library Associate Richard Garland for the EKU Libraries Fall 2011 all-staff meeting, and starring Jens Arneson (above), Sarah Cooper, Clay Howard, and other EKU staffers....



YouTube, Aug. 19

[Go back to the Top](#)

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# Index of /sites/default/al\_direct/2011/august/\_notes

<a href="#">Name</a>	<a href="#">Last modified</a>	<a href="#">Size</a>	<a href="#">Description</a>
<a href="#">Parent Directory</a>		-	
<a href="#">080311-2.htm.mno</a>	02-May-2013 11:18	402	
<a href="#">080311.htm.mno</a>	02-May-2013 11:18	402	
<a href="#">080311liz.htm.mno</a>	02-May-2013 11:18	402	
<a href="#">081011.htm.mno</a>	02-May-2013 11:18	402	
<a href="#">081011bg.htm.mno</a>	02-May-2013 11:18	402	
<a href="#">081011liz.htm.mno</a>	02-May-2013 11:18	402	