

## Special Post-Annual Conference Issue

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 6, 2011

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## Conference Highlights

### The world's most famous whistleblower

Leonard Kniffel writes: "I was making my way from Saturday's screening of *The Most Dangerous Man in America: Daniel Ellsberg and the Pentagon Papers* to an adjacent auditorium where we were told that Ellsberg would make a surprise appearance. Out of the corner of my eye, I spotted a white-haired man walking ahead of me with the assistance of a cane—a slender, handsomely dressed man whom I guessed immediately was the world's most famous whistleblower himself. Soft-spoken and gentlemanly, he told me he would be happy to sit for an interview with me following his Auditorium Speakers program on Sunday."...

AL: Inside Scoop, June 26



### Daniel Ellsberg and unwinnable wars

Greg Landgraf writes: "While it took 40 years for the Pentagon Papers to be declassified, as they were on June 13, Daniel Ellsberg suggested the timing might be perfect. 'There's never been a time, really, that the lessons that might be drawn from those papers are so timely.' He observed similarities between the Vietnam War and today's war in Afghanistan: The Taliban and the Viet Cong were both unpopular organizations, he said, and only gained legitimacy in the eyes of its citizens as a force resisting foreign occupiers." Watch an [excerpt](#) (4:32) from the exclusive *American Libraries* interview....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 27



### Transparency and ethics in the wake of WikiLeaks

Greg Landgraf writes: "Tom Blanton, director of the National Security Archive at George Washington University, met WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange at a gathering of investigative journalists in April 2010, shortly after WikiLeaks had released a video of the U.S. military firing on Reuters journalists. Blanton told the audience at Monday's 'When it Leaks it Pours: WikiLeaks, National Declassification System, and Access to Government Information,' that while Assange expected a



### A grand total of 20,186

librarians and library staff, exhibitors, and library supporters attended ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans, June 23–28. Attendance fell short of last year's conference in **Washington, D.C.**, which totaled 26,201, and **Chicago's** total of 28,941 in 2009. Attendance at the 2006 ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans, when the city was still reeling from the ravages of Hurricane Katrina, was 16,964.

Visit **Flickr** (tagged [#ala11](#) and the [ALAannual11 pool](#)) to see the hundreds of photos uploaded by Annual Conference attendees.

warm reception, 'The journalists almost unanimously turned on him' for the release. The reason was one of approach."...

AL: Inside Scoop, June 27

### [Dan Savage: Positive subversion](#)

Leonard Kniffel writes: "Activist writer Dan Savage (right) keynoted the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans June 24 by explaining how his new book, *It Gets Better*, was inspired by a rash of suicides by gay teens who commit suicide because 'they cannot picture a future that would be good enough to make up for the pain they are in now.' He explained that his entire 'It Gets Better' project started because of Billy Lucas, a 15-year-old high school student in Indiana who committed suicide after being taunted by his classmates for being gay."...

AL: Inside Scoop, June 24



### [Molly Shannon bubbles over with tales of tricksterism](#)

Leonard Kniffel writes: "Entertainer and now children's author Molly Shannon (right) delighted a packed Closing Session Tuesday morning with tales of growing up as a just-a-tad-naughty child, not unlike the title character of her first book, *Tilly the Trickster*, published by Abrams. On creating a character for her children's book, Shannon said it was always something she'd wanted to do but decided to wait until she had children of her own before diving in. 'It was easy to write about a trickster,' she noted, because 'my dad was the biggest trickster of all time. He made everything an adventure.'"

AL: Inside Scoop, June 29



### [Lippman and Simon on books and television](#)

Greg Landgraf writes: "Laura Lippman (right), author of the Tess Monaghan novels, and David Simon, creator of the HBO series *The Wire* and *Treme*, are married, but the PLA President's Program was only the second time they have appeared together. They focused on the differences between working on books and television shows. 'America isn't reading anymore and it's infuriating to me,' Simon said, noting that his first television series, *Homicide: Life on the Street*, was a popular book that sold 100,000 copies, but as a television show it had a relatively modest audience." Watch exclusive ALA interviews with [David Simon](#) (4:16) and [Laura Lippman](#) (7:42)....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 26; YouTube, July 6



### [Jeff Jarvis on privacy](#) (PDF file)

Frederick Augustyn Jr. writes: "Veteran editor,



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



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Innovative

publisher, and columnist Jeff Jarvis (right, author of *What Would Google Do?*) asserted Monday that we need to reexamine what is public and private in this digital age. He prefers to designate privacy as an ethic. Principles of the ethic of privacy include: not stealing data; understanding that context matters; giving credit to others, such as in bibliographical references; and not using the information shared as a weapon."...  
*Cognotes*, Highlights issue, p. 3



### [Dive into the world of Wikipedia](#)

Leonard Kniffel writes: "The folks at Wikipedia 'are lovers of the institutions of knowledge' and definitely libraries, said Sue Gardner (right) at ALA President Roberta Stevens's special Sunday program. The executive director of the Wikimedia Foundation, which operates Wikipedia, said that the wiki is not opposed to traditional media; and, in fact, 'we want you as Wikipedians.'"...

AL: Inside Scoop, June 26



### [Vaidhyanathan on the limits of benevolence](#)

Greg Landgraf writes: "Even though he wrote *The Googlization of Everything (And Why We Should Worry)*, Siva Vaidhyanathan (right) has plenty of good to say about the company. 'Google has actually treated us very well,' he said during his Saturday Auditorium Speaker Series speech. But the breadth of Google's influence should still give us pause, Vaidhyanathan, professor of media studies and law at the University of Virginia, said. He argued that individuals' communication, their knowledge, and they themselves are increasingly affected by what Google says about them."...

AL: Inside Scoop, June 25



### [Gulf Coast library recovery stories](#)

Leonard Kniffel writes: "Jill Nishi of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation kicked off a panel discussion on 'Recovery along the Gulf Coast' by saying it was hard for her to believe that it has been five years since Hurricane Katrina ravaged large portions of Mississippi and Louisiana. Project Director Mary Ellin Santiago (right) told stories about her arrival in the devastated region. She emphasized that in disaster recovery, people must come first. There are mental health issues and family and personal crises to be dealt with."...

AL: Inside Scoop, June 25



### [ALA Annual Virtual Conference 2011](#)

Whether or not you attended ALA Annual in New Orleans, the Virtual Conference offers a rich program for professional development and entertainment that



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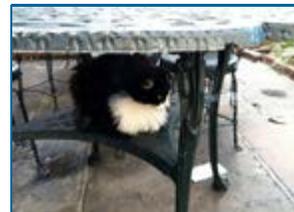
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### **Twitter Perception**

Selected Annual  
Conference Tweets

**"Don't fill your library totebag with unwrapped beignets. The powdered sugar will get all over your knitting."**

—Polite Librarian, June 23



**"No librarians at Cafe Beignet, but only cuz they don't know abt the cats yet."**

—Chris Bourg, June 24

**"The American Library Association conference starts today. New Orleans, lock up your kittens and your ankle-length denim skirts."**

—@TheDLC, June 24

includes two full days of interactive sessions and presentations, keynote speakers danah boyd and R. David Lankes (right), and lunchtime Author Talks (moderated by *Booklist* editors Brad Hooper and Donna Seaman) with two-time Pulitzer Prize-winner David McCullough and two-time National Book Award recipient Jean Thompson. Review the [schedule](#) to find out more about the speakers. Sign up as a group for the best rates....

ALA Conference Services



## ALA News

### [Molly Raphael inaugurated ALA president](#)

Molly Raphael, former director of libraries at Multnomah County Library in Portland, Oregon, and the District of Columbia Public Library in Washington, D.C., began her term Tuesday as ALA's 2011–2012 president. "Libraries are so essential for learning and for life," Raphael said. "I am honored to lead ALA as we help libraries address serious economic, social, political, and technological challenges."...

Public Information Office, June 29



### [Opening General Session: Gates and Spectrum](#)

At Friday's Opening General Session, ALA President Roberta Stevens announced that the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation had contributed \$300,000 to the Spectrum Scholarship Program. Melinda Gates greeted attendees via video, emphasizing the importance of libraries and the tireless work they do to improve lives by providing necessary resources during tough times. "The work you do has never been more urgent," she said....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 24

### [A continuing dialogue with HarperCollins](#)

E-book Task Force Chair Bonnie Tijerina released a statement thanking HarperCollins for attending the task force's business meeting on Saturday. The discussion followed HarperCollins's February announcement of its current policy under which new titles licensed from library e-book vendors are restricted to 26 circulations....

Office for Information Technology Policy, June 28

### [Council I: Report envisions a new ALA](#)

"If there were no governing body currently in place, what structure would you envision that reflects ALA's goal of an engaged and collaborative membership, the effective use of new technologies, and the changes in outlook and expectations occurring with the new generation of people working in libraries?" That was the charge of the ALA Future Perfect Presidential Task Force, chaired by Brett



**"I'm feeling welcomed in NOLA for #ala11. Notice the spelling."**

—Andy Burkhardt, June 25

**"Librarians at #ala11 are easy to spot around town. They're the ones loudly exclaiming how easy it is to spot librarians around town."**

—Chad Haefele, June 25

**"Cabbie: I thought librarians would all be fat and ugly but some look good. Really good. So there u go ladies. The cabbies love you."**

—Brian Mathews, June 25

**"Groupings of librarians are noisy. Must be from holding the outside voice in all day long. But they get quiet quicker than death when it's time."**

—Brian Williams, June 25

**"Just once I'd like conference wireless that covers the entire convention center. Also a pony."**

—mk Eagle, June 25

**"When the first person you run into is Kate DiCamillo, you know you're going to have a good time."**

Bonfield (right), who presented some [innovative and controversial recommendations](#) that could forever change the Association's governance. Watch the [interview](#) (4:48)....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 27; Council Document #44; YouTube, June 26

### [Council II: EQUAAC report under review](#)

ALA's governing Council on Monday referred the report from the Presidential Task Force on Equitable Access to Electronic Content (EQUACC) to the Budget Analysis and Review Committee during its second session. The task force was directed to study the challenges and potential solutions for libraries regarding improved electronic content access, distribution and preservation systems, and infrastructure....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 28

### [Gaming round table approved](#)

On Monday, ALA Council approved the Games and Gaming Member Initiative Group's request to become a formal round table. First created in 2008, the group has grown to the point where it can now sustain such popular initiatives as the Friday night ALA Play event at Annual Conferences (cohosted with the new Graphic Novels Member Initiative Group) and November's National Gaming Day @ your library....

ALA Membership Blog, June 27

### [Council III: Council Effectiveness Task Force](#)

A report by the Presidential Task Force for Improving the Effectiveness of ALA's Council, chaired by ALA Past President Jim Rettig, was the hot topic on Tuesday's agenda. Three of the many suggestions required and received formal action. Others, except one, moved along with a consensus regarding forward movement....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 30

### [The future of ALA round tables](#)

Linda Crook writes: "Representatives from many of ALA's 18 round tables, mostly incoming chairs, met Friday morning to discuss the future of round tables and the Round Table Coordinating Assembly. Issues included addressing problems, training chairs and treasurers, and improving communication with ALA divisions. Participants described feeling neglected and a sense that round tables were often not included by divisions, particularly in the formation of interdivisional groups. Since a significant portion of ALA members belong only to round tables, it is important to make the voice of the round tables heard."...

ALA Membership Blog, June 25



### [Diversity Council calls on ALA to do more](#)

Michael Kelley writes: "When Luis Chaparro said that ALA can do more to promote diversity, seven nearby heads nodded in unison. 'The profession, and ALA in particular, needs to work a little bit harder to bring in more minorities,' Chaparro, head librarian at Valle Verde Library in El Paso, Texas, and a past president of REFORMA, said on Monday. He was part of an eight-person [Diversity Council](#) panel, the first in two years. 'It's not that they aren't aware of it, surely they are, but sometimes their awareness has to be triggered into action,' Chaparro said."...

Library Journal, June 29

—Sara Zarr, June 25

**"Just saw a woman wearing a cape that looked to be made out of the same material as the #ala11 totebag. Interesting look, to say the least."**

—Valerie Glenn, June 25



**"Aaron Dobbs's ridiculously long trail of ribbons."**

—Liana Tang, June 26

**"Day3: I don't know about the thrill of victory, but I'm definitely experiencing the agony of the feet."**

—Marlene Harris, June 26

**"Frankly, if you *don't* sit with a crazy person in New Orleans, you are doing something wrong."**

—Marilyn Johnson, June 27

**"Brandon Sanderson has a book series with evil librarians who rule the world with information. Sounds about right!"**

—Ashley Rayner, June 27

**"Why don't I have an app that keeps me**

## Student chapters organize to effect change

Micah Vandegrift writes: "Saturday's 'Leadership of ALA's Student Chapters' was led by Jamie Renton of San Jose State University and opened with her explanation of the background and purpose for convening this group. Basically, she is proposing that there should be some formalish structure or organization whereby leaders of ALA's student chapters can communicate to share best practices for being an engaging and valuable resource for library school students. The session was well attended, with representatives from 12 different schools across the country."...

ALA Student Membership Blog, June 26

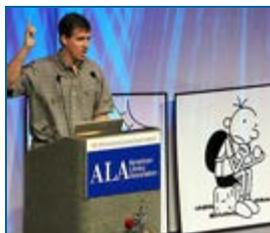


## Authors

### Jeff Kinney discusses success

Katy Reckdahl writes: "Jeff Kinney (right) thought he had written a book for grown-ups nostalgic about childhood. After reading through a draft of *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, his editor at Abrams Books thought differently. 'They told me instead that I had written a book for children. It was a shock,' Kinney said Saturday. Kinney created the wildly popular Wimpy Kid children's books starring Greg Heffley, a 7th-grader with dots for eyes, a few lines of hair, and a downturned mouth."...

New Orleans Times-Picayune, June 25



### Tooth Fairy footprints

Talea Anderson writes: "William Joyce (right), author and illustrator of children's books, including *George Shrinks*, *Dinosaur Bob*, and *The Man in the Moon*, and recipient of three Emmy awards for animated series based on his books, spoke on Saturday about the power of stories. It all began for Joyce when, at age 5, he learned that Santa Claus and the Tooth Fairy weren't actually real. He began writing and illustrating, determined to tell stories his own way. He noted, 'Drawing and making up stories became like breathing for me.'"...

ALA Membership Blog, June 26; *Cognates*, Sunday, pp. 1, 3



### The red cape event of the season

Heather Acerro writes: "The poopiest place to be Saturday night was Scholastic's *Super Diaper Baby 2* party. Here are some highlights. The super awesome and talented Dav Pilkey (right) signed copies of *Super Diaper Baby 2: The Invasion of the Potty Snatchers* and let us take them home with us, even though the book hadn't been released yet. He also showed us a moving video about his inspiration for the book—it is now available on [his website](#). So take a few minutes to watch it; it will squeeze a few tears out of you."...

ALSC Blog, June 25



awake during afternoon presentations?"

—@liddy lids, June 27

"Love that ALTAFF is now Citizens for Libraries. So on point."

—@LibWolfPack, June 27

"Was hoping to get discounted Lonely Planet book today but they are donating display copies to NOLA Public Library, which is awfully nice."

—Rebecca Hyde, June 27

"Walking down Bourbon St. in NOLA with LibraryThing t-shirt on. Stripper in doorway yells out, 'Harry Potter's on my bookshelf!'"

—Tim Spalding, June 28

"Yes, thank you, I \*am\* up at oh-dark-thirty to finish my #ala11 trip report. Got halfway thru on flight home but went #headdesk on 2nd leg."

—Karen G. Schneider, July 2

"Has been over a week since I presented at #ala11 and unbelievably I'm still not famous."

—Veronica Reynolds, July 5

"This has been the best ALA. Talked with great people, dear friends, and fell in love with librarianship all over again."

### [A little humor with your homicide?](#) (PDF file)

Kacee Church writes: "Mystery has long been a popular genre. But suspense and seriousness are not prerequisites for mystery novels. Saturday afternoon, a panel of mystery writers appeared on the PopTop Stage to discuss the need for humor in mystery novels. The session, 'Laugh or I'll Kill You—Why Readers Like a Little Humor with Their Homicide,' was moderated by author Amy Alessio. The panel focused on the sources of inspiration for their stories, characters, and humor found in their novels."...

*Cognotes*, Sunday, p. 25

### [Comic art in New Orleans](#)

Steven L. Willis writes: "The presence of comics in libraries, museums, and library conventions is now taken for granted. But it wasn't always so accepted. Here's some of the comic art-related photos I captured at the conference. I was too busy with my job assignment to attend any of the comic-related presentations, but I did get a chance to briefly chat with most of the exhibitors."...

Morty the Dog, June 29



### [Whirling and twirling, books in hand](#)

Mary Ann Scheuer writes: "In my household, #ala11 is known as 'Librarians Gone Wild' and I think the name does really fit. On the first day, I was waiting patiently to say hi to Raina Telgemeier, the author of our most popular graphic novel *Smile*, when she saw me and shouted, 'Mary Ann! Hello!!!' and gave me a huge hug. She recognized me immediately from my blog—I was stunned."...

ALSC Blog, June 26

### [More book frenzy](#)

Sondra Eklund writes: "Saturday morning, I woke up after having gotten far too little sleep. I'd discovered the night before that any restraint I thought I'd have completely vanished when faced with free books. It also happened that Saturday morning would have some of the author signings I was most looking forward to. I met Marilyn



Johnson (left), who so kindly sent copies of her book, *This Book Is Overdue*, to the Fairfax County (Va.) Board of Supervisors in support of libraries. She said they've added an epilogue that talks about the budget fights to keep libraries open."...

Sonderbooks, July 1

### [Librarians and booksellers: Partners in reading](#)

Leonard Kniffel writes: "You can't go wrong if you attend a program that America's favorite librarian Nancy Pearl has anything to do with, and the early risers who showed up for 'Libraries and Bookstores: Strange Bedfellows?' Monday weren't disappointed. Pearl urged librarians to reach out first to the publishers and then contact bookstores. Beth Elder, director of Salt Lake City Public Library, and Betsy Burton of the King's English bookstore in Utah said their common goal is 'putting books in the hands of the people in our community,' largely through library programs featuring authors."...

AL: Inside Scoop, June 27

—John Jackson, June 25

@ [More quotes...](#)



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# ALA Publishing

## Panel reveals series secrets

Greg Landgraf writes: "Everyone loves series," declared Jonathan Stroud, author of the Bartimaeus Sequence. 'Children love series, adults love series, publishers love series.' Stroud spoke as part of a Friday *Booklist* panel at 'Keep 'Em Coming: Series Fiction Creators Talk Shop,' where four YA authors talked about the whys and the hows of series fiction. Financial considerations are a big part of the why—several panelists noted that series books sold better than stand-alone titles. Fortunately, they aren't the only reason."...

AL: Inside Scoop, June 24

## What can you find in the ALA Store?

This fun and informative [video](#) (2:53) takes you on a tour of the new ALA Store and introduces you to some of the staff you might have met there. The store was located on the main aisle near the center of the exhibition hall, ideal for easy access and convenient browsing. If you were not at conference, visit the [ALA Store](#) year-round for all of your ALA product needs....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 25; YouTube, June 24



## Lord Vader packs them in

Paul Signorelli writes: "Like any authors with a newly published book, Lori Reed and I were hoping that we wouldn't be the only ones attending our first official book signing for [Workplace Learning and Leadership](#) (ALA Editions, 2011). We needn't have worried. We were shocked and delighted to see an Imperial Storm Trooper, Darth Vader, and a young woman in a very tight-fitting shirt walking by. I leapt out of my chair, told them we were signing copies of our book, and asked them whether they would join us for a few minutes. 'Of course,' they quickly replied."...

Building Creative Bridges, June 25



## RDA 201 preconference

James Hennelly writes: "On Thursday, the ALCTS preconference featured four presentations covering key areas of difference between RDA and AACR2 and best practices for the *RDA Toolkit*. One point of emphasis was the key role of workflows in maximizing the potential of the toolkit. Friday's session covered cataloging electronic resources, visual materials, and nonmusical audio recordings with RDA, as well as a presentation on RDA's impact on library automation systems."...

RDA Toolkit Blog, June 24

## More RDA news

James Hennelly writes: "It was a busy day on Sunday for RDA and the *RDA Toolkit*. The U.S. Test Committee met with vendors, testers, and the public, and summarized the results of the test and the reasoning behind its recent decision. The committee stated that the



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Mary Ann Scheuer writes: "I was inspired by an **AASL** panel discussion presented by the United States Board on Books for Young People titled 'International Children's Book Publishing.' Representatives from Greenwood Books, Kane Miller Books, NorthSouth Books, and Chronicle Books each shared about their particular vision, story, and favorite titles. I was particularly moved by Kira Lynn, of Kane Miller, as she talked about the quieter, subtler sensibility that foreign children's books can bring to our own youth."...

ALSC Blog, June 30

### [Turning bean-counters into tree-huggers](#)

Greg Landgraf writes: "Money is one of the factors that can hamper green construction efforts. 'Too often people think sustainability is only for the rich,' said Tim Duggan (right), landscape architect for the Make it Right Foundation, in the Saturday **LLAMA** President's Program, 'Community Beyond Housing.' But finances can also turn skeptics into enthusiasts. Duggan said that in 2010 New Orleans spent \$47 million on electricity to pump water over a levy." Watch the [video](#) (3:19)....



AL: Green Your Library, June 25; YouTube, June 25

### [It's really about the patrons](#)

Liz Humrickhouse writes: "'Librarians who think straight are actively engaged in creating the future. They are not trying to protect the past,' declared Stephen Abram, Canada's 2011 Librarian of the Year. **LLAMA**'s 'Digital Bridge to Somewhere' panel on Sunday was made up of men who planned for, created, and built access to digital technologies in libraries. Abram was perhaps the most outspoken, asserting that librarians have never been more relevant, but that we can make ourselves totally irrelevant by ignoring human behavior."...

AL: Inside Scoop, June 25

### [Planning your move up the career ladder](#) (PDF file)

Talea Anderson writes: "In the Monday **YALSA** session, 'Moving up the Career Ladder,' five panelists spoke about their career paths and offered advice to those looking to advance in their careers. Their experiences were far-ranging, but their advice fell within several common categories."...

Cognotes, Highlights issue, p. 20

### [Klatch-tastic](#)

Celise Reech-Harper writes: "The **YALSA** Coffee Klatch on Sunday was a fantastic opportunity for youth literature supporters to chat with the authors whose worlds we send teens to explore. Jay Asher (right), author of *Thirteen Reasons Why*, emceed the event, welcoming the attendees and introducing the authors. Then, the authors sat down at tables with 5–7 YALSA members and supporters for 3–4 minute intervals." Three more Klatches [recap the event](#)....



PLA Blog, June 26; YALSA The Hub, July 3

### [Teens reading digitally](#)

Linda W. Braun writes: "When I left the **YALSA** Teens Reading Digitally panel discussion on Sunday I was thinking to myself, 'Wow, I love hearing how people are pushing the boundaries in order to connect teens to content, and to get them excited about reading and writing.' For example, *iDrakula* author Bekka Black explained how she

came up with the idea for her multiplatform novel that highlights the ways in which teens are reading in the digital age.”...

YALSA Blog, July 1

### [Cultural competence](#) (PDF file)

Frederick J. Augustyn Jr. writes: “At a forum on Saturday, **ACRL** presented for further input the *Diversity Standards* ([PDF file](#)) that its Racial and Ethnic Diversity Committee produced over the course of two years. Although designed especially for use in academic libraries and based on the 2001 National Association of Social Workers *Standards for Cultural Competence in Social Work Practice*, the intention is that they will serve as tenets for all libraries to recruit and retain diverse workforces.”...

*Cognotes*, Highlights issue, p. 14

### [Academic librarian lightning round](#) (PDF file)

Stacy L. Voeller writes: “On Saturday, more than 300 people attended the **ACRL** ‘Academic Librarian Lightning Round! Innovative New Roles.’ The program featured 12 librarians who discussed how assuming new academic, professional, and service roles and responsibilities forged new pathways and partnerships. Each of these librarians provided examples of how they reasserted the role of their library on their campuses.”...

*Cognotes*, Monday, p. 21

### [Using assessment effectively](#) (PDF file)

Stacy L. Voeller writes: “On Sunday, **ACRL**’s Assessment Committee presented a program to a crowd of more than 200 attendees on ‘Demonstrating the Value of the Library: Assessment Tools and Techniques.’ Annette Day, head of collection management at North Carolina State University, discussed examples of how NCSU uses a variety of metrics to provide valuable information for decision making. According to Day, ‘we needed to use data to inform and articulate collections decisions and know if we were providing value for the money.’”...

*Cognotes*, Highlights issue, p. 19

### [Library e-content delivery](#)

Jessica Horvath writes: “Saturday’s **LITA**-sponsored program, ‘You Mean Libraries Will Be Able to Deliver Electronic Content Better Than iTunes and Netflix?’, provided an update on the presidential task force on Equitable Access to Electronic Content (EQUACC). According to EQUACC Chair Michael Porter, one purpose of the task force is to create solutions to e-content access problems.”...

ALA Membership Blog, June 26

### [From grocery store to kitchen](#)

Richard Kong writes: “I was fortunate enough to present at a Saturday **PLA** program titled, ‘From Grocery Store to Kitchen: Empowering Users to Get Creative with Digital Media.’ The main point of the presentation is that libraries need to stop functioning like grocery stores (where people simply come to get stuff) and start functioning like kitchens (where people do stuff and create stuff). Here are my slides from this presentation.”...

richardkong.com, June 25



### [Top 10 benefits of tough economic times](#)

PC Sweeney writes: "The **PLA** preconference, 'Top Ten Benefits of Tough Economic Times,' was presented by Cathy Hakala-Ausperk and Kim Bolan Cullin. Cathy and Kim started the session by talking about the importance of the CASE philosophy. If you're unfamiliar with CASE, it stands for Copy and Steal Everything. In that vein, I am going to present to you a summary of their top 10 benefits of tough economic times in reverse order."...

PLA Blog, June 24

### [Read more! It's the doctor's orders](#)

Liz Humrickhouse writes: "On Sunday, I attended **ALSC's** 'Reach Out and Read: How Libraries Can Work with Doctors who Prescribe Reading to Achieve Common Goals.' This session brought in perspectives from outside of the library world and I was curious to see how doctors and librarians could work together. The two speakers, Dipesh Navsaria and Christine Caputo (right), told the audience about the Reach out and Read program, which partners with doctors to prescribe books and encourage families to read together."...



AL: Inside Scoop, June 26

### [Serving patrons with autism](#)

Mary Voors writes: "Many children with autism spectrum disorders are visiting our libraries. Many more families of kids with ASD want to feel welcome in our libraries. How we can best work with these kids and their families was the focus of an **ALSC** session Saturday called 'Sensory Storytime: Preschool Programming that Makes Sense for Kids with Autism.' A sensory storytime is different in many ways from a traditional storytime for 3-to-5-year-olds." On Monday, the [ALSC President's Program](#) featuring pediatrician Ricki G. Robinson (above) also addressed how librarians can become a valued community resource for individuals with autism across their lifespans....



ALSC Blog, June 25; PLA Blog, June 28

### [Learning from Elmo, Blue, and Dora](#) (PDF file)

Dana K. Johnson writes: "Maria Cahill, assistant professor at the Texas Woman's University SLIS, and Jennifer Bigheart of Literacy Texas spoke at a Sunday **ALSC** program on how to apply the principles used in children's educational television to library storytime. Their work was inspired by an excerpt by Heather L. Kirkorian and Daniel R. Anderson in the book *Educating the Other America* (Paul H. Brookes, 2008). The premise is to teach young children the foundational skills of school readiness through storytime programming."...

Cognotes, Highlights issue, p. 13

### [The pure pleasure of poetry](#)

Mary Ann Scheuer writes: "A shining moment in my memory of #ala11 was the pure pleasure of the **ALSC** Poetry Blast on Monday. Although I was tired and spent after a long weekend, listening to these poets renewed me with energy and enthusiasm for sharing poetry with children of all ages. I have long admired Nikki Grimes, and so it was a special honor to hear her read a selection of her poems, especially ones inspired by her own parents."...

ALSC Blog, June 29

## [IT and reference collaborations](#)

Stacy L. Voeller writes: "On Friday, two sections of **RUSA** cosponsored a preconference called 'Strange Bedfellows: IT and Reference Collaborations to Enhance User Experiences.' Char Booth, instruction services manager at the Claremont Colleges, talked about how complex collaboration typically is between public library services staff and IT staff. Booth said that it is best to 'know thy frenemy, and the two parties need to work together and appreciate what each side is doing.'"...

ALA Membership Blog, June 25; *Cognotes*, Saturday, p. 25

## [What's the deal with social networking?](#) (PDF file)

Naomi Foshier writes: "'Information doesn't want to be free, it wants to be social' was one of the opening statements by Scott Brown, owner of the Social Information Group, to kick off the **RUSA** Business Reference and Services Section's 'The Business of Social Media' program on Monday. Featuring three social media advocates, ranging from business owners to librarians, the presentations focused on the how to and why of social media and mobile technologies."...

*Cognotes*, Highlights issue, p. 18

## [New Transforming Collections Task Force](#)

Jessica Horvath writes: "One of the new task forces to emerge from the [2015 Strategic Plan](#) is the Transforming Collections Task Force, which met Friday to discuss its initial report to the **ALCTS** board. The purpose of this task force is to provide leadership in the transformation of libraries and library services in a dynamic and increasing global digital information environment. Mary Beth Thomson (above) is the task force chair."...



ALA Membership Blog, June 25

## [Have metadata, can collaborate](#)

Holly Robertson writes: "Debbie Funkhouser, head of collection services and published materials at Harvard's Schlesinger Library, provided a wonderful primer on the 583 field at the **ALCTS** 'Have Metadata, Can Collaborate' program on Sunday. She laid the foundation with a bit of a crash course on MARC for those of us who did not pay attention in our cataloging grad courses (or who instead took archival arrangement and description, like me)."...

Preservation and Conservation Administration News, June 26

## Other Events

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### [Cosplay, games, and librarians](#)

Friday night's ALA Play event offered a ton of fun. Organized by the Gaming in Libraries and Graphic Novels in Libraries member interest groups, the evening featured costume pieces to try on and model, video games, board games, and even members of the local chapter of the 501st Legion (a group of *Star Wars* costume players). Attendees were able to come to the party and try out cosplaying themselves, as well as get ideas for programming at their own libraries....



ALA Membership Blog, June 25

## [Intellectual freedom 101: The brains of the ALA](#)

Liz Humrickhouse writes: "If the Intellectual Freedom Committee is the brains of the ALA and the Committee on Professional Ethics is the conscience, then we (the LeRoy C. Merritt Fund) are the righteous arm for the individual librarian," declared Loriene Roy (right), past ALA president and current Merritt Fund trustee. It became clear during Friday's Intellectual Freedom 101 presentation, hosted by the Intellectual Freedom Committee, that the panel speakers are passionate about what they do."...

AL: Inside Scoop, June 26



## [Privatization: What's at stake](#)

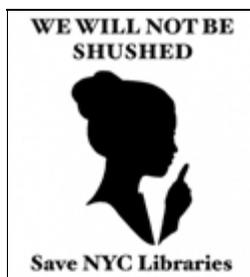
The Santa Clarita (Calif.) City Council [voted in August 2010](#) to withdraw from the county library system and contract with private library management firm LSSI to set up and operate its own library. The move was met with criticism from many residents like Lori Rivas and Lori Christian who thought the city moved too quickly. Rivas and Christian joined former local library workers at Saturday's "Privatization of Libraries: What's at Stake for Your Profession and Community" to speak out against private companies operating public libraries....

AL: Inside Scoop, June 26; *Santa Clarita Valley (Calif.) Signal*, July 4

## [A new method for library advocacy](#)

Mel Gooch writes: "In a time when library budgets are being cut across the country and the threat of staff layoffs is becoming a reality rather than a negotiating tactic, the Urban Libraries Unite [Save NYC Libraries](#) campaign is something that libraries and library staff everywhere can learn from. During their Sunday presentation, Lauren Comito, Aliqae Geraci, and Christian Zabriskie shared their experiences and offered helpful advice about creating awareness about budget issues and rallying public support for libraries."...

ALA Membership Blog, June 27



## [Frontline Fundraising Town Hall](#) (PDF file)

Naomi Foshier writes: "The Frontline Fundraising Town Hall program on Monday presented a new [web-based toolkit](#) designed to assist libraries with all aspects of fundraising. ALA President Roberta Stevens began the program by reminding librarians that fundraising 'takes time but you can be successful.' Danny Hales, director of the Suwannee River Regional Library, told how Lee, Florida, a rural town with a population of about 386 people, was able to fundraise over \$40,000 using a model similar to the toolkit."...

*Cognotes*, Highlights issue, p. 14



## [Marketing for librarians](#)

Kathy Dempsey (center) writes: "As soon as I saw that Ernie DiMattia would be giving a two-hour marketing session on Saturday as part of the MBA Series for Librarians, I put it at the top of my list. The fact that he had his equally qualified wife Susan teach part of the session made it even more valuable. I'm glad he had created a handout with all his topics and



major points, because they were numerous. He said that he starts all his classes with the word 'need' because that's at the heart of real marketing." LLAMA also hosted a [marketing unprogram](#)...

The 'M' Word—Marketing Libraries, June 28; ALA Membership Blog, June 28

### [Science Programming 101](#)

Jennifer Dominiak writes: "At Sunday's Science Programming 101 session, attendees participated in hands-on activities to investigate aspects of wind, clouds, and rain, and began to see how local weather relates to broader Earth systems. The interactive session was a sneak peek into the full activity module the Lunar and Planetary Institute is developing to support the exploration of Earth science in public libraries."...

Programming Librarian, June 27



### [The poetry of conservation](#)

Sheila Stroup writes: "On Monday, Audubon Zoo Director Brenda Walkenhorst and New Orleans Poet-in-Residence Mark Doty, along with Missy Abbott, manager of the latter branch of the New Orleans Public Library, presented a session on 'The Language of Conservation: A Case Study in Library-Zoo Partnerships.' It marked the culmination of two years of working on the Language of Conservation initiative, in which poems and excerpts are scattered around the zoo from the entrance to the Louisiana Swamp."...

New Orleans Times-Picayune, July 3



### [Grey literature adds color to your research](#) (PDF file)

Dana K. Johnson writes: "Grey literature consists of technical or scientific information that is synthesized by researchers or field experts. Richard Huffine of the U.S. Geological Survey presented an overview on the topic at Sunday's 'Grey Literature in the Digital Age,' sponsored by the Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table. Wayne Strickland of the National Technical Information Service's Office of Product and Program Management spoke about the grey literature services that his agency provides."...

Cognotes, Highlights issue, p. 20

### [ALA Advocacy Flash \(Flood\) Mob and Freeze](#)

Jenny Levine writes: "ALA's first-ever Advocacy Flash Mob and Freeze took place in Jackson Square on Sunday during a downpour that some participants dubbed a Flash Flood Mob.

More than 25 library advocates gathered in front of St. Charles Cathedral despite the rain to dance and sing 'When the Saints Go Marching In' as a lead-up to the Freeze. Most wore t-shirts with library slogans to identify themselves as librarians supporting the New Orleans community." Watch the [video](#) (1:32)....

ALA Membership Blog, June 27; YouTube, June 27



### [Disaster preparedness for everyone](#)

"It's not a matter of *if* a disaster will happen; it's simply a matter of *when*," said Katherine Zeringue, FEMA environmental liaison officer, one of a panel of speakers ([PDF file](#)) who shared lessons learned and offered ideas for emergency planning during the 'E-Government:

Disaster Preparedness' portion of the ALA Washington Office's Saturday morning briefing. Guest speakers discussed what libraries should do to be ready for all emergency situations, from hurricanes to library fires....

District Dispatch, June 29; *Cognotes*, Sunday, pp. 3, 25

### [Many voices, one nation](#) (PDF file)

Naomi Fosher writes: "Weaving the fabric of our communities through stories, four writers shared and celebrated their works that inspire creativity and enrich our world, during "Many Voices, One Nation" on Saturday. Both author Maya Soetero-Ng and illustrator Yuyi Morales shared their children's book *Ladder to the Moon*. Inspired by Soetero-Ng's young daughter Suhaila's questions about her late grandmother Anne Dunham (the mother of Soetero-Ng and also President Barack Obama), the story is a touching tribute."...



*Cognotes*, Monday, p. 22

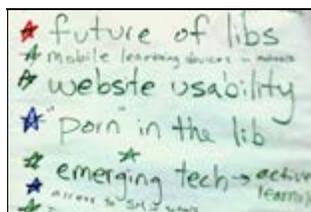
### [LGBTQ programming in your library](#)

Liz Humrickhouse writes: "On Monday, the 'Out of the Closet and Into the Library' panel discussed how to develop and implement LGBTQ programming in your library. The panelists were from both public and academic libraries and approached the topic of incorporating the programming from the perspective of the institutions they served. Bleue Benton, collection development manager at the Oak Park (Ill.) Public Library, felt that programming begins at the collection development level."...

AL: Inside Scoop, June 27

### [Ideas roll at the ALA Unconference](#)

Jessica Horvath writes: "Friday's Unconference presented a prime opportunity for librarians to share experiences. Free of any agenda, the group dictates the flow of conversation. The morning group consisted of divergent perspectives that led to a wide scope of discussion topics. One may assume this on-a-whim approach would lead to chaos, but moderators Young Lee (University of La Verne) and Erin Dorney (Millersville University) kept the conversation lively, organic, and productive."...



ALA Membership Blog, June 25

### [Punk rock aerobics and so much more](#)

Liz Humrickhouse writes: "I decided to start my last full day at the conference Monday with the 'Alt+Library: Off-beat Programming for the On-trend Customer' session. I was expecting it to be, well, offbeat, but I was not expecting to do punk-rock aerobics at 8 a.m. Besides the aerobics, which I have to admit made the idea of aerobics actually sound fun, we did speed-friending. It's a lot like speed-dating, except you are trying to make a new friend, not land a date."...



AL: Inside Scoop, June 27

### [Saving on staff development](#)

Greg Landgraf writes: "The Learning Round Table's 'TEDx, Boot

Camps, and Unconferences: Innovative and Low-Cost Staff Development Events' offered insights Saturday on using nontraditional methods to help library staff gain knowledge and insight to better perform their jobs. Janie Hermann, program librarian at Princeton (N.J.) Public Library, described how the library created a camp experience for its staff development day in 2009. Tim Daniels of Lyris told how, while he was with the Georgia Public Library Service, he implemented a boot camp for library technology staffs around the state to gather and share knowledge."...

AL: Inside Scoop, June 25

### **Adult literacy: The promise of opportunity**

Greg Landgraf writes: "Promising legislation currently introduced in Congress gave Robert Wedgeworth's Jean E. Coleman Library Outreach Lecture an optimistic outlook. Wedgeworth, former CEO of ProLiteracy Worldwide, told the audience Monday about the Adult Education and Economic Growth Act of 2011, which has been introduced in both houses of Congress. 'The lack of a coordinated adult education program is our economy's Achilles' heel,' he said." After the lecture, Wedgeworth highlighted his points on adult literacy programs in this [interview](#) (4:01)....



AL: Inside Scoop, June 27; ALA Membership Blog, June 27

### **Picturing America**

Daniela Hudson writes: "One former New Orleans resident, Edgar Degas, would have been proud of one of our Sunday programs. The National Endowment for the Humanities' [Picturing America](#) program brings art into public libraries for the community to learn and become culturally aware of their world. On Sunday, Lainie Castle, project director with the ALA Public Programs Office, introduced seven librarians from six libraries that won the grant. They shared their success stories, which were varied and inspiring."...

Programming Librarian, June 30

### **Comic Book Legal Defense Fund**

Charles Brownstein is the executive director of the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund and a frequent partner of the Freedom to Read Foundation and the Office for Intellectual Freedom on comic censorship issues. CBLDF was interviewing conference attendees about comic book challenges and recruiting experts in the field of librarianship and comic books to work with them to develop better deliverables to libraries. Watch the [video](#) (3:41)....



ALA Membership Blog, June 25; YouTube, June 25

### **A historic women's collection** (PDF file)

Frederick J. Augustyn Jr. writes: "On Sunday, the Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship sponsored Sarah Wadsworth, associate professor of English at Marquette University, who discussed the opening of the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in May 1893; the nature and reasons behind the library collection in the separate Woman's Building; and how themes of social, political, class, race, and gender inclusion and exclusion factored in. This first exhibit of books curated by women and representing the work of women's authors arguably had an effect on American society as a whole."...

Cognotes, Monday, p. 8

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## Awards

### [Newbery Caldecott Wilder banquet](#)

Arianna Lechan writes: "What the Sunday night banquet is really about is the speeches. First up was the Caldecott Medal, which went to Erin E. Stead (right) for *A Sick Day for Amos McGee*. She was adorable and totally overwhelmed. She talked about how she had lost faith in her drawing, and hadn't done anything in three years. Then her husband introduced her to this project and she started again. It was a very sweet speech. Newbery Medal winner Clare Vanderpool was very funny and talked about her struggles as a writer."...



Wandering Librarians, June 27

### [The Printz reception](#)

Melissa Rabey writes: "The Printz reception on Monday was amazing. All the speeches were funny and touching and thoughtful, in different ways. Lucy Christopher talked about how *Stolen* came from her experiences as an immigrant to Australia. A. S. (Amy) King gave a moving speech about how her mother's illness when Amy was 15 inspired *Please Ignore Vera Dietz*. Janne Teller explained how writing for young adults taught her more than she ever thought. And Paolo Bacigalupi issued a call to arms, saying that the world he created in *Ship Breaker* is what we are creating now and that it is up to us and to teenagers to prevent that from happening." Jessica Pryde has more on [Bacigalupi's talk](#)....



librarian by day, June 30; YALSA The Hub, July 5

### [Odyssey Award presentations](#)

Kate Pickett writes: "One of my favorite award presentations to attend at ALA Annual Conference is the Odyssey Award. I love to connect faces with the voices that I hear coming from my car stereo. The first Odyssey honor was accepted by Katherine Kellgren for her performance reading *Alchemy and Meggy Swann* by Karen Cushman. Kellgren is no stranger to the Odyssey; in fact, she has won an honor every year the award has been given."...

YALSA The Hub, June 30

### [Margaret A. Edwards Award luncheon](#)

Kate Pickett writes: "Saturday we gathered to celebrate Terry Pratchett (right) and his lasting contribution to young adult literature at the Margaret A. Edwards Award Luncheon. Unfortunately Pratchett, who was diagnosed with Alzheimer's in 2008, was unable to join us. His U.S. children's editor, Ann Hoppe, and long-time fan and fellow author, Gail Carriger, presented on his behalf."...



YALSA The Hub, June 29

### [Shreveport wins graphic novel collection](#)

LeVette Fuller (second from right) from Shreve Memorial Library in Shreveport, Louisiana, was the lucky recipient of the



\$20,000+ Great Graphic Novel Library Giveaway, sponsored by Brodart, Diamond Book Distributors, and Graphic Novel Reporter. The giveaway included nearly 900 hand-selected graphic novels for adults, teens, and children, as well as fixtures and furniture. The total prize value exceeded \$25,000. Watch the [excitement](#) (1:51) as the winner is picked....

ALA Membership Blog, June 27; YouTube, June 27

### [Five years and \\$1 million for school libraries](#)

Beyond Words: The Dollar General School Library Relief Fund has provided \$1 million in funding to school libraries affected by natural disasters. A collaborative effort among the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, AASL, ALA, and the National Education Association, the fund has helped 113 school libraries recover from disasters since it was launched in 2006 to assist schools affected by Hurricane Katrina. AASL President Nancy Everhart presented a plaque ([PDF file](#)) to the foundation in recognition of its five years of grants....



Business Wire, June 27; *Cognotes*, Highlights issue, p. 19

### [Nominations open for I Love My Librarian Award](#)

The Carnegie Corporation of New York and the *New York Times* launched ([PDF file](#)) the fourth year of the I Love My Librarian Award on Thursday. The award invites library users 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 communities. This year, the online nomination process has moved to the Campaign for America's Libraries' public website, [atyourlibrary.org](#)....



At Your Library; *Cognotes*, Monday, June 27, p. 18

### [Librarian Superheroes chosen by Gale](#)

(PDF file)

Gale revealed the four winners of its Librarian Superhero contest, launched in February. After receiving more than 800 nominations, Gale chose four librarian superheroes, each with a different ability that was unveiled each day of the conference. The winners had a cartoon superhero character created in their likeness by the illustrators of *Unshelved*, a popular library cartoon, and will be featured in an upcoming strip. The winners were also commemorated with a retro, collectible lunch box (above)....



*Cognotes*, Highlights issue, p. 11

### [Library Champions reception](#)

Marc Huber writes: "During Thursday night's reception recognizing ALA's Library Champions, Major Donors, and Legacy Society members, ALA President Roberta Stevens (right) acknowledged the



contributions of John Ison, director of library relations at DEMCO, and Thomas Phelps, director of the Division of Public Programs at the National Endowment for the Humanities, to the library community in honor of their retirements.”...

ALA Membership Blog, June 24

### [Urban Libraries Council Top Innovators](#)

The Urban Libraries Council unveiled its second round of Top Innovators at its annual member meeting, held June 25 in New Orleans during the ALA Annual Conference. The 11 programs and strategies identified ranged from improvements and internal operations to outreach programs, partnerships, and branding....

Library Journal, June 26

### [Pamela Goodes wins BCALA award](#)

American Libraries Associate Editor Pamela Goodes (right) was awarded the 2011 Black Caucus of the American Library Association’s DEMCO Award for Excellence in Librarianship for her publicity work for each of the seven National Conferences of African American Librarians....



AL Focus, June 30

## Tech Events

### [Science fiction, fantasy, and information technology](#)

Bohyun Kim writes: “On Saturday, the LITA Imagineering Interest Group offered ‘Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Information Science,’ a panel discussion program that looks at the present and future of information technology through the eyes of a panel of science fiction and fantasy authors: David Weber, Bill Willingham, Orson Scott Card, John Scalzi, Jim Ottaviani, Carrie Vaughn, and Gail Carriger.”...



ALA Membership Blog, June 28

### [Top Tech Trends](#)

David Rapp writes: “A five-member panel of experts drew a crowd on Sunday during LITA’s Top Technology Trends presentation, moderated by Jason Vaughan. The panel focused heavily on mobile apps, user experience, and social networking, but also tackled more left-field tech, such as three-dimensional printing (thanks to a cameo appearance by an audience member and former Top Tech Trends panelist Jason Griffey).” More [TTT observations](#) by Kim Durante....

Library Journal, June 28; Metadata Blog, June 30

### [There’s a map for that](#)

Alison Ricker writes: “No fewer than seven librarians gave a whirlwind tour of map sources and mapping tools during the

session sponsored by the Map and Geography Round Table, shortly to become the Map and Geospatial Information Round Table (MAGIRT), and generously supported by SimplyMap. Intended for the nonspecialist, the session featured experts with excellent suggestions for finding maps, information on freely accessible resources, and step-by-step demonstrations and handouts."...

ALA Membership Blog, June 25



### [Tech services for teens](#)

Greg Landgraf writes: "The YALSA Teens and Technology Interest Group sponsored a Pecha Kucha (short format) 20x20 session on technology issues for teen services. Erin Dorney's presentation, 'All Up in Your Face(Book): Virtual Identity Management for Teens and Young Adults,' addressed teaching teens the importance of managing their online reputations. While the news isn't all bad, the 'pressure of a sharing society' can still have serious consequences."...

AL: Inside Scoop, June 26

### [Going mobile @ your library](#)

Ashley Fowlkes writes: "I just joined the bandwagon last week and the mass of folks who type, read, talk, and surf the net on a smartphone. Having such little experience with my new device, I wondered if this year's PR Forum, 'Going Mobile @ your library,' would help me personally or professionally. In fact, it did—in both ways. Yale techno-guru Joe Murphy (right) expertly reassured us that librarians should—and can—use emerging technologies (specifically smartphones) to engage users in meaningful ways."...

ALA Membership Blog, June 27



### [Libraries in the cloud](#)

Loretta Gharst writes: "A LITA Saturday session, 'Updates on Cloud Computing Uses for Library Services,' provided an excellent explanation of the pros and cons of the various forms of cloud computing: SAAS, IAAS, PAAS. Libraries use the cloud to store backups remotely and offer access to remote-hosted digital collections, online services, and various online applications. The pro is that the cloud is currently less expensive than maintaining traditional in-house hardware and software requiring specialized technology staffing to operate. The dark side of cloud computing is losing access."...

PLA Blog, June 25

### [Leading technical services in 2011](#)

Jessica Horvath writes: "Saturday's 'Leading Technical Services in 2011' session from ALCTS gathered tech services librarians to hear what they had to say about leadership. Escape Reality, Read Fiction! blogger Marlene Harris spoke highly of saying 'yes!' to new experiences and embracing change. Anne McKee encouraged audience members to seek out ways to get more involved with the



profession by volunteering and working closely with vendors.”...  
ALA Membership Blog, June 26

### [OverDrive, 3M make major announcements](#)

Mercy Pilkington writes: “Conference attendees eagerly awaited demonstrations of new launches by two key players in e-book lending, OverDrive and 3M Library Systems, and they were not disappointed. OverDrive introduced its Always Available content, [OverDriveWIN](#), bringing a select list of first-ever [DRM-free titles](#) and multiuser books to library systems. 3M unveiled its new [Cloud Library](#), complete with 3M e-reader devices that will be available for patron checkout, 3M apps, and the Discovery Terminal, a free-standing inside-library kiosk that lets patrons browse titles on a touch screen.” ALA TechSource’s Tom Peters conducted an [interview](#) with 3M’s Tom Mercer about the Cloud Library. [Bobbi L. Newman](#) and [David Lee King](#) have further comments on e-book events at #ala11....

Good E-Reader blog, June 28; OverDrive Digital Library Blog, July 6; ALA TechSource Blog, July 5; Librarian by Day, July 5; David Lee King, July 5

### [Exhibit Hall news](#)

Leonard Kniffel writes: “At the invitation of the vendors, I spent a chunk of time Monday at three booths in the exhibit hall to hear the lowdown on the new Springer Reference Database, Centurion Technologies’ Energy Saver, and Ship Index, the brainchild of Mike and Peter McCracken.”...

AL: Inside Scoop, June 30

## Seen Online

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### [Libraries helping job seekers](#)

Past ALA President Roberta Stevens writes: “Five years ago, the ALA Annual Conference was the first major convention to return to a post-Katrina New Orleans. Internally, some thought it courageous, while others believed it was very risky. This year, the conference [returned to New Orleans](#), and the only constant—both for the city and librarians—was change. As libraries were a lifeline for New Orleans after Katrina, they are there today for the unemployed and underemployed.”...

Huffington Post, June 28; *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, June 26

### [ALA day of service](#)

More than 220 ALA volunteers from across the United States participated in a day of community service ([PDF file](#)) June 24 as part of ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans. In 2006, ALA was the first national organization to hold a conference in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, and through its “Libraries Build Communities” project helped rebuild libraries, homes, and community sites in New Orleans, raising more than \$500,000 to distribute to the region’s libraries. In this [ALA video](#) (5:46), Alison Ricker, Anthony Anderson, Richard Waller, Robert Szabo, Thais Ruboneka, Shanthi Kumar, and Rebecca Lubin discuss their volunteer experiences....

*New Orleans Times-Picayune*, June 24; *Cognotes*, Saturday, p. 8; ALA Membership Blog, June 27



### [Renovations bring NOLA libraries into the 21st century](#)

The New Orleans Public Library has quietly been rebuilding its facilities in an effort to make the system a model among its peers. Librarians in town this week for the annual ALA conference toured several libraries and construction sites. Chief among them were the Algiers and East New Orleans (above) regional libraries, now under construction. Each measures close to 30,000 square feet and is designed to offer all the services of the main library, including a children's reading room, Wi-Fi hotspot, a teen space, meeting rooms, and an enterprise area....

*New Orleans Times-Picayune*, June 24



### [New Orleans on the mend](#)

Librarians in New Orleans for #ala11 saw a much different Big Easy than the devastated city they encountered in 2006, when the Annual Conference was the first major convention to return to the city after Hurricane Katrina. It's been a long struggle, but evidence of recovery is everywhere. This photoessay by local photographer Jackson Hill offers an overview of major rehab efforts and new construction that many ALA-goers may not have had an opportunity to see....

AL Focus, July 5



### [Conference time @ the Unwinders Tavern](#)

Will Manley writes: "Although all the library media centers and librarian twitterers would have you believe that the ALA Annual Conference is the epicenter of American librarianship, I would disagree. The epicenter is still at the reference desks and in the service rooms of libraries from coast to coast. Don't get me wrong. ALA conferences have their place—and their drawbacks. For those of you who did not attend, here is what you missed."...

Will Unwound, June 25

### [Why, oh why?](#)

Karin Slaughter writes: "Dear American Library Association: We have been friends for a while now, so I feel like we can be honest with each other. Remember when you told me I don't look good in capri pants? And I listened to you because I know you only told me out of love, not jealousy over my (still-fabulously toned, BTW) calves? Well, it's with that same spirit that I tell you this: What the heck were you thinking? New Orleans? In the summer?"...

*Library Journal*: In the Bookroom, June 26

### [Video: Two days of ALA 2011](#)

Travis Jonker writes: "I've successfully made my way back from New Orleans and ALA Annual Conference 2011. I have a camera's worth (and brain's worth) of sharable details." Although it focuses primarily on the Newbery-Caldecott banquet, his [video](#) (1:39) is a clever scrapbook-style recap of #ala11....

100 Scope Notes, June 28; YouTube, June 28



### [Surviving Annual Conference](#)

Aaron Tay (right) writes: "I am writing this in Singapore, 24 hours after visiting the lovely city of

New Orleans for ALA Annual 2011. As expected, I was pretty overwhelmed given the size and scale of this event. This was my first international conference and I was the only one from the National University of Singapore Libraries, but fortunately I had many good contacts from Twitter and Facebook. Though I am trying to live my life without regrets, here are some things I would do differently if I get to go to ALA again."...



Musings About Librarianship, July 1

### **[Get thyself to ALA](#)**

University of Kentucky library school student Eli Riveire (right) writes: "If you have the time and a little bit of money, just go. The experience might not be as expensive as you think. Student registration was only \$95. There are seminars, preconferences, and workshops that you can add on to rack up the bill, but really? The \$95 registration option will go incredibly far in terms of what you'll learn and do. And watching and being vocal on the [#ala11](#) feed made me feel like I knew what was going on, whether or not I had the energy to physically participate."...



Abby the Librarian, July 5

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# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 13, 2011

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## American Libraries Online

### [Court voids Alaska harmful-to-minors statute](#)

The Federal District Court in Anchorage has [permanently barred enforcement](#) of an Alaska statute criminalizing the online posting of sexual imagery that is "harmful to minors," stating that it threatened to reduce all speech on the internet "to only what is fit for children." Chief U.S. District Judge Ralph Beistline held June 30 that Senate Bill 222, signed last year by Governor Sean Parnell, violates First Amendment rights of free speech and would have chilled free expression....

AL: Censorship Watch, July 1

### [Community-building cover girl comes forward](#)

Beverly Goldberg writes: "I received a pleasant surprise about a week ago when ALA Publishing colleague Ben Segedin forwarded a voicemail to me from a librarian who had phoned to request a few copies of *American Libraries'* May/June 2011 issue. It would have been routine except for one detail: The caller identified herself as Catherine Dooley, the heretofore unidentified woman gracing the cover."...

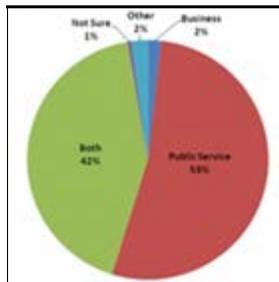
AL: Inside Scoop, July 13



### [Does private management have a place in public libraries?](#)

Jamie E. Helgren and Linda Hofschire write: "The survival of many public libraries has been threatened as their funding has dried up in recent years. City and county officials are casting about for a lifesaver, and some have snagged a promising catch in the form of private companies that take over the management of public libraries, triggering a heated debate in the library community. The Library Research Service picked up on this debate and developed a 60-Second Survey to gauge the library community's thoughts on the topic."...

American Libraries feature



## Libraries and the future of electronic content delivery

Lisa Carlucci Thomas writes: "Michael Porter (right) draws on two decades of experience as a librarian, speaker, and writer to envision an organization that will take a leading role in charting the future of electronic content delivery for libraries, with expert information professionals and industry leaders at the helm. He created and is president of [Library Renewal](#), 'a new kind of nonprofit' organization whose goal is to develop 'a new electronic content access and distribution infrastructure.'"...

*American Libraries* feature



## Newbery and Caldecott Medal acceptance speeches

**Q.** I wasn't able to be at the Newbery/Caldecott Banquet at the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans. Will the speeches be published somewhere? **A.** Yes, the Newbery Medal and Caldecott Medal acceptance speeches are published annually in two periodicals: in the Summer/Fall issue of ALA's *Children and Libraries: The Journal of the Association for Library Service to Children* and the June/July issue of (non-ALA) *Horn Book Magazine*. Older speeches have been collected in regular book compilations....

AL: Ask the ALA Librarian, July 13



## ALA News

### The lowdown on high-tech trends at Annual Conference

Lisa Carlucci Thomas writes: "Technology, innovation, and convergence were all on display inside the bustling 2011 ALA Annual Conference exhibit hall in New Orleans. Aisles of publishers with bright, appealing print-book displays and long lines of fans awaiting author signings gave way to technology pavilions with presentation seating and numerous demonstrations in progress. Conference attendees came seeking information about e-books, e-journals, digital collections, and new platforms and products for managing electronic content."...

*American Libraries* feature



### SKILLS Act reintroduced

The Strengthening Kids' Interest in Learning and Libraries (SKILLS) Act (S. 1328), reintroduced by Senators Jack Reed (D-R.I.) and Thad Cochran (R-Miss.) on July 6, includes key provisions to support school libraries. ALA lobbied for inclusion of this language in the SKILLS Act to ensure that all students in the United States have access to effective and up-to-date school libraries....

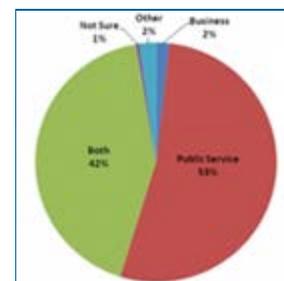
District Dispatch, July 11

### Apply for the 2012 class of Emerging Leaders

ALA is now accepting applications for the 2012 class of Emerging Leaders. The program is designed to enable library workers get on the

In their definitive new [Interlibrary Loan Practices Handbook](#), editors Cherié Weible and Karen Janke clearly explain the complexities of getting materials from outside the library for patrons. This collection presents a complete view of the interlibrary loan (ILL) process, with contributions from all areas of the technical services community. **NEW!** From ALA Editions.

### New this week in *American Libraries*



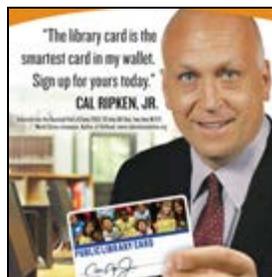
[Private Management of](#)

fast track to ALA and professional leadership. Details on the program criteria, as well as a link to the application, can be found on the Emerging Leaders [web page](#). The deadline to apply is August 1....  
Human Resource Development and Recruitment, July 12

### [Cal Ripken is honorary chair of Library Card Sign-up Month](#)

This September, baseball Hall of Famer and author Cal Ripken will encourage children to get the most important school supply of all: a library card. As the Honorary Chair of Library Card Sign-up Month (September), Cal Ripken has donated his image to print and audio [public service announcements](#) (PSAs). Sample media tools are now available to remind the public of all the resources available for free with a library card. Tools include a sample press release, newsletter article, proclamation, and PSA scripts....

Public Information Office, July 12



### [Nominating Committee seeks candidates](#)

The ALA Nominating Committee will select two candidates to run for president-elect and no fewer than 50 candidates for the 33 at-large Council seats to be filled in the 2012 spring election. Members who wish to make nominations should submit the following information: nominee name, present position, institution, address, telephone, fax, and email address. All potential nominees must complete the [Potential Candidate Biographical Form](#). Nominations and forms must be received no later than August 12....

Office of ALA Governance, July 12

### [ALA member satisfaction survey report](#)

John Chrastka writes: "Beginning in August 2010, the Membership Development Office and the Office for Research and Statistics initiated an ongoing survey of member satisfaction. This report provides an analysis of the survey responses received between August 2010 and January 2011 and compares them to baseline data established in surveys conducted in 2007 and 2008."...

ALA Membership Blog, July 6

### [Big-name authors join ALA Virtual Annual Conference](#)

Two-time Pulitzer Prize-winner David McCullough and two-time National Book Award recipient Jean Thompson have signed on to be interviewed by *Booklist* editors Brad Hooper and Donna Seaman as part of ALA's second [Annual Virtual Conference](#), July 13–14. The ALA Virtual Conference offers one of the most cost-effective options of the year in library continuing education....

Conference Services, July 6



### [COA announces accreditation actions](#)

The Committee on Accreditation announced accreditation actions taken at the 2011 ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans. Continued accreditation status was granted to MLIS programs at the University of Denver, the University of Kentucky, the University of Western Ontario, and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Candidacy status was granted to an MLIS program at the University of Ottawa....

#### [Public Libraries](#)

#### [Library Renewal](#)

#### [Tech in the Exhibit Hall](#)

#### [Censorship Watch](#)

#### [Currents](#)

#### [Perpetual Beta](#)

#### [Inside Scoop](#)

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

#### [Green Your Library](#)

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

#### [AL Focus](#)

## Great Libraries of the World



### [José Vasconcelos Library](#)

Mexico City, Mexico. Named after early 20th-century Mexican philosopher and politician José Vasconcelos, this public library designed by Alberto Kalach was a pet project of President Vicente Fox, who dedicated it in 2006. Built primarily of glass and metal and surrounded by botanical gardens that buffer it from urban noise, the library houses half a million books, 750 computers, a [children's room](#), a [multimedia laboratory](#).

Office for Accreditation, July 11

## [#ala11 Photo Scavenger Hunt winners](#)

As you might have heard, there was a [Photo Scavenger Hunt](#) running during the recent ALA Annual Conference. From the sights of our beautiful host city of New Orleans to some tucked-away corners of the conference itself, we asked attendees to look around and play along by snapping some photos. Our First Prize winner, Christine Getrost, collected 10,600 points....

ALA Membership Blog, July 11

## [Spreading the library word around the world](#)

Latvia and Barbados are the latest nations to join the [Campaign for the World's Libraries](#). The 10-year-old public-awareness campaign, in which ALA and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions work together, is designed to showcase the unique and vital roles that public, school, academic, and special libraries play worldwide and to speak loudly and clearly about the value of libraries and librarians in the 21st century....

AL: Global Reach, July 13

## [Library management tips for busy librarians](#)

[Library Management Tips That Work](#), published by ALA Editions, tackles the details of day-to-day management, the hard-to-categorize things that can slip through the cracks of other handbooks. Edited by Carol Smallwood, this eclectic guide addresses dozens of such issues facing library managers, such as how to create a job manual and keep staff accountable, keeping your library board in the loop, and using numbers to make your case....

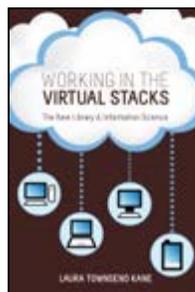
ALA Editions, July 7



## [Working in the virtual stacks](#)

Thanks in part to technology, the boundaries of library positions are dissolving. It is no longer practical to discuss the profession in terms of traditional library types, and the relationship between librarians and technology is stronger than ever. In [Working in the Virtual Stacks: The New Library and Information Science](#), published by ALA Editions, veteran author Laura Townsend Kane interviews dozens of practicing librarians who are highly involved with technology as part of their day-to-day jobs....

ALA Editions, July 12



and a modern facility for the [visually impaired](#).

Unfortunately, construction defects required it to be shut down for remodeling in 2007–2008. The library features several sculptures by Mexican artists, the most striking of which is Gabriel Orozco's [Ballena](#), a painted gray whale skeleton placed prominently in the central corridor.



## [Public Library](#)

Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo, Morelia, Mexico. This Baroque building, built in the Tuscan style in 1660, was originally a cathedral attached to the Palacio Clavijero, a Jesuit college. It served a variety of functions over the years until 1930 when it became a joint-use library. It contains collections from the Franciscan Convent of San Buenaventura, the papers of 19th-century journalist and writer Mariano de Jesús Torres, and a collection of 18th-century Jesuit manuscripts.

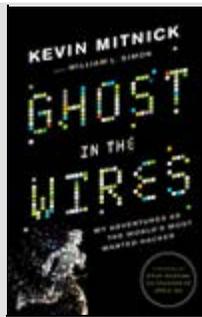
**This AL Direct feature** showcases 250 libraries around the world that are notable for their exquisite architecture, historic collections, and innovative services. If you find yourself on vacation near one of them, be sure to stop by for a visit. The entire list will be

# Booklist ONLINE

## [Featured review: Business](#)

Mitnick, Kevin, with William L. Simon. *Ghost in the Wires: My Adventures As the World's Most Wanted Hacker*. Aug. 2011. 384p. Little, Brown, hardcover (978-0-316-03770-9). Mitnick was at one time the most wanted

computer hacker in the country, perhaps the world. It was claimed that he could launch U.S. nuclear missiles simply by whistling into a phone. This was, of course, utter fabrication. In reality he was just a kid with a powerful curiosity and an innate knack for “social engineering” (or conning individuals into giving up deep secrets). Although he made free, untraceable phone calls at will, hacked his way into almost every major software company, and stole vast amounts of proprietary code, he never made monetary gain on any of it....



### [Top 10 business books of 2011](#)

Brad Hooper writes: “The common question asked at foreign customs is, ‘Are you visiting our country for business or pleasure?’ Enter these outstanding business titles of the past year, all reviewed in *Booklist*, and the answer to that question is, ‘Both.’”...



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

available in [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart, which is scheduled for publication later this year by ALA Editions.



## Division News

### [Early bird registration for AASL National Conference](#)

AASL encourages members planning to register for the [AASL 15th National Conference and Exhibition](#) to do so before the August 4 early bird registration deadline. On August 5, registration rates will be raised \$50 and, after September 29, AASL members can expect to pay \$100 more for registration. The conference will be held October 27–30 in Minneapolis. The conference will feature more than [100 concurrent sessions](#) designed to help attendees elevate both themselves as leaders and their library programs....

AASL, July 12



### [Vision Tour highlights](#)

This [video](#) (10:44) showcases the highlights of AASL President Nancy Everhart’s (right) Vision Tour of outstanding school libraries across the United States during the 2010–2011 school year. The libraries on the tour were selected by AASL affiliate organizations as examples in their state of school libraries that are dedicated to empowering every student with the skills needed to be a Learner4Life....

YouTube, June 25



### Career Leads from



### [Editor and Publisher.](#)

*American Libraries*, *American Library Association*, Chicago. Publishing professional to provide strategic direction in the fulfillment of editorial, production, marketing, and advertising functions for a suite of print and digital media that currently includes the member magazine, *American Libraries*, *AL Direct*, the *American Libraries* website, *AL Focus* (videos and photo galleries), and emerging digital content. The Editor and Publisher develops and maintains a strategic plan to align the

## Turning the Page a second time

Registration has opened for the August 8–September 12 session of “[Turning the Page 2.0](#),” a free online advocacy training program, developed and presented by PLA. The program will be offered three additional times through 2012. The [full schedule](#) with registration dates is available online....

PLA, July 11



## E-readers and your library

For many teens, reading isn't confined to the printed page; more devices support a variety of applications and other access mechanisms for connecting teens with a range of content. [Join](#) Wendy Stephens as she discusses the latest in e-readers in YALSA's July 14 webinar. This webinar will address strategies for librarians providing access to both free and subscription-based texts and technical and logistical support for teens reading on the screen....

YALSA, July 5

## Webinars for middle managers

LLAMA is offering a lineup of three new interactive webinars designed to meet the needs of middle managers. Each of the 90-minute programs will feature library consultant Julie Todaro. The webinars will be held July 14, August 3, and August 14. [LLAMA sections](#) are also hosting some upcoming webinars. [Register](#) online....

LLAMA, July 12

## Readers' advisory webinar with Nancy Pearl

At 1 p.m. Central Time on July 19, PLA will host a webinar with Nancy Pearl, “[Dive into a Good Book: Great Summer Reads to Recommend to Your Patrons](#).” The webinar will benefit library staff specializing in readers' advisory and will feature a “read alike” section as well as a downloadable handout of the highlighted books. [Register](#) by July 15....

PLA, July 7

## Deanna Marcum featured in ALCTS webinar

ALCTS will present a free webinar the afternoon of August 1. “Aiming for a Robust Metadata Infrastructure for the Future” will feature Library of Congress Associate Librarian for Library Services Deanna Marcum and LC Director for Acquisitions and Bibliographic Control Beacher Wiggins. Marcum will give her reactions to reviewing and accepting the recommendations of the U.S. RDA Test Coordinating Committee, and Wiggins will describe the test, findings, and analyses that led to the recommendation to implement RDA no sooner than January 2013. Advance [registration](#) is required....

ALCTS, July 7

## RUSA online learning

There's lots of exciting stuff happening with RUSA Online Learning opportunities in the coming months. [Registration](#) for the course “Introduction to Spatial Literacy and Online Mapping,” to be held July 18–August 5, ends on July 14. A course on equitable access for persons with disabilities and a webinar on screencasting are two new offerings....

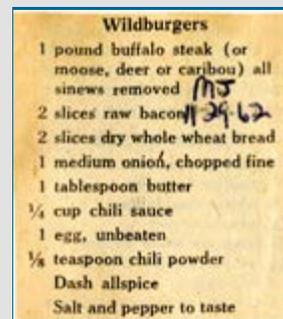
RUSABlog, July 13

publications with current trends and keep them competitive, maintains relevance and quality of editorial content, ensures timely distribution, reinforces reader satisfaction and member dedication, and maximizes advertising revenue through collaboration with marketing and ad sales....



@ [More jobs...](#)

## Digital Library of the Week



### Historic Recipe File

of the Milwaukee Public Library. From the 1960s through the 1980s, MPL librarians clipped recipes from the city's two newspapers. Filed on index cards, they became a valuable database for reference librarians answering calls from the public. Those recipe cards have now become digital files in the library's Historic Recipe File. Librarians

## Awards

### [Phyllis Dain Library History Award](#)

The Library History Round Table has named Susan Reynolds the winner of its 2011 Susan Dain Library History Award for her dissertation, "The Establishment of the Library of the Supreme Court of Victoria, 1851–1884: Antecedents, Foundation, and Legacy." Reynolds graduated from the Department of Library and Information Studies of Charles Sturt University of Australia in 2008 and is currently a lecturer at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology....



Library History Round Table, June 28

### [Justin Winsor Prize](#)

The Library History Round Table has named Cody White the winner of the 2011 Justin Winsor Prize for his essay "Rising from the Ashes: Lessons Learned from the Impact of Proposition 13 on Public Libraries in California." The \$100 award is presented annually to the author of an outstanding essay embodying original historical research on a significant subject of library history....

Library History Round Table, June 28

### [Jesse H. Shera awards](#)

The Library Research Round Table has chosen the 2011 winners of its Jesse H. Shera Award for Distinguished Published Research and the Jesse H. Shera Award for the Support of Dissertation Research. M. Cristina Pattuelli won the research award for her article, "Modeling a Domain Ontology for Cultural Heritage," *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology* 62 (February 2011): 314–342. Amy VanScoy won the dissertation award for "Exploring the Meaning of Reference Work for Librarians in Academic Research Libraries."...



Library Research Round Table, June 28

### [ALA receives grant to support Great Stories Club](#)

The ALA Public Programs Office and YALSA have announced that the Great Stories Club, a reading and discussion program for at-risk teens, was selected for an Access to Artistic Excellence grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The NEA grant will facilitate author visits to select libraries that are participating in the current Great Stories Club program, which focuses on the theme "Second Chances."...

Public Programs Office, July 5

### [2011 Diversity Research Grants](#)

The Office for Diversity has awarded Diversity Research Grants of \$2,000 for original research and \$500 travel grants to Clara M. Chu (University of North Carolina at Greensboro), Daniella Smith (University of North Texas), and Jian-zhong Zhou (California State University, Sacramento). Recipients are expected to conduct their research over the course of the year and compile the results into a program for the 2012 ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California....

Office for Diversity, July 12

### [Librarian swimmer supports Spectrum again](#)

Miriam Tuliao (right), assistant director of central collection development at the New York Public Library,

Rebecca Desch and Rose Fortier decided that the long-forgotten-about recipe cards would make a great digital reference collection. To date, 530 recipe cards have been scanned into the database with the help of University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee student volunteers and are organized alphabetically by name, but are also searchable by keywords. Recipes are also searchable by such categories as desserts and appetizers. The collection was released on July 1 to coincide with National Culinary Arts Month. The website features a different recipe every day, often focusing on local delicacies like Moose Stroganoff and Wildburgers (above).

**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

**"Our library is corrupted by the far-left ALA. While local taxpayers pick up the biggest tab for**

announced that she will participate in the United States Masters Swimming Two-Mile Cable Open Water National Championship in support of the Spectrum Presidential Initiative. The event will be held August 13 at Lake Placid, New York. Also, APALA and Reforma members in northern California held a [fundraiser](#) recently at the Redwood City Public Library that contributed more than \$1,000 to Spectrum....

Spectrum Initiative, July 5, 12



### [2011 Joey Rodger Leadership Award](#)

The Urban Libraries Council presented Tony Tallent (right), director of literacy and learning at the Richland County (S.C.) Public Library, with the 2011 Joey Rodger Leadership Award at its annual membership meeting June 25 in New Orleans. Tallent will utilize the leadership award to develop a brand personality for the library, strengthen its strategies and goals, clarify its vision, and further develop activities that demonstrate the public library as a living, breathing, changing mirror of the community mind....

Urban Libraries Council, July 8



### [2011 Carnegie and Greenaway Medal winners](#)

The Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals has awarded its 2011 Carnegie Medal to Patrick Ness for his novel *Monsters of Men*. The third in Ness's Chaos Walking trilogy, the novel compellingly charts the epic power struggles between the inhabitants of a world where all thoughts are audible. Ness used his June 23 acceptance speech to launch a [scorching attack](#) on the U.K. government's policy on libraries. Grahame Baker-Smith won the 2011 CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal with his father-and-son-inspired generational tale, *FaRtHER*....

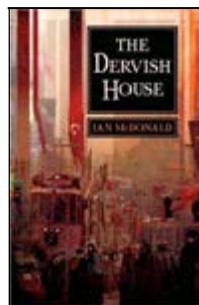
Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals, June 23; *The Guardian* (U.K.), June 23



### [Campbell and Sturgeon awards](#)

Irish author Ian McDonald's *The Dervish House* won the John W. Campbell Award for the best science-fiction novel of the year and Geoffrey A. Landis's "The Sultan of the Clouds" won the Theodore Sturgeon Award for the best short SF of the year in a July 8 ceremony at the University of Kansas. The awards are presented by the Center for the Study of Science Fiction during the Campbell Conference, a four-day event held annually at the University of Kansas....

University of Kansas, July 8



### [2011 Locus Awards](#)

Winners of the 2011 Locus Awards, literary awards established in 1971 and presented to winners of *Locus* magazine's annual readers' poll, were announced during the Science Fiction Awards Weekend in Seattle, June 24–26. Connie Willis's *Blackout* and *All Clear* won for Best Science Fiction Novel, and China Miéville's *Kraken*

**America's libraries, most librarians are little more than unionized pawns for the social-activist bosses of the American Library Association. . . . ALA controls 62,000 members and, through its czarist accreditation program of many libraries, largely dictates what books are available for the most impressionable members of U.S. society, our children. For adults who utilize city and county libraries, ALA likewise exercises great influence over what may be read (and, in the Digital Audio/Video Age, what may be listened to and watched). So much for ALA's love of 'individual freedom' and 'intellectual honesty.'"**

—Mike Thompson, past chairman of the Florida Conservative Union, in an editorial rant about plans to build a new Fernandina Beach branch for the Nassau County (Fla.) Public Library System, ["Save Our Libraries. Fire the Librarians."](#) *Fernandina Beach (Fla.) News-Leader*, June 27.

**"The bodies of dead public programs and eviscerated social services litter the American landscape like casualties of a brutal war. It seems, at times, as though the Great Recession is systematically wiping out institutions that**

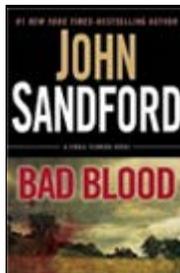
won for Best Fantasy Novel....

Locus Online, June 25

### [2011 Thriller Awards](#)

The International Thriller Writers announced the winners of the 2011 Thriller Awards during a gala banquet July 9 at the Grand Hyatt in New York City. John Sandford's *Bad Blood* was voted the Best Hard Cover Novel, J. T. Ellison's *The Cold Room* won for Best Paperback Original Novel, and Best First Novel went to Chevy Stevens for *Still Missing*....

The Big Thrill, July 9



were generations in the making. . . . The Great Recession has changed life as we know it in so many ways. We can't allow it to kill our libraries."

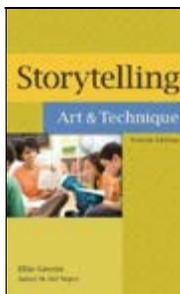
—Editorial, "[The Sound of Libraries Suffocating.](#)" Santa Maria (Calif.) Times, July 5.

@ [More quotes...](#)

### [Storytelling book wins award](#)

Janice M. Del Negro, assistant professor at Dominican University GSLIS, received a 2011 Storytelling World Resource Award for a book that she cowrote with Ellin Greene, *Storytelling: Art and Technique*, 4th edition. The book was honored in the Special Storytelling Resources category. The awards were featured in the 2011 April/May issue of *Storytelling Magazine / Storytelling World*....

Dominican University, June 24

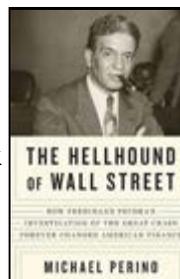


[New Orleans Recovery on the Mind of Television Producer-Writer David Simon](#)

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

The third annual Spear's Book Awards were announced in London on June 27. Winning titles were chosen by authors and judges from both the literature and finance worlds. The winners included Michael Perino for his book *The Hellhound of Wall Street: How Ferdinand Pecora's Investigation of the Great Crash Forever Changed American Finance* (Penguin) and Donald Sturrock for *Storyteller: The Life of Roald Dahl* (Simon and Schuster)....

Spear's Wealth Management Survey, June 29

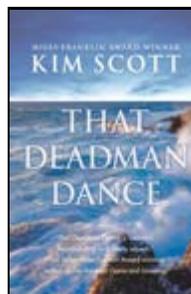


[Librarians Who Mean Business](#)

### [2011 Miles Franklin Literary Award](#)

Australia's most prestigious literary prize, the Miles Franklin Literary Award, was presented to Kim Scott June 22 for his novel *That Deadman Dance* (Picador), a story about relations between the Aborigines and the first European settlers along the south coast of Western Australia. The annual award of \$50,000 (\$53,162 U.S.) is presented to the novel of the year that is of the highest literary merit and "presents Australian life in any of its phases."...

Miles Franklin Literary Award, June 22



[The Secret World of Child Brides](#)

[David Simon: "Access to a Library Card is Access to the World" \(video\)](#)

[In the Driver's Seat @ your library](#)

[Top Moments in American Radio/TV News History](#)

[A Revolutionary Project-- Cuba from Walker Evans to Now](#)

### [Prime Minister's Literary Awards 2011](#)

The 4th annual Prime Minister's Literary Awards, celebrating excellence in Australian literature, were announced July 8 by Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard. Melbourne author Cath Crowley won the

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\$80,000 (\$85,111 U.S.) prize for young adult fiction for her book *Graffiti Moon*, which is described as an intense and exhilarating 24 hours in the lives of four teenagers on the verge of adulthood. *Traitor*, a novel about Gallipoli by first-time author and former soldier Stephen Daisley, won in the fiction category....

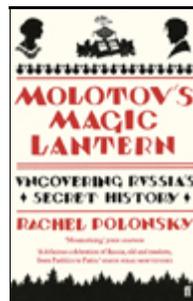
Melbourne (Vict.) Herald Sun, July 8



### [Dolman Travel Book of 2011](#)

The Authors' Club named Rachel Polonsky's *Molotov's Magic Lantern: Uncovering Russia's Secret History* (Faber) the Dolman Travel Book of the Year for 2011. Polonsky was a Cambridge fellow in Russian literature before moving to Moscow in the mid-1990s. In her apartment block near the Kremlin, she discovered papers belonging to a former Soviet foreign minister and an old-fashioned slide projector. These finds prompted her to write the book, a travelogue through Russia's recent history....

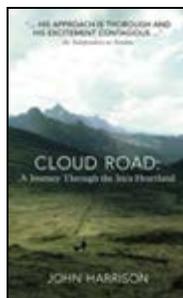
Words Worth Reading, July 9



### [2011 Wales Book of the Year](#)

*Cloud Road: A Journey through the Inca Heartland* by John Harrison has been named the 2011 Wales Book of the Year by Literature Wales. The author was presented with £10,000 (\$15,900 U.S.) at a July 7 ceremony. Harrison journeyed for five months through the Inca heartland, walking alone into remote villages where he was the first gringo the inhabitants had ever seen, and where life continues as if Columbus had never sailed....

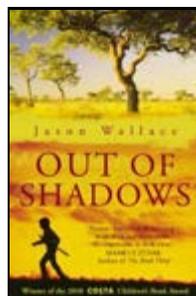
Cardiff (U.K.) Western Mail, July 7



### [2011 Branford Boase Award](#)

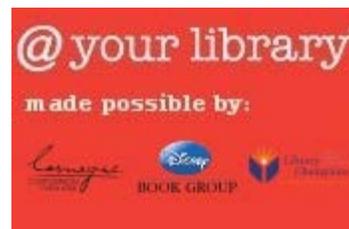
Jason Wallace has won the 2011 Branford Boase Award, honoring the most outstanding work of fiction for children by a first-time novelist, for *Out of Shadows*, a children's novel set in 1980s Zimbabwe. The war is over, independence has been won, and Robert Mugabe has come to power, but Robert Jacklin soon learns that for some of his classmates, the sound of guns is still loud. The author and his editor, Charlie Sheppard, were presented with a £1,000 (\$1,590 U.S.) check for their work on the novel....

Branford Boase Award, July 7



### [2011 Caine Prize for African Writing](#)

Zimbabwean author Elizabeth Tshele (right), writing under the pen name NoViolet Bulawayo, has won the 2011 Caine Prize for African Writing for her short story "Hitting Budapest" ([PDF file](#)), published in the *Boston Review* 35, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 2010). She was announced the winner July 11 at a special ceremony at the Bodleian Library in Oxford, England. The Caine Prize, now in its 12th year, is Africa's leading literary award and comes with a £10,000 (\$15,865 U.S.) prize....



### **TweetWatch**

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

### **Calendar**

**July 21–24:**  
[San Diego Comic-Con](#), San Diego Convention Center.

**July 25–31:**  
[Library Day in the Life](#), Round 7.

**July 27–28:**  
[Handheld Librarian V](#), online conference.

**Aug. 3–5:**  
[Pacific Northwest Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Doubletree Hotel Downtown, Spokane, Washington.

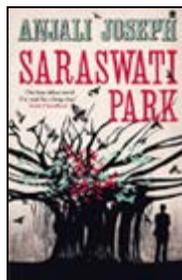
**Aug. 7–11:**  
[International Association of School](#)

Africa Book Club, July 11; Caine Prize, July 11

### [2011 Desmond Elliott Prize](#)

Debut novelist Anjali Joseph has been named the winner of the 2011 Desmond Elliott Prize for her work *Saraswati Park*. The critically acclaimed novel, set in the suburbs of Mumbai, is about a married couple and their teenage nephew who comes to live with them. Now in its fourth year, the £10,000 (\$15,900 U.S.) prize is awarded by the Society of Authors to the writer of the best debut novel....

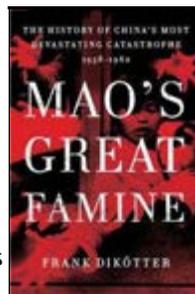
BBC News, June 23



### [Mao's Great Famine wins Samuel Johnson Prize](#)

Dutch historian Frank Dikötter's book about China's disastrous Great Leap Forward policy has won the £20,000 (\$31,800 U.S.) BBC Samuel Johnson Prize for Nonfiction. Chair of the judges Ben Macintyre praised *Mao's Great Famine: The History of China's Most Devastating Catastrophe, 1958–1962* (Walker, 2010) as an "epic record of human folly," adding that it was "essential reading for anyone seeking to understand the history of the 20th century."...

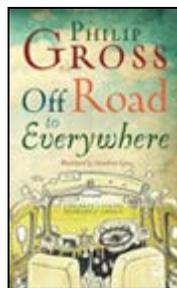
BBC News, July 6



### [CLPE Poetry Award 2011](#)

The Centre for Literacy in Primary Education announced July 5 that the winner of its Poetry Award for 2011 is Philip Gross for *Off Road to Everywhere*, illustrated by Jonathan Gross (Salt Publishing). The award, sponsored by Travelling Books, honors excellence in poetry written for children. Gross is a professor of creative writing at the University of Glamorgan in Wales....

Poetry Book Society, July 6



## Seen Online

### [Fire destroys Camden library](#)

A weekend fire that destroyed the Public Library of Camden (Ark.) and Ouachita County is under investigation as to the cause of the blaze. The fire, reported at 2:30 a.m. on July 3, started in the back office portion of the building and caused the stucco roof to collapse on the materials below. The building will be a total loss according to fire officials, but some books may be salvageable. Firefighters were able to remove roughly 75% of the [genealogy room](#) and special collections. The Central Arkansas Library System in Little Rock is [donating all fines](#) it collects July 11–17 to library recovery efforts....

KATV, Little Rock, July 5; Arkansas Online, July 3; KTHV, Little Rock, July 9



[Librarianship](#), Annual Conference, University of West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica. "School Libraries: Empowering the 21st Century Learner."

**Aug. 12:**  
[Digital Preservation: What's Now, What's Next](#), online conference presented by Amigos Library Services.

**Aug. 13–18:**  
[International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions](#), 77th World Library and Information Congress, Puerto Rico Convention Centre, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

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

**Sept. 12–16:**  
[Australian Library and Information Association](#), National Library and Information Technicians Conference, Pan Pacific Hotel, Perth, Western Australia. "Back to Basics."

**Sept. 15–18:**  
[Reforma National Conference IV](#), Westin Denver Downtown Hotel. "Juntos in the Mile High City."

**Sept. 16–17:**  
[KidLitCon](#), Hotel Monaco, Seattle.

## [Are school librarians expendable?](#)

In New York City, education officials say that after several years in a row of cutting costs, freezing wages, and eliminating extracurricular activities, they may have no choice but to turn to librarians. Do superintendents and principals see librarians as more expendable than other school employees? Jessamyn West, Ze'ev Wurman, Carol Simpson, C. Kent McGuire, Gwyneth A. Jones, and Francine Prose contribute to the discussion....

*New York Times*, June 27

## [Queens Library cuts restored](#)

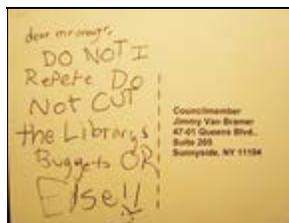
More than 400 Queens (N.Y.) Library employees whose jobs were threatened by steep budget cuts saw their pink slips disappear June 29. The fiscal year 2012 city budget, approved by the City Council, restored \$23 million of funding to the library, allowing it to rescind all of the layoff notices sent out in May. Hundreds of employees would have lost their jobs and a dozen branches could have been forced to close their doors for good....

*New York Daily News*, June 30

## ["Bugget cuts" girl still has words for Mayor Bloomberg](#)

Rita Meade, the Brooklyn Public Library children's librarian behind the Screwy Decimal blog who originally [posted](#) about one spunky little girl's [vaguely threatening postcards](#) to Mayor Bloomberg (an effort to scare him into keeping New York Public Library budgets intact), has followed up with the girl after budgets were, happily, largely [restored](#) to the libraries. She found that her sass is still intact....

*Village Voice*: Runnin' Scared, June 22, 29, July 9; Screwy Decimal, June 16



## [California library privacy bill goes to governor](#)

The California State Legislature has approved Senate Bill 445 by State Sen. Joe Simitian (D-Palo Alto) to provide 21st-century privacy protections for California library patrons. It was sent to Gov. Jerry Brown July 7 for signing. Existing law provides limited privacy protection for "registration and circulation" records, but is largely silent on privacy protection for the many other online interactions a patron might have at a public library. The bill makes a small but necessary change in state law to ensure that all patron records are protected equally....

California Library Association, July 6

## [Codex Calixtinus stolen from Santiago de Compostela cathedral](#)

In what is being called the robbery of the century, a priceless 12th-century manuscript has been stolen from the cathedral at Santiago de Compostela. The Codex Calixtinus, a traveler's guide to the famous pilgrimage road to Santiago de Compostela in northern Spain, was found missing from the cathedral's archives July 5. *El Correo Gallego* [reports](#) that police are investigating a set of footprints found inside the archive, and are [not ruling out](#) the involvement of current or former cathedral staff. Most [experts agree](#) that the manuscript would be [difficult to sell](#) because it is so recognizable....

Medievalists.net, July 7; Santiago *El Correo Gallego*, July 11-13; *El País* (Madrid), July 9; *Time*, July 11



## **Sept. 19-21:**

[Interlending and Document Supply Conference](#), Spertus Institute for Jewish Studies, Chicago. Sponsored by the IFLA Section on Document Delivery and Resource Sharing. "Resource Sharing in the Digital Age."

## **Sept. 24-25:**

[National Book Festival](#), National Mall, Washington, D.C.

## **Sept. 24-27:**

[Arkansas Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Peabody Hotel, Little Rock. "The Joy of Libraries."

## **Oct. 12:**

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

## **Nov. 2-3:**

[Library 2.011](#) online conference, a global conversation on the current and future state of libraries. The School of Library and Information Science at San Jose (Calif.) State University is the founding conference sponsor.

## **Nov. 19:**

[Savannah Children's Book Festival](#), presented by Live Oak Public Libraries, Forsyth Park, Savannah, Georgia.

## **Nov. 30:**

[Repositories in Science and](#)

## [Stolen rare books returned to University of Hawaii](#)

Some 218 rare books are back in Hamilton Library at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, thanks to a California rare book collector. Associate Librarian Alan Grosenheider (right) said discovery of the theft began when a former student, Tim Perry, contacted collector Michael Hollander of Hollander Rare Books in San Rafael, California, offering to sell a large number of rare books. The volumes are from the mid-1800s to early 20th century and include books on Pacific and Asian exploration. Police raided Perry's Waikiki apartment and recovered the books....

*Honolulu Star-Advertiser, July 2*



## [Manuscript thieves nabbed in Baltimore](#)

Presidential historian Barry H. Landau (left) claims one of the largest collections of Oval Office memorabilia outside museums and presidential libraries. Police say he tried to expand that collection by pilfering dozens of rare documents from the Maryland Historical Society on July 9. Landau, whose connections reportedly bridge the Washington, New York, and Hollywood elite, is being held without bail. The artifacts he and Jason Savedoff tried to take at the [society's archives](#) include documents signed by Abraham Lincoln, presidential inaugural ball invitations and programs, a commemoration of the Statue of Liberty, and a commemoration of the Washington Monument....

*Baltimore Sun, July 12*



## [Court overturns gay librarian's suspension](#)

A Manhattan judge threw out June 29 an arbitrator's ruling that suspended an openly gay high school librarian for conduct the judge said would have gone unpunished if committed by a heterosexual woman. After finding that Christopher Asch had engaged in nonsexual but inappropriate touching of students, a hearing officer in June 2010 suspended the Stuyvesant High School librarian for six months without pay and ordered him to attend counseling on teacher-student physical boundaries. But Acting Supreme Court Justice Manuel J. Mendez ruled that suspending Asch was "clearly disproportionate" and violated state antidiscrimination laws....

*Miami Daily Business Review, July 5*

## [First Folios on exhibit at the Folger](#)

One copy of Shakespeare's First Folio is always on view at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C. (and on its [website](#)), but its current exhibition, "[Fame, Fortune and Theft: The Shakespeare First Folio.](#)" has another 10 Folios from the library's vaults (along with one on loan from a private collector). Curated by Anthony James West and Owen Williams, the exhibition is a survey of that book's material life over nearly four centuries....

*New York Times, July 7*



## [Employees worked to keep Minot Public Library dry](#)

Chris Bieri writes: "Jerry Kaup is used to spending his days surrounded by books. Recently, the director of the Minot (N.Dak.) Public Library has spent his days surrounded by water. When the

[Technology](#), a workshop cosponsored by CENDI (Federal Scientific and Technical Information Managers) and the National Federation of Advanced Information Services. Hosted by the Federal Library and Information Center Committee at the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

@ [More...](#)

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library began to flood on June 27, Kaup and his employees were prepared. The National Guard had already built a dike around the library and volunteers moved the building's contents up to the second floor. But the battle to move water out of the building has been an around-the-clock affair."...

*Minot (N.Dak.) Daily News, June 27*

### [Super Diaper Baby removed for language](#)

Tammy Harris has a 6-year-old son at Brown Elementary School in Channelview, Texas, and in 2010 she got a call from his teacher. He was suspended for one day allegedly for calling another student a "poo poo head," a phrase he later read in a school library book by Dav Pilkey, *The Adventures of Super Diaper Baby*. Harris felt the book shouldn't be in the library if her son could get suspended for using the same language it contains, and she won her appeal to have the book removed....

*KTRK, Houston, May 19, July 13*



### [Tornado-damaged Alabama libraries get help](#)

About a dozen public and school libraries around Alabama were hit by the April 27 storms with varying degrees of damage. Some, like Birmingham's Pratt City branch, had their buildings wrecked but were able to save many of their books. Others, such as the Pell City Public Library, experienced lesser damage and have reopened. To help damaged public and school libraries rebuild, the Alabama Humanities Foundation has gotten a \$30,000 federal emergency grant to provide free books. Project Turn the Page will focus on Southern and Alabama history and fiction....

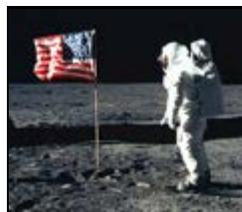
*Birmingham (Ala.) News, July 5*



### [One librarian's mission: Locate U.S. flags on the moon](#)

Anne Platoff, web services librarian at the University of California, Santa Barbara's Davidson Library, is on a mission to find out what happened to the American flags that astronauts planted on the moon during the six lunar landings. Her research pinpointed four of them, including the one from Apollo 17, the final lunar mission. Platoff, a longtime vexillologist, said, "For me, the flag on the moon is an excellent example of something that seems very, very simple, but once you really start thinking about it, you realize is very complex."...

*Time: NewsFeed, July 7; Santa Barbara (Calif.) Independent, July 8*



### [How to borrow books from a closed library branch](#)

At San Jose (Calif.) Public Library's Seven Trees branch, books are coming and going, even though the building is closed. One of the system's four new or soon-to-be-finished branches, Seven Trees was completed last fall.

It has new shelves and a technology center, but no staff to run it until the financially pressed city can find a way to pay salaries. The



Brian Searles:  
[bsearles@ala.org](mailto:bsearles@ala.org)



Katie Bane:  
[kbane@ala.org](mailto:kbane@ala.org)

Send feedback:  
[aldirect@ala.org](mailto:aldirect@ala.org)

AL Direct FAQ:  
[www.ala.org/aldirect/](http://www.ala.org/aldirect/)

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

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building also includes a first-floor community center that opened in October and attracts a steady stream of would-be library patrons. And community center workers are redirecting them to a small corner room under a sign that says, "Friends Book Sale."...

San Francisco *Bay Citizen*, July 9

### [St. Paul library clerk sentenced for thefts](#)

A St. Paul (Minn.) Public Library worker charged with stealing 1,400 books and movies was sentenced July 6 to 30 days in jail and ordered to perform 200 hours of community service. Amanda Marie Cortright pleaded guilty April 25 to receiving stolen property. She created four fake accounts and checked out materials under those made-up names. She also checked out items in her own name and improperly marked them as missing or deleted in the library inventory system....

St. Paul (Minn.) *Pioneer Press*, July 8

### [Rare collection in Pakistan in fragile condition](#)

Many of the rare books in the Lahore Museum's reference library in Pakistan are crumbling. Forty percent of the 35,000 books in the library are 50 years old or more. The only steps taken to preserve them are fumigation, every five years, and the taping and lamination of some old books.



In 2008, air conditioners were installed in the library, but these are often off because of power outages. Library staff are currently working on digitizing the collection, a project which began in 2009, but it will take another two years to finish....

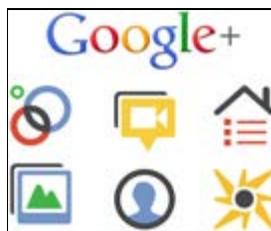
*Express Tribune* (Karachi), July 8

[Go back to the Top](#)

## Tech Talk

### [Google+ first impression](#)

Andy Woodworth writes: "In writing this, I have to admit that I was a bit hesitant to say that I like Google+. After really liking Google Wave, getting people invited to the Beta, and then having it plummet out of sight, I was not eager to endorse another large-scale social effort by Google. I really like it but with one major caveat: It depends entirely on who will stay after the new luster wears off. However, Google has taken some interesting steps in creating a social sharing site. Here is a quick tour." (Some professors are already [considering it](#) for classroom use.)...



Agnostic, Maybe, June 30; *Chronicle of Higher Education: Wired Campus*, July 8

### [How to get started with Google+](#)

Kristi Hines writes: "If you haven't gotten your invite just yet, you can learn more about Google+ in the following [quick-look video](#) (1:48), and by visiting the Google+ project [overview](#), [searchable details](#), and [discussion](#) pages. If you're one of the lucky ones, you received an invite for Google+ during its limited field trial. While the invite messages varied, the commonality is the brick-red Learn more about Google+ button." Simon Laustsen created a Google+ [cheat](#)



[sheet](#)....

Social Media Examiner, July 5; YouTube, June 26; Centered Librarian, July 13

### [How to make a Google+ desktop app](#)

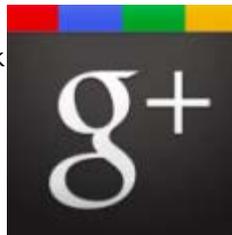
Christina Warren writes: "As Google+ adoption continues to soar, one little annoyance is thwarting Google+ bliss: Dealing with other Google accounts. Google+ requires a Google Profile—and right now, Google Apps users don't have access to a Google Profile. There is a solution: Create a Google+ desktop app."...

Mashable, July 12

### [Google+ has its minuses](#)

Jessica Dolcourt writes: "The fledgling social network is doing much right, like hosting interactive videoconferencing hangouts, considering [privacy measures](#) (even if [belatedly](#)), and offering the ability to edit posts. However, some decisions and omissions leave us [a little cold](#). While we don't expect absolute perfection in a first-generation Google product, a variety of us editors using Google+ have pinpointed some flaws and missing links over the last few weeks. We have aggregated our strongest complaints here."...

CNET News: Webware, July 11; CNET News: Privacy Inc., June 29, July 1; CNET News: DeepTech, July 6



### [How to move Facebook photos to Picasa](#)

Robin Wauters writes: "There's more than one way to easily transfer your Facebook photos and albums to Google's Picasa service (which will apparently be renamed Google Photos), but I would like to highlight one that launched recently. The aptly named [Move2Picasa.com](#) website lets you connect to your Facebook account, after which all your Facebook photos and albums will automatically be migrated over to Google's Picasa service, sans captions and comments. One caveat: It's all or nothing—you can't migrate specific photos or albums at this point."...

TechCrunch, July 6

### [An app for organizing Facebook friends](#)

Sharing on Facebook can get complicated if you only want to do so with college friends, colleagues, or golf buddies. You have to manually sort potentially hundreds of people into separate groups. [Katango](#), a free iPhone application introduced July 12, intends to alleviate the hassle by automatically organizing Facebook friends. In theory, its technology will detect who is a family member, who attended the same high school, or who lives in the same city and place them in the relevant group....

New York Times: Bits, July 12



### [Top 10 must-have apps for the iPhone](#)

Bob Tedeschi writes: "I'm always surprised when I come across people who have yet to fill their iPhone with apps. The most often cited excuse? Not enough time to sift through 300,000 apps to find the good ones. True, it can be a slog. (But that's what I do for you every week.) In this column, I've compiled 10 must-have apps that will save you time, make your life easier, and make you smile."...

New York Times, Nov. 10, 2010



### [The 100 best Android apps](#)

Here you will find the best 100 Android applications for all your needs. MakeUseOf has taken the effort to categorize the apps and picked only those the editors believe to be the best ones and that will most likely be useful. Categories include automation, communication, reading, music, social networking, productivity, system utilities, and web and news....

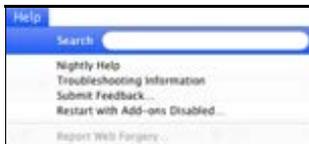
MakeUseOf



### [Usability lessons from a first-time computer user](#)

Klint Finley writes: "Firefox user experience designer Jenny Boriss [wrote about](#) an experience she had recently conducting usability testing with a man who had never used a computer before. Boriss gave the man, whom she refers to as Joe, a seemingly simple task: Use a web browser to find a local restaurant. The only browser Joe was able to use to find anything with was Chrome, which had a link to Yelp—San Francisco on its start tab. Although he found the Help option in Firefox (above), Joe didn't actually find it helpful."...

ReadWrite Hack, July 7; Boriss' Blog, July 6



### [Three skills that enable remote work success](#)

Darrell Etherington writes: "When you're evaluating potential hires for a remote work position, or assessing whether or not an existing office-based team member can make the jump to working from home, what skills do you hold most important? What makes someone good at any given position normally doesn't necessarily make them best suited for a remote work environment. Here are the skills that, irrespective of a specific industry, provide the best ground upon which to build remote work success. It's a short list, and obviously the more of these a candidate has, the better."...

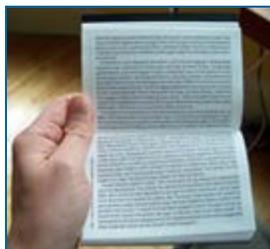
GigaOm, June 20

## Publishing

### [Flipbacks](#)

Jeremy Dibbell writes: "Back in late March I read this *Guardian* [article](#) and got intrigued about [flipbacks](#), a new book format released in June in the U.K. by Hodder and Stoughton. The small, landscape-format books are quite popular in the Netherlands, where they were launched in 2009 (and are known as [dwarssligger](#)). More than a million copies have sold so far in the Netherlands, and judging from the prerelease buzz in the U.K., Hodder and Stoughton may have a winner on their hands." Watch the [video](#) (1:18)....

PhiloBiblos, June 28; *The Guardian* (U.K.), Mar. 20; YouTube, May 4



### [Iriver e-reader for Google eBooks](#)

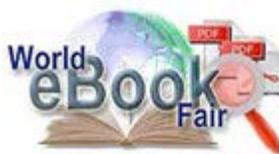
David Carnoy writes: "Back at CES in January, we got an early look at iriver's Story HD, a new e-ink-based product that the company was touting as the world's 'highest-resolution 6-inch e-reader.' Well now, that e-reader is set to launch July 17 with the [Google eBookstore](#) on board, making it the first Google eBooks e-reader. But with more e-ink readers moving to a touch-screen interface and a more



compact design without a keyboard, the Story HD's design faces the problem of seeming marginally dated at launch."...  
CNET news: Crave, July 11

### [World eBook Fair](#)

The World eBook Fair runs from July 4 through August 4 with the goal of providing free public access for a month to 6.5 million e-books.

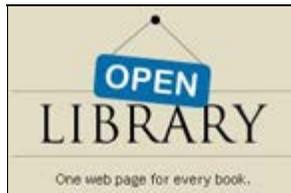


Project Gutenberg and the Internet Archive are both contributing organizations and their collections include light and heavy reading materials, reference books, scientific items, and about 50,000 music entries in addition to the 12,000 that debuted last year....

World eBook Fair

### [A third choice for e-books](#)

Sarah Houghton-Jan writes: "For the most part, right now libraries feel like we have two choices for e-books: paying beaucoup bucks for high-demand eBooks to third-party aggregator companies, or pointing users to the many free e-book websites. But there is a third choice, and it's one that I think can change the landscape of library eBooks forever and for the better: [Open Library.](#)"...



Librarian in Black, July 5

### [Religion and teen books](#)

Maria Kramer writes: "As a former religious teen (and a current religious adult) I can tell you that the treatment of religion in teen literature can be a minefield—opening a book involving Catholic characters or issues, I always wondered if the author would get it right, or if they would insult and belittle the faith that meant so much to me. So now I am issuing a challenge to YA authors thinking of writing books involving religion: Do it! But do it right. Here are my four commandments for making religion in teen books work."...

YALSA: The Hub, July 11

### [The reinvention of literature](#)

Brian Crecente writes: "There's something seemingly scandalous and irreverent about Simon Meek's notion of 'playing through' novels like *Crime and Punishment* or *Wuthering Heights*. But in practice, Meek's work transforming the world's great literature into something experienced on a gaming console is more akin to performance art or theater than it is video games. Meek and Scottish-based TernTV are creating [digital adaptations](#), works that put readers inside the scenes of a classic and ask them to experience the story from the inside out."...



Kotaku, July 11

### [Find reviews on the Book Blogs search engine](#)

Jason Boog writes: "While searching for reviews of a book, it is tough

to sort through all the mixed Amazon reviews, publisher sites, and mainstream critics. The [Book Blogs Search](#) will help you explore the work of hundreds of literary critics online—excluding results from other sites. If you want to include your book blog in the search engine, leave a comment [at this link](#).”...

GalleyCat, July 7

## Actions & Answers

### [Do bad readers affect a love of books?](#)

Betsy Bird writes: “Sometimes, for whatever reason, a parent isn’t particularly good at reading a book aloud. We all know that it is incredibly important for parents to read to their children from a very young age. With that in mind, what I’m about to ask is akin to near treason in the children’s librarian world. When a poor reader reads aloud to a child, can that person do more harm than good in instilling a love of reading?”...

*School Library Journal: A Fuse #8 Production*, July 9

### [Library data: Why bother?](#)

Eric Hellman writes: “Originally, libraries invested in bibliographic data to help people find things. We’re now in the midst of a transition where books are turning into digital things, but cataloging data hasn’t changed a whole lot. At the same time, digital content files are being packed with more and more metadata from the source. To some extent, this metadata is competing for the world’s attention with library-sourced metadata. Libraries have two paths to deal with this situation.”...

Go to Hellman, July 8



### [Database licenses make pirates of us all](#)

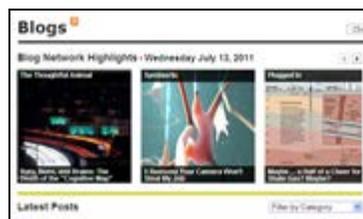
Barbara Fister writes: “The other day, as I was tracking down the text of a classic article in JSTOR to refer to in a blog post, I was struck by the pop-up box that required me to agree to terms of service before it would let me see the article. It reads, in part: ‘You may use content in the JSTOR archive only for your personal, non-commercial use.’ Does that mean I can’t write about that article I looked up in places like this blog? Would it mean I couldn’t use JSTOR in research for a book? D’oh! I’m certain I consulted databases when writing a book that earns me \$100 every 10 years or so.”...

*Inside Higher Ed: Library Babel Fish*, July 11

### [New Scientific American blog network](#)

*Scientific American* launched a new blog network that unites editorial, independent, and group blogs under the magazine’s banner. The community of 60 bloggers provides authoritative information and insights about science and technology, and their roles in global affairs. The blog network, overseen by Blog Editor Bora Zivkovic, who serves as moderator for the community, encourages discussion, and facilitates the exchange of ideas with both the bloggers and *Scientific American* readers. The posts are compiled [here](#) and the blogs are listed and described [here](#)....

*Scientific American*, July 5



### [Seven ways to instantly improve your webinar](#)

Kipp Bodnar writes: "A webinar is a powerful way to educate and spread an idea to a large audience at a relatively low cost. The problem is, presenting to a group of people that you don't know and can't see can often make it challenging to create and deliver an awesome webinar. We've put together some simple tactics to help ensure that your next webinar is your best one ever."...

HubSpot Blog, July 1

## [GPII for patrons with disabilities](#)

Jane Berliss-Vincent writes: "The purpose of the Global Public Inclusive Infrastructure is to ensure that everyone who faces accessibility barriers due to disability, literacy, or aging, regardless of economic resources, can access and use the internet for education, employment, daily living, civic participation, health, and safety. In many cases, patrons with disabilities will already have built their GPII profile when they arrive at your facility, so your library only needs to let it be implemented on your technology and only for the duration of their session." Watch the [video](#) (8:09)....

District Dispatch, July 11; YouTube, Jan. 21



## [Public access computer users](#) (PDF file)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has published a research brief titled "Who's in the Queue? A Demographic Analysis of Public Access Computer Users and Uses in U.S. Public Libraries" by Carlos A. Manjarrez and Kyle Schoombs. It shows that public access computer users largely resemble the general public in terms of age, education, and even in the overall level of home computer and internet access....

Institute of Museum and Library Services *Research Brief*, no. 4, June

## [You let my child check out that?](#)

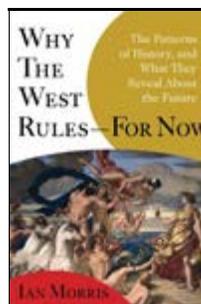
Joyce McIntosh writes: "One short policy can make your life as a librarian infinitely easier. First I remind myself of one line in the Library Bill of Rights, 'A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.' In my conversation with the parent or guardian I respectfully point out that it is his or her responsibility to help the child pick out materials. It really is that simple."...

OIF Blog, July 8

## [Buffalo's Good Books Project](#)

To help University at Buffalo undergraduates separate the good from the bad, the UB Undergraduate Academies and the University Libraries recently launched "The Good Books Project." Its goal was to develop a [list of 48 books](#) that embody the mission and spirit of the university's three undergraduate academies, which focus on civic engagement, global perspectives, and research exploration. The list includes 48 novels, memoirs, books of poetry, histories, books of essays, and social sciences books, many by Asian, African, and Latin American authors....

University at Buffalo, July 8



## [Navigating the world of publishers for author programs](#)

Andrea Lapsley writes: "Finding authors, booking them for your library program, and getting them for a price that your library can afford can

sometimes be a challenge. How do you start? Whom do you contact? What can you expect? What do they expect? When you contact the representative at the publishing house, be open and honest. Here are some of the things to say and expect in that conversation.”...

Programming Librarian

### [CALA launches 2011–2012 theme](#)

The Chinese American Librarians Association inaugurated its 2011–2012 year with the program “Embracing the Changes: Diversity and Global Vision in a Digital Age” at the 2011 ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans. The program is the presidential theme of 2011–2012 CALA President Min Chou (right), librarian at the Frank J. Guarini Library, New Jersey City University....



ALA Office for Diversity, July 12

### [The top three trends in genealogy](#)

Marian Pierre-Louis writes: “I was speaking to a friend recently and she asked me what I thought the top changes were to genealogy in the last few years. That made me pause, as I had never really considered it before. But what a great question! Here are my nominees.”...

Marian’s Roots and Rambles, July 7

### [London’s Bicycle Library](#)

Yuka Yoneda writes: “Not only does the London-based [Bicycle Library](#) promote green transportation, it’s also situated in a converted double-decker bus. Talk about giving recycling a whole new meaning! Inside the adapted bus, there is a library/gallery on the top floor with a showroom on the first level. Londoners who need expert advice on which bike they should rent or buy can speak to an in-house librarian specializing in all things two-wheeled. There’s even an array of actual books pertaining to bicycles on hand for reference.”...



Inhabitat, July 12

### [Theodore Sturgeon papers donated to University of Kansas](#)

A treasure trove of private letters, manuscripts, and other papers by one of the most influential writers of the Golden Age of science fiction—who is credited with inventing with Leonard Nimoy the “live long and prosper” Vulcan phrase for *Star Trek*—has been donated to the University of Kansas by his daughter Noël. The papers of author Theodore Sturgeon will be housed at KU’s Kenneth Spencer Research Library, which also is home to the Center for the Study of Science Fiction. Sturgeon’s writing had a strong influence on 1960s counterculture....

University of Kansas, July 8

### [How to clean an e-book screen](#)

J. D. Biersdorfer writes: “Gently wiping the screen with a soft, lint-free microfiber cloth should remove most of the smudges and fingerprints. You can usually find microfiber cleaning cloths at stores that sell electronics, cameras, or other gear sporting an LCD screen. A microfiber cloth can be used with e-book readers that use the black-and-white E Ink display, as well as most tablets with glossy color screens.”...



New York Times, June 29

## [There would be no \*History Detectives\* without libraries](#)

PBS's show [\*History Detectives\*](#) kicked off its 9th season this past June 21. Series Producer Jennifer Silverman took some time with I Love Libraries to share insights on how the show and each mystery comes together. She also shared how libraries and librarians are almost as essential to the show as the solutions to the origin of mysterious artifacts it features each week....

I Love Libraries



## [Smaller is beautiful](#)

Ray Lyons writes: "A recent *American Libraries* news item titled '[The Smartest Readers](#)' presents some simple library rankings based on that stalwart library measure, circulation per capita. Rankings like these are, at least to me, a reminder of a perennial conundrum concerning the meaning of per capita library measures, but if statistics-based advocacy is our aim, we can put a better foot forward by advertising the performance of *smaller libraries* more so than larger ones. As a group, *smaller libraries* almost always outshine the largest libraries on per capita measures."...

Lib(rary) Performance, June 17

## [OMG Anime Club](#)

Abby Johnson writes: "The teen librarian at our neighboring library system has been encouraging me for months to start an anime program and we finally got it going. All the awesome things she told me about it turned out to be true: It drew in kids that I've never seen before. It drew in high schoolers. It drew in boys. It was super easy to run. I have a feeling that the anime club kids are going to be loyal and keep showing up. The program basically ran itself."...

Abby the Librarian, July 6



## [We want a librarian on \*Glee\*](#)

Keith Curry Lance writes: "Please take the [We Want a Librarian on \*Glee\* Poll](#). The crisis facing school librarianship suggests a need for a more accurate and positive portrayal in popular culture. Let's try this strategy. Remember, this is how Betty White got to host *Saturday Night Live*. Spread the word."...

Colorado Libraries, July 2

## [Early library book trucks](#)

Larry Nix writes: "The Library Bureau's *Classified Illustrated Catalog* of 1886 described the library book truck as 'The most useful single device ever made for an active library.' An image of its book truck, item 21a in the catalog, is shown on the right. Starting with the Library Bureau, book trucks (also called book carts) were sold and continue to be sold by most library supply companies. Gaylord Brothers included 'The Truck Beautiful' in its 1933 catalog of Library Furniture and Supplies."...

Library History Buff Blog, July 12



## [Lost in the Stacks](#)

*Lost in the Stacks* is the one and only

Research Library Rock'n'Roll show, airing exclusively on Atlanta's WREK-FM station. Ameet Doshi and Charlie Bennett (right) from the Georgia Institute of Technology Library pick a theme and free associate for an hour of music, interviews, and library talk every Friday for lunch. You'll hear indie rock, pop rock, alt rock, New Wave, and the occasional oddity in between interviews with students, faculty, and librarians. [Each show](#) only stays up for one week....  
WREK-FM, Atlanta



### [Library Renewal brochure and song](#)

David Lee King writes: "Our first Library Renewal [video](#) (3:23) features both our new brochure/zine and the first song made for Library Renewal. You can get a copy of the zine as a thank you gift for your donation to Library Renewal by going [here](#). The song is performed by the Portland band Lackthereof, and Michael Porter and I are grateful for their support. Find out more about [Library Renewal](#)."...



David Lee King, July 12; YouTube, June 16

### [Card catalog concerto](#)

At the Cleveland Institute of Art, students got creative and transformed boxes of catalog cards into an orchestra of noisemakers. Freshman Christopher Ramos recorded the sounds, manipulated them, and created this sound piece. Then, using photos by Librarian Cristine Rom and photographer Rob Muller, junior Michaela Lynch produced this [video](#) (3:49) featuring the institute's Gund Library....  
YouTube, June 20



[Go back to the Top](#)

# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 20, 2011

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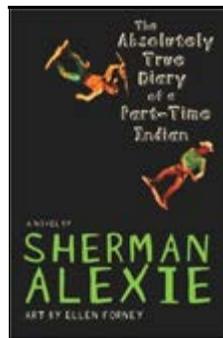
american libraries  
BUYERS GUIDE

## American Libraries Online

### [Richland schools rescind Alexie ban](#)

The board of the Richland (Wash.) School District reversed its ban on Sherman Alexie's *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*. The 4–1 vote on July 11 to put the young adult novel about a Native American teen back onto the district's reading lists rescinded a 3–2 decision June 14 to remove it. Two board members who had originally ruled against the book later said their votes had been a mistake and promised that in the future they will read every book they are to vote on....

AL: Censorship Watch, July 18



### [How one library digitized its community's newspapers](#)

Allison Quam writes: "The [Winona Newspaper Project](#), an open, noncommercial digital archive, is providing access to a number of historic periodicals of Winona, Minnesota, a mid-sized city in the southeastern part of the state. The project is an indispensable resource for Winona State University's Darrell W. Krueger Library and university faculty and students and is unique in that it has been financed exclusively through funds from the library's acquisitions budget. The digital archive contains over 385,000 pages encompassing 116 years of reporting by four newspapers."...

*American Libraries* feature



### [Libraries in the LEED](#)

Jacquelyn Marie Erdman writes: "Green building has come into its own. On February 3, President Obama announced his Better Buildings Initiative, designed to reduce energy use among commercial buildings by 20%. Currently, all federal buildings newly built or renovated must achieve at least a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Efficient Design) Silver rating. Working as knowledge exchange coordinator at the LEED Platinum-certified U.S. Green Building Council headquarters in Washington, D.C., I find I feel energized and



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UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF LIBRARY  
AND INFORMATION SCIENCE



motivated by the environment.”...

AL: Green Your Library, July 19

### [A Bavarian librarian in California](#)

Angela Guntner (right) writes: “After touring libraries throughout the German state of Bavaria as part of a library-visiting program dealing with information literacy training, I decided to extend that rewarding experience by taking part in the German–U.S. Librarian Exchange Opportunity cosponsored by ALA and Berufsverband Information Bibliothek. I chose the University of California at San Diego Libraries as my preferred destination for a visit of four weeks in April and May 2011.”...

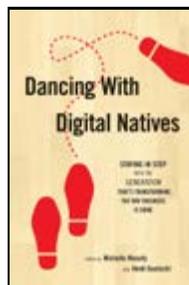
AL: Global Reach, July 19



### [Librarian’s Library: Conquering the digital divide](#)

Karen Muller writes: “‘The digital divide gets bridged in public libraries everywhere in America,’ said Mary Dempsey, Chicago Public Library commissioner, as she announced the expansion of a popular digital media center for youth in June. Recent books provide insights on how to bridge the divide, explain why we need to, and offer some research to help make decisions.”...

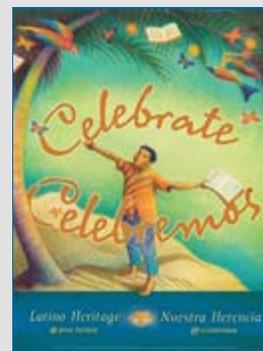
*American Libraries* column, July/August



### [Fire suppression system](#)

In an effort to draw awareness to the importance of preservation, 3M celebrated National Preservation Month in May by recognizing efforts by the State Library of Pennsylvania (right) in Harrisburg and the Daughters of the Republic of Texas Library located in the Alamo in San Antonio. Both libraries use the Ansul Sapphire Fire Suppression System charged with 3M Novec 1230 fluid that will not harm rare materials in the event of a fire or accidental discharge....

AL: Solutions and Services, July 15



### [Celebrate Latino Heritage Month.](#)

September 15–October 15, or year-round.

This beautiful poster features art from *My Name is Gabito: The Life of Gabriel García Márquez*, illustrated by Raul Colón and written by Monica Brown.

**NEW! From ALA Graphics.**



## ALA News

### [E-books, young professionals, and reinventing ALA](#)

Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels writes: “ALA’s Executive Board and governing Council spent much of their time during Annual Conference in New Orleans discussing—and acting on—a series of recommendations from five special task forces charged with exploring important issues facing libraries and the Association. The Equitable Access to Digital Content Task Force has been studying the potential solutions in libraries for improved electronic content access, distribution, preservation, and infrastructure in an increasingly digital environment.”...

*American Libraries* column, July/August

### **New this week** in *American Libraries*



### [Winona Newspaper Project](#)

### [Librarian’s Library](#)

## [Apply to become a 2012 Emerging Leader](#)

[Apply](#) by August 1 to become one of 75 ALA [2012 Emerging Leaders](#). The program is designed to enable library workers to get on the fast track to ALA and professional leadership. Participants are given the opportunity to work on a variety of projects, network with peers, and gain an understanding of the ALA structure and wide range of activities....

ALA Student Membership Blog, July 19



## [Should you apply for Emerging Leaders?](#)

Abby Johnson writes: "Are you thinking about applying for [ALA's Emerging Leaders](#) program? The deadline is fast approaching (August 1), so I wanted to share my thoughts on the program. As you know, I was a member of the [2011 class](#) of Emerging Leaders. I had fabulous mentors who were hands-off enough to let us take ownership of our project, but constantly available for questions and feedback. So here are a few of my thoughts."...

Abby the Librarian, July 13

## [Free WebJunction webinar on IF and Web 2.0](#)

The Office for Intellectual Freedom is collaborating with WebJunction and ALA TechSource on a free webinar, "[Finding a Legal Comfort Zone on the Web](#)," which will be offered on July 27 at 2 p.m. Eastern Time. The event will focus on best practices for libraries to engage with the public online, take advantage of user-generated content, and protect intellectual freedom principles. Eli Neiburger and Barbara Jones will be the presenters....

OIF Blog, July 19

## ["Visions of the Universe" traveling exhibit extended](#)

The ALA Public Programs Office announced that nine additional public libraries will host "[Visions of the Universe: Four Centuries of Discovery](#)," a traveling exhibition developed in cooperation with the Space Telescope Science Institute Office of Public Outreach and the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory to celebrate astronomy and its contributions to society and culture. The exhibit will travel to the nine additional selected libraries from September 2011 through June 2012....

Public Programs Office, July 19



## [Connect with your kids campaign materials](#)

Connect with your kids @ your library, ALA's new campaign that encourages parents to spend more quality time with their children at their library, is offering the popular family guides and bookmarks to libraries. There is a limited supply available. The concise, easy-to-read guide offers tips for parents and caregivers on spending quality time with their children and teens at their library. Librarians can receive 200 guides and bookmarks. To obtain the materials, send a \$15 check to ALA/PIO to cover shipping and handling....

Public Information Office, July 19



## [Webinar on Library Support Staff Certification](#)

### [Censorship Watch](#)

### [Currents](#)

### [Perpetual Beta](#)

### [Inside Scoop](#)

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

### [Green Your Library](#)

### [Solutions and Services](#)

### [AL Focus](#)

## **Great Libraries of the World**



### [National Library of the Argentine Republic](#)

Buenos Aires, Argentina. The library was established in 1810 as the city's public library. In 1884, it redefined its mission and became the national depository library. It is currently housed in a T-shaped brutalist concrete structure designed in 1961 by architects Clorindo Testa, Francisco Bullrich, and Alicia Cazzaniga. Completed in 1992, it stands on the site of the Quinta Unzué palace, the residence of President Juan Perón and his wife Eva, and is surrounded by plazas and parks.

The Library Support Staff Certification Program, a national certification program that allows library support staff to demonstrate their competencies and be certified by ALA, will offer a free, hour-long informational [webinar](#) on Tuesday, July 26....

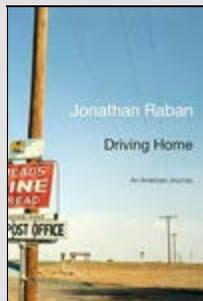
ALA—Allied Professional Association, July 18

# Booklist ONLINE

## Featured review: Travel

Raban, Jonathan. *Driving Home: An American Journey*. Sept. 2011. 512p. Pantheon, hardcover (978-0-307-37991-7).

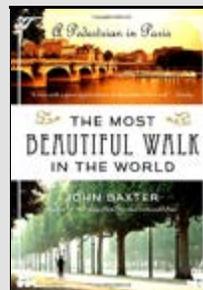
Literary success mandates collecting an author's best. This volume picks from Raban's past two decades of production. Born in Britain but living in Seattle since 1990, Raban writes in a variety of genres, all of which are represented here: introductions to sailing classics, travel reportage, literary criticism, the personal essay, and political commentary. Sampling some of everything, readers may gladly follow Raban for layers beneath the surfaces of his subjects, becoming immersed in such matters as the history of landscapes (especially those of Washington and Montana), the perils and pleasures of sailing, and assessments of authors. (Raban's book reviews are outstanding exercises in the genre.)...



## Around the world in 80 minutes: Part 1

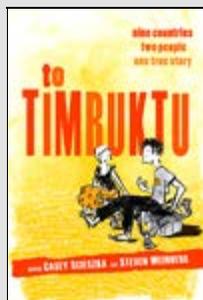
Neil Hollands writes: "The staff book group here at Williamsburg (Va.) Regional Library took on the theme of travel in a meeting today. One thing that I love about thematic discussions is that they allow consideration of books and ideas that wouldn't work as single book discussion titles. It's makes for a much more diverse meeting, as our travel discussion shows. Cheryl, an inveterate walker, brought two books: John Baxter's memoir of giving walking tours in Paris, *The Most Beautiful Walk in the World* and Richard Jones's *Walking Haunted London*." Be sure to read [Part 2](#)....

Book Group Buzz, July 15, 19



## To Timbuktu

Cindy Dobrez writes: "I am soothing my travel lust with literature, and *To Timbuktu: Nine Countries, Two People, One True Story* (Roaring Brook 2011) is just the ticket. I admire adventurous people and Casey Scieszka (daughter of Jon Scieszka) and Steven Weinberg (the artist who illustrates their journey) spin a good tale about their travels." Lynn Rutan responds: "Clearly these two loved their travel experiences but just as clearly, we have a good sense of the reality of the places and a taste of daily



The library features a large newspaper archive, photo library, map collection, and rare books that include a first edition of *Don Quixote*.



## National Library of Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The largest collection in Latin America with some 9 million items, the library was founded in 1810 after Napoleon's invasion of Iberia when the Portuguese royal family transferred its court and 60,000 of its books to Brazil. Although King John VI took many of the holdings back to Portugal when he returned in 1821, the remaining books in the royal library were acquired by the newly independent state of Brazil in 1825. The current neoclassical building with its marble staircases and columns opened on the library's 100th anniversary in 1910. In the lobby are two murals by American artist George Biddle and two bronze bas reliefs by his wife, sculptress Helena Sardeau Biddle, given to Brazil by the United States in 1942.

**This AL Direct feature** showcases 250 libraries

life all laced with some great humor. I adored this book and the pages seemed to just fly by.”...

Bookends, July 18

### [Upcoming Booklist webinars](#)

*Booklist's* free webinar series continues to attract crowds of attendees as editors host leading practitioners, authors and publishers' representatives at least once a month on a variety of topics that offer 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 you can also find information about upcoming offerings. Webinars in July and August will be on the topics of book groups, math and science, and top YA titles....

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

## Division News

### [Preregister now for PLA 2012](#)

PLA is now offering preregistration for its upcoming conference, [PLA 2012](#), which will take place March 13–17, 2012, in Philadelphia. Preregistration is for general conference registration only. Registrants will be able to sign up for housing, preconferences, and meal events beginning September 7. [Preregistration rates](#) are the same as Early Bird rates for PLA and Pennsylvania Library Association members and Advance Registration rates for ALA members and nonmembers....

PLA, July 18



### [PLA Results Boot Camp in Nashville](#)

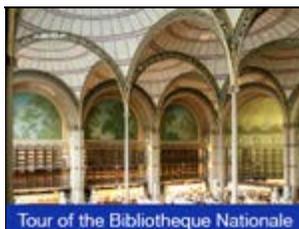
PLA is offering a sixth Results Boot Camp at the Nashville (Tenn.) Public Library October 18–22. [“Results Are What Matters: Management Tools and Techniques to Improve Library Services and Programs”](#) is a four-and-a-half-day intensive education program designed around PLA's Results series, and is intended to offer public library management training not provided in library school. The deadline for [applications](#) is September 16....

PLA, July 14

### [ASCLA in Paris](#)

Library fans, Francophiles, and travelers of all types are invited to ASCLA's Trip to Paris, an exciting travel opportunity hosted by ASCLA President Norma Blake that includes a tour of the Bibliothèque Nationale, the American Library in Paris, and other attractions, April 29–May 6, 2012. The package includes six nights at the Westminster Hotel, breakfasts, dinners, and various tours. A portion of the trip's proceeds benefit ASCLA. A deposit is due by August 1 to reserve a spot....

ASCLA Blog, July 20



### [Two new online RUSA opportunities in August](#)

RUSA has two new online learning opportunities available in August

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 **ALA JobLIST**

### [Multidisciplinary Instruction Librarian.](#)

Bobst Library, New York University, New York City. The New York University Division of Libraries is seeking a librarian to address the growing demand for intermediate-level undergraduate research skills instruction. This new tenure-track position is a member of the Instructional and Undergraduate Services Department and works closely with subject librarians and the libraries-wide instruction team to develop a framework for transitioning upper-division undergraduates

that are open to all interested participants: an August 2 [webinar](#) on "Introduction to Screencasting for Online Tutorials and Reference," and an online "[Beyond Compliance](#)" course (August 1–26, with three scheduled meeting times) designed to address the virtual and media-related obstacles disabled patrons encounter while accessing library services....

RUSA Blog, July 20

### [Storytellers will spin tales at AASL conference](#)

AASL has announced the lineup for its [5th Storytelling Festival](#), which will take place at its 15th National Conference and Exhibition in Minneapolis this October. Master storytellers Jerry Blue (right), Dianne de las Casas, and Judi Moreillon will share their stories on the evening of October 27. "The Storytelling Festival gives attendees a chance to lose themselves into a world of make-believe, but also take away tips on how to present stories in a fun and engaging way," said AASL President Carl Harvey....

AASL, July 19



### [Beauregard-Keyes House now a Literary Landmark](#)

ALTAFF dedicated the Beauregard-Keyes House in New Orleans as a Literary Landmark in honor of Frances Parkinson Keyes, who made the house at 1113 Chartres Street her winter residence from 1945 until her death in 1970. The dedication took place on June 27 during the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans....

ALTAFF, July 19



## Awards

### [2011 RUSA STARS–Atlas Mentoring Award](#)

Micquel Little (right), access services librarian at St. John Fisher College, is the 2011 recipient of the RUSA STARS–Atlas Mentoring Award, an ALA Annual Conference travel grant designated for those who are new to the field of interlibrary loan. The \$1,000 grant is sponsored by Atlas Systems and the RUSA Sharing and Transforming Access to Resources Section. Little has been actively involved in her local resource-sharing community through the Information Delivery Services (IDS) Project....

RUSA, July 14



### [AASL awards season opens](#)

AASL's prestigious awards program will offer more than \$50,000 in awards to division members in 2012. AASL's 10 awards recognize excellence and showcase best practices in the school library field in categories that include research, collaboration, leadership, and innovation. AASL personal members are required to fill out applications using the [online awards database](#)....

AASL, July 19

### [Round tables support Spectrum Scholarship](#)

from basic research skills to discipline-specific library research methods. The role involves program and curriculum development, implementation and assessment; a significant teaching load; and outreach and promotion to faculty and students using multiple avenues of communication....



@ [More jobs...](#)

## Digital Library of the Week



The [International Jazz Collections](#) is a notable group of digital libraries at the University of Idaho. The IJC features the papers, photographs, and videos of the legendary Lionel Hampton along with other jazz notables such as Leonard Feather, Lee Morse, Joe Williams, Dizzy Gillespie, Conte Candoli, and Al Grey. The archives are browsable by keyword and organized into individual collections.

## program

The [Intellectual Freedom Round Table](#) and the [New Members Round Table](#) have announced their support of the ALA Spectrum Scholarship program. IFRT donated \$500 and NMRT has given \$1,000. Established in 1997, the Spectrum Initiative is ALA's national diversity and recruitment effort....

Spectrum Initiative, July 19

## Worlds of Words grant applications

Worlds of Words has announced the availability of grants of \$1,000 for literacy communities who want to explore the use of global literature to build international understanding. Twelve literacy communities will be funded from September 2011 to May 2012. These communities can be comprised of elementary educators or middle and/or high school educators. Proposals must be [submitted](#) by August 15....

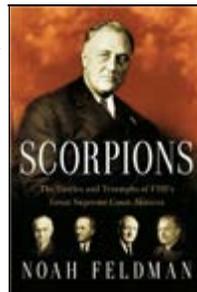
ALA Connect, July 19



## ABA Silver Gavel Awards

The American Bar Association presented the winners of its 54th Silver Gavel Awards for Media and the Arts July 19 at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. The awards recognize outstanding work that fosters the American public's understanding of law and the legal system. The winner in the book category was Noah Feldman's *Scorpions: The Battles and Triumphs of FDR's Great Supreme Court Justices* (Twelve/Hachette, 2010)....

American Bar Association, May 18



## Seen Online

### Chin steps up pressure on Google Books deal

A Manhattan federal judge set a September 15 deadline for Google, authors, and publishers to come up with a legal plan to create the world's largest digital library, expressing frustration that the six-year-old dispute has not been resolved. At a July 19 hearing, U.S. District Judge Denny Chin said if the dispute is not "resolved or close to resolved in principle" by mid-September, he will set a "relatively tight schedule" for the parties to prepare for a possible trial....

Reuters, July 19

### Academic libraries abandon Big Deal subscription packages

Jennifer Howard writes: "In late 2008, the University of Oregon library faced a financial double punch. The recession meant belt tightening across the university at a time when the rising cost of journal subscriptions had already put a strain on the library's budget. Something had to give. That something was Oregon's so-called Big Deals with two heavyweight publishers, Elsevier and John Wiley and Sons. Big Deals provide large collections of journal articles but also



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

**"Closing libraries is the behaviour of a debased culture. Libraries are not just a source of books. Many of us feel that they symbolise something more, that Britain is a civilised place. And when part of our civilisation is being destroyed, we have to stand up against the barbarians."**

—*His Dark Materials* trilogy author Philip Pullman, [commenting](#) on efforts by local British councils to close their libraries, *Daily Telegraph* (U.K.), July 20.

**"Today I was in the library with nothing to do. I thought I'd go and grab a *Where's Waldo?* book and waste ten minutes. I couldn't find it."**

—MyLifeIsAverage blog, [#426361](#), Jan. 2010.

@ [More quotes...](#)

lock institutions into multiyear subscriptions at rising prices that many libraries say they can no longer afford.”...

*Chronicle of Higher Education*, July 17

## [Open-access advocate arrested for huge JSTOR download](#)

A respected Harvard researcher and crusader for open access to scholarly data has been arrested in Boston on charges related to computer hacking. A federal indictment unsealed in Boston July 19 charges that Aaron Swartz broke into the computer networks at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to gain access to JSTOR, a service for distributing scholarly articles online, and downloaded 4.8 million articles and other documents (nearly the entire library) [last fall and winter](#). He faces up to 35 years in prison and \$1 million in fines for wire fraud, computer fraud, and unlawfully obtaining information from a protected computer. Karen Coyle comments on the hazards of [unequal access](#)....

*New York Times*, July 19; JSTOR, July 19; Coyle's InFormation, July 20

## [Monday hours restored at 73 L.A. branches](#)

All 73 Los Angeles Public Library branches were open for business July 18, the first Monday they have been open in about a year, but the budget crunch that prompted the Library Department to scale back hours has not abated sufficiently to allow hiring back laid-off librarians. Since 2009, the department has lost nearly 300 librarians and other staff—about 27% of its employees—due to budget tightening and early retirement incentives. Measure L, passed in March, funneled about \$13 million to the Library Department for the fiscal year that started July 1....

*Los Angeles Daily News*, July 18

## [Oakland Public Library escapes austerity cuts](#) (PDF file)

With a huge sigh of relief, the Oakland (Calif.) Public Library learned that the city's budget for the 2011–12 Fiscal Year will not affect the library's budget significantly. As a result, it will not be forced to close any branches or reduce its hours of service. The library received strong community support as various budget options were discussed by city council in the weeks leading up to the June 30 budget deadline....

Oakland (Calif.) Public Library, July 15



## [Landau faces new scrutiny in documents theft](#)

Barry H. Landau (left), author and well-known presidential memorabilia collector, was arrested July 9 at the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore and charged with stealing historical documents, including ones signed by Abraham Lincoln. Lee Arnold, senior director of the library at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, said that Landau had visited 17 times between December and May, along with Jason Savedoff, who is also in custody. Landau's attorney, Steven D. Silverman, said his client had [no idea](#) what his associate (Savedoff) was doing....

*New York Times*, July 16; Associated Press, July 13



## [Providence Community Library supporters rally](#)

Boosters and employees of Providence (R.I.) Community Library, which operates the city's nine branch libraries, held a brief pep rally

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[Cohousing Gains Ground by Wanda Urbanska](#)



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[Classic Film for Movie Night: Bicycle Thief](#)

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School Library Association of New Zealand, Annual Conference, Auckland, July 17–20, at:

July 19 to repeat their demand that the city be given ownership of the branches. The owner of seven of the buildings is the Providence Public Library, which continues to own and operate the central library downtown. The sticking point continues to be PPL's insistence on compensation for the real estate before title is transferred to the city....

*Providence (R.I.) Journal*, July 20

### [Dedham Public Library helps out local school libraries](#)

If students won't come to the public library, the public library must go to the students. That was the sentiment behind the Dedham (Mass.) Public Library trustees' decision July 11 to purchase 872 young adult books for the Dedham middle and high school libraries. The books will remain the property of the public library, but students will be able to access them without making a special trip. The books were chosen by school officials, and encompass a range of topics....

*Dedham (Mass.) Transcript*, July 12

### [Librarian to kids: Change the world with \\$5](#)

At the end of the school year, students at Pleasant Lea Elementary School in Lee's Summit, Missouri, received \$5 each with the instruction that they should try to change the world with it. The idea of going into the summer with five dollars and a mission to accomplish came from school librarian Beth Smith (right). She retired this year and wanted to leave the children with one final lesson. She raised \$3,000 for the project and then distributed the money evenly to each student....

WDAF-TV, Kansas City, Mo., July 18



### [Cleveland Public Library offers free MP3 downloads](#)

Cleveland (Ohio) Public Library took a giant step into the world of digital music this week, offering its cardholders legal, free music downloads. With the July 18 launch of CPL's [MyTunes](#) (in partnership with Freegal Music Service), users can download up to three songs per week and 150 songs per year from Sony's catalog of more than a million songs. The library is partnering with the nearby Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Museum to promote music and programs and give users a more interactive experience....

*Cleveland Plain Dealer*, July 18



### [Toronto residents oppose library closures](#)

As debate about Toronto's finances heats up, voters in the city have a clear message for city council when it comes to the Toronto Public Library: "Don't close our libraries and don't privatize them." The message emerged from a Forum Research poll conducted July 4 that found that 74% of Toronto residents disagree with the idea of closing library branches as a way of solving the city's deficit, and 54% disagree "strongly." When it was their own local branch that was threatened, the proportion of those who "strongly disagree" increased to 64%....

Toronto (Ont.) Public Library Workers Union, July 13



### [#slanza11](#)

San Diego Comic-Con, July 21–24, at:

[#comiccon](#),  
[#comiccon2011](#)

American Association of Law Libraries, Annual Conference, Philadelphia, July 23–26, at:

[#aall11](#)

Central New York Library Resources Council, Unconference, Syracuse, July 25, at:

[#libcamp](#)

Library Day in the Life, July 25–31, at:

[#libday7](#)

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

[amlibraries](#)

## Calendar

### **Aug. 1–3:** [Association for Computing Machinery](#)

Conference on Bioinformatics, Computational Biology, and Biomedicine, Hilton Suites Chicago–Magnificent Mile.

### **Sept. 13–17:** [International Symposium on Electronic Theses and Dissertations](#)

Cape Town, South Africa.

### **Sept. 15–18:** [Reforma](#), National Conference IV, Denver, Colorado. "Elevating Latino Services to a Higher Level: Juntos in the Mile High City."

### [Fight to save U.K. libraries goes to court](#)

Library closures across the United Kingdom were challenged for the first time July 19 at the High Court of Justice in London. Campaigners are seeking a ruling that decisions to close six libraries in the London borough of Brent are legally flawed. The Brent case is expected to be followed by similar challenges to library cuts proposed by Gloucestershire and Somerset county councils, and on the Isle of Wight. Playwright Alan Bennett launched a scathing attack when he spoke at a fundraiser to save Kensal Rise library, one of the six under threat in Brent. He compared the loss to "child abuse."...

*The Independent* (U.K.), July 19

### [Illiteracy thrives in England, while libraries languish](#)

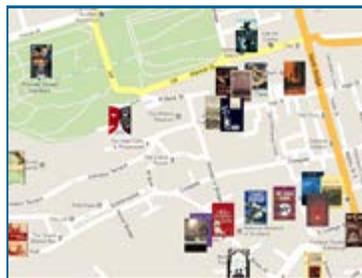
According to CILIP, the professional body of British librarians, one in six adults in the United Kingdom is functionally illiterate. This means they have literacy levels below that expected of the average 11-year-old. Good news, at the end of FY2011 the government awarded a grant of £110 million to be used to boost the attainment of the poorest children. At the same time, more than 10% of the country's libraries are currently under threat, in addition to those that have already seen closure....

*The Periscope Post*, July 18

### [Scottish librarians produce literary map of Edinburgh](#)

Most Scots know that Edinburgh is the city that connects Detective Inspector John Rebus (a character of author Ian Rankin) with *Trainspotting's* Mark Renton (Irvine Welsh) and Maisie the Morningside Cat (Aileen Paterson). But many will not know that it also connects the choir girls in Alan Warner's novel *The Sopranos* with Emma and Dexter from David Nicholls's *One Day*. City librarians have now produced an [interactive literary map](#) of the Scottish capital, detailing books that are either set in or inspired by Edinburgh....

*The Scotsman* (Edinburgh), July 14



[Go back to the Top](#)

## Tech Talk

### [How to charge your gadgets with renewable energy](#)

Peter Rojas writes: "Yes, there are actually a handful of different options out there, most of which will not only let you tap into a renewable resource like wind or the sun to charge your gadgets, they will also help you keep topped up while on the go. Just keep in mind that it can take a long time to charge gadgets this way. Prices and portability vary, but here are a few of your choices."...

*Inhabitat*, July 19



### [How to set up a file-syncing Dropbox clone you control](#)

Melanie Pinola writes: "File syncing is a godsend when you work on multiple computers or devices and want to make sure you have the most up-to-date files wherever you log in.



### **Sept. 18–20:**

#### [Society for Scholarly Publishing](#), IN

Meeting, Hotel Palomar / Waterview Conference Center, Arlington, Virginia. "Globalization, Innovation, and Collaboration."

### **Sept. 23–26:**

#### [Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums](#),

conference, Hawaii Convention Center, Honolulu.

### **Sept. 29–**

### **Oct. 2:**

#### [LITA National Forum](#),

Hyatt Regency at The Arch, St. Louis. "Rivers of Data, Currents of Change."

### **Oct. 9–13:**

#### [American Society for Information Science and Technology](#),

Annual Meeting, New Orleans Marriott. "Bridging the Gulf: Communication and Information in Society, Technology, and Work."

### **Nov. 2–5:**

#### [Charleston Conference](#),

Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition, Francis Marion Hotel, Charleston, South Carolina.

@ [More...](#)

### **Contact Us**

American Libraries Direct

While [online services like Dropbox](#) may be the most convenient options, there are plenty of reasons you may want to 'roll your own cloud' and sync your files to your own web server or just on your local network. Here we'll detail how to set up a Dropbox clone."...

Lifehacker, July 7, 14

### [iPad app teaches open-mindedness](#)

Adam Ostrow writes: "When artist Raghava KK had two children, he decided it was time for a new approach to storytelling. That approach manifests itself in *Pop-It at Home*, an iPad app that tries to teach open-mindedness to toddlers. The story, which is about things that little children do with their parents like take a bath, play, or change clothes, is notable for its use of a homosexual couple as parents. However, its message comes in that those characters can be changed to a lesbian couple or a heterosexual couple upon shaking the iPad." Watch the [video](#) (1:06)....

Mashable, July 14; Vimeo, July 12



### [Zip2fix extracts files from damaged zip archives](#)

Alan Henry writes: "Spending a half-hour slowly downloading a huge Zip archive only to discover it's corrupt is a pain. Avoid it with Zip2Fix, a utility that won't fix corrupt archives, but will extract any and all undamaged files from it. Open the app and tell it which archive to run against, and the app will extract as much from it as possible while avoiding the corrupt data. The app is new, so keep in mind that your mileage may vary. Zip2Fix is Windows only, but it's completely free."...

Lifehacker, July 14

### [10 free online image-editing tools](#)

Richard Byrne writes: "One of the challenges students face when creating multimedia projects for school assignments is finding images that are appropriate in both content and size for the project on which they are working. Here are 10 tools that students can use to alter images to fit with the goals of their multimedia projects. These tools range from simple resizing tools to an image-editing suite that is trying to challenge Photoshop."...

Free Technology for Teachers, July 13



### [Still awesome after all these years: Eight excellent free downloads](#)

Rick Broida writes: "There's nothing glamorous about old software apps, which just get less and less useful the older they get—right? Not always. Some programs are like garden perennials, returning each year with fresh blooms and stronger stems. Let's look at eight of these blossoming apps, all of which are more awesome than ever, and all of which are, amazingly, free."...

PC World, July 13



### [Eight productivity-boosting gadgets for media junkies](#)

Amber Singleton Riviere writes: "Some gadgets help us be more productive, some are just cool, and others are both. This list has media gadgets that can help you

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



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organize and streamline your work, while at the same time letting you have a little fun with technology. For the Mac user, the [Magic Mouse](#) (right) is a multitouch mouse that is itself a button that allows you to click anywhere on its surface to scroll, swipe, and click. Simply brush along the surface of the mouse to scroll, or use two fingers to swipe left and right and flip through pages or photos.”...

GigaOm, July 14

### [Smartphones could make keys obsolete](#)

Front pockets and purses are slowly being emptied of one of civilization’s most basic and enduring tools: the key. It’s being swallowed by the cellphone. New technology lets smartphones unlock hotel, office, and house doors and open garages and even car doors. The phone simply sends a signal through the internet and a converter box to a deadbolt or door knob. Other systems use internal company networks, like General Motors’ OnStar system, to unlock car doors. But having a phone double for entry or ignition does not yet feel fail-safe....

*New York Times*, July 3

### [Top 10 ways to speed up your boot time](#)

Whitson Gordon writes: “If there’s one thing everybody dreads, it’s rebooting their computer. It may only take a minute or two, but it can seem like forever. Here are our top 10 tweaks that’ll make your computer boot a little faster.”...

Gizmodo, July 18

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## **Publishing**

### [Hands-on with the iriver Story HD](#)

Casey Johnston writes: “The iriver Story HD is getting billed as the first Google eBooks-oriented reader. The construction and interface is very similar to the latest Kindle, and it starts at the same price point of \$140.



But the Story HD has some features that let it stand apart from the Kindle in a favorable way. Witness the way scrolling wraps around when going through lists and the fantastic HD screen. However, some key features are missing, like the ability to search through books and options to change line spacing, fonts, and margins.”...

*Ars Technica*, July 15

### [Textbook rentals come to the Kindle](#)

Audrey Watters writes: “Amazon unveiled a [Kindle Textbook Rental](#), giving students the ability to rent, instead of buy, digital textbooks. Amazon says that ‘tens of thousands’ of titles from some of the major textbook publishers—including John Wiley and Sons, Elsevier, and Taylor and Francis—will be available for this school year. Renting textbooks has become a popular alternative to buying recently, with companies offering students the ability to rent books just for the duration of a semester. Amazon’s new program is similar, but with the added bonus of being digital rather than physical.”...

ReadWriteWeb, July 18

## [Five questions to ask when evaluating apps and e-books](#)

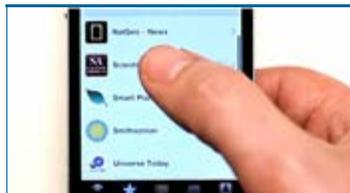
Kiera Parrott writes: "When it comes to physical books and materials, librarians are confident reviewers and collectors. The good news is that many of the same critical skills used to evaluate physical media are transferable when evaluating digital media. E-books and apps, however, do present new challenges as well as new possibilities. It can be helpful to go in armed with a simple set of criteria for evaluation."...

ALSC Blog, July 18

## [Scribd's new Float reader app](#)

Sarah Perez writes: "Document hosting and sharing site Scribd is venturing into the mobile space with a new iPhone reader app called [Float](#). Scribd aggregates content from news sites, magazines, blogs, and Scribd.com as well as from your social networks like Facebook and Twitter. You can also save items you find online to read later in Float, with the use of a specialized browser [bookmarklet](#). But what's best about this app is the way it reformats the text for the small screen. The 'floating text' reading experience, which gives the app its name, reflows text originally formatted for the web for better reading on mobile devices."...

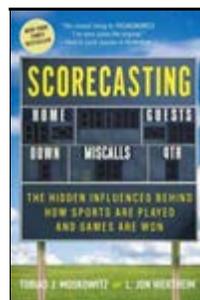
ReadWriteWeb, July 19; YouTube, July 18



## [Five winning summer sports books](#)

Linda Holmes writes: "Those who prefer a box score and a beer in the bleachers might be happy to settle into the summer with a few good reads. A good sports book might drag you out onto the field or into the locker room; it might go spelunking into the brain of a master or visit the world of the fan. In these five offerings, baseball is a hero's playground and a parent's testing ground, basketball bumps up uncomfortably against heroin addiction, sports journalism undergoes one of its most important transitions, and the sports geek's endless need to understand flowers in full."...

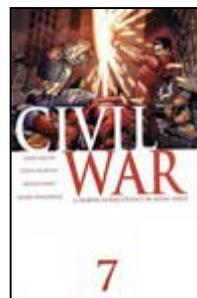
National Public Radio, July 20



## [Graphic novels in education](#)

Jesse Karp writes: "Having written [Graphic Novels in Your School Library](#) based on my work as a school librarian, I've been thinking about ways to apply the graphic novel format to the purposes of education. It is not much of a stretch to bring works like Shaun Tan's *The Arrival* into the classroom or school media center to explore nuances of immigration, or Gene Yang's *American Born Chinese* to brew a discussion about racism and diversity, or to use Mark Millar and Steve McNiven's *Civil War* to ignite a complex debate about the heated topic of privacy vs. security with high school students."...

ALA Editions Blog, July 18

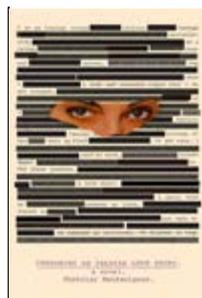


## [25 book covers that look back](#)

Emily Temple writes: "Half the fun of browsing is coming across books you've never heard of and picking them up, usually solely based on the covers, and for some reason we've noticed that we've been

picking up a lot of big blue eyes recently. If eyes are the windows to the soul, does that mean we can see a book's soul through them too? Or is that our own soul being reflected back to us? Maybe neither, but at the very least, we find book covers with eyes rather *eye-catching*, which is in many ways the goal of a well-designed jacket."...

Flavorwire, July 17



### [Goodbye, Harry](#)

Sarah Debraski writes: "The release of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part 2*, really is the conclusion of the Harry Potter phenomenon. Sure, people will still read the books, go to the theme park, and be checking out [Pottermore](#), but this is definitely the end of the series. Love or hate Harry, there was simply no ignoring him. Today *The Hub's* bloggers look back and share their reflections on Harry Potter and what he meant to them. Enjoy! And please feel free to share your own memories in the comments section."...

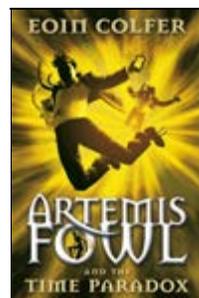
YALSA *The Hub*, July 15



### [10 fantasy series that could replace Harry Potter at the movies](#)

Charlie Jane Anders writes: "Fantasy books are full of long, immersive series—it's one of the things fantasy does best. But where are the series that could occupy the Hollywood throne that King Harry just vacated? Here are 10 possibilities. We asked io9's Facebook followers to suggest some fantasy book series that could live up to the awesome artistic and commercial success of the Potter films."...

io9, July 19



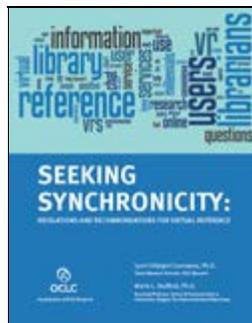
## Actions & Answers

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### [New OCLC membership report: Seeking Synchronicity](#)

A ground-breaking membership report from OCLC Research, in partnership with Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, suggests that by transforming virtual reference (VR) service encounters into relationship-building opportunities, librarians can better make use of the positive feelings people have for libraries. *Seeking Synchronicity* ([PDF file](#)) distills more than five years of virtual reference research into a readable summary that features memorable quotes that vividly illustrate very specific and actionable suggestions....

OCLC, July 18



### [Cornell and Columbia universities share collections](#)

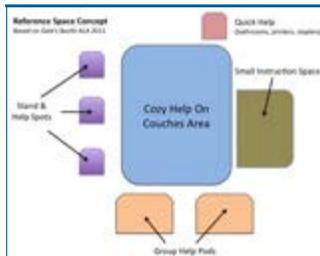
A new borrowing program between Cornell University Library and Columbia University Libraries allows users at both schools to take out materials from both libraries. A Cornell student or faculty member

spending time in New York City can register for a library card at Columbia and check out books, and vice versa for Columbia students and faculty spending time at Cornell's Ithaca campus. The reciprocal arrangement is the first program of its kind between Ivy League institutions....

Cornell University, July 14

### [A future space for reference, inspired by Gale](#)

Brian Mathews writes: "Gale might be in the reference resources business, but after seeing their booth at ALA I'm thinking they should try their hand at reference assistance delivery space. I found their booth very inspiring—and they might just have the key to unlocking the 'future of the reference desk.' While there is debate about the future of the reference *desk*, I think the bigger question is: What is the best environment to provide a personalized assistance experience?" ...



*Chronicle of Higher Education: The Ubiquitous Librarian*, July 11

### [Wikipedia rolling out article rating system](#)

Marshall Kirkpatrick writes: "Love it or hate it, you can't say Wikipedia is slow to innovate. The giant encyclopedia site [announced](#) July 15 that it will now roll out site-wide an article rating system that allows page visitors to rate an entry on a scale of 1 to 5 on trustworthiness, objectivity, completeness, and quality of writing. Article raters have the option of self-identifying as a subject matter expert for whatever article they rate." ...

ReadWriteWeb, July 18; Wikimedia Blog, July 15

### [Harry Potter @ your library](#)

Movie posters for *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part 2* remind fans that "It all ends," but a visit to the local library might yield some different thoughts. Libraries are keeping the Harry Potter tradition alive with a variety of programs for people of all ages in celebration of the movie's release. Here are just a few examples of how libraries got involved in the celebration....



ALA Campaign for America's Libraries, July 19

### [Library rock stars and superheroes](#)

Tom Bruno writes: "'I don't need to be a library rock star—a library superhero will suffice.'" This was one of my status updates July 12 on Facebook and Twitter. I am firmly of the opinion that librarians need to bring all of the Awesome they possibly can at this critical juncture for our profession, and if that means turning librarians into the new celebrity chefs so be it—they can even be hipsters from Brooklyn, as 9 out of 10 Food Network stars inevitably are these days." ...

The Jersey Exile, July 13

### [Tips for being a great blogger](#)

Meredith Farkas writes: "Let's face it: I'm a blogger. I like the asynchronicity of it. I like not missing things. I like long-form writing. I like being able to really process my thoughts about something rather than blurting out my first impression. I hope blogging won't go the way of MySpace, Google Wave, and so much other social media. To that end, I thought I'd encourage new bloggers by sharing some advice about what I constantly remind myself of when I write blog posts and what attracts me to blogs as well." ...

Information Wants to Be Free, July 19

## [How to evaluate a job candidate's social media presence](#)

Donna Feddern writes: "When we apply for jobs we turn in cover letters, résumés, applications, and lists of references. We also spend a lot of our free time trying to show everyone our ideas and interests by being active on social networking sites. With all the effort we're putting in, it would be disappointing to find out that you're not even reading, listening to, or watching what we're putting out there for you to see. So here's a hiring guide to the top social networking sites."...  
SEO for Libraries, July 14

## [A survey of used-book buyers](#)

Book Sale Finder has released the results of its survey ([PDF file](#)) of people who attend charity used book sales (including library sales) in the United States and Canada but who are not book dealers. The survey was conducted in November 2010 and involved 981 respondents. It includes information on what types of books they buy, where they buy their books, what attracts them to charity book sales, and what formats and types of books they want to buy. A concurrent survey polled organizers of or volunteers who work at nonprofit used book sales ([PDF file](#))....



Book Sale Finder, June

## [Plan for Reforma preconference events](#) (PDF file)

Reforma invites library and information professionals, support staff, and students to participate in one of several low-cost preconference workshops. The [4th Reforma National Conference](#), "Elevating Services to Latinos: Juntos in the Mile High City," is scheduled for September 15–18 at the Westin Denver Downtown Hotel in Denver, Colorado. Preconference workshops will be held on September 15. Reforma is commemorating its milestone 40th anniversary with programs designed for budget-challenged libraries....

Reforma, July 9

## [New documentary on the Library of Congress](#)

C-SPAN premiered a new 90-minute documentary July 18 on the 211-year-old Library of Congress. The program looks behind the scenes at LC, allowing viewers to learn the history of the institution as they tour the library's iconic Jefferson Building and see some of the treasures found in its collections of rare books, photos, and maps. It also features a look at some of the presidential papers housed there, ranging from George Washington through Calvin Coolidge. The C-SPAN site offers some previews of the film....



C-SPAN

## [OCLC's take on RDA](#)

James Hennelly writes: "This week's interview is with OCLC, the organization behind WorldCat, Connexion, and several other library-related products and services. The responses have been provided by Glenn Patton, director of the WorldCat Quality Management Division of OCLC."...

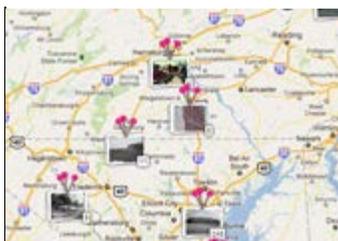
RDA Toolkit blog, July 19

## [Historypin.com wants to be the](#)

### [world's photo album](#)

Kevin O'Neill writes: "What if there was a giant photo album with pictures of families from all over the world? That's the goal of the folks at [Historypin.com](#). The site, which has been in beta for a year, officially launched July 11. It allows registered users (registration is free) to post old or new photos where they can be combined with Google Maps and Street View. You can use the search tools to find pictures. Enter a location, and a subject if you like, in the search fields. Then use the sliders on the timeline to bracket a period in time. The timeline ranges from 1840, the time of the earliest photography, to the present."...

*Scranton (Pa.) Times-Tribune, July 16*



### [Help prevent digital orphans](#)

Kristin Snawder writes: "'If it's scanned, then it's preserved, right? I mean, it's in the computer now so that's all I need to do!' I've heard this response when I ask if something is digitally preserved and it raises concerns. Lumping scanning together with digital preservation causes confusion and I want to take this opportunity to shine a light on some of the differences between the two."...

*The Signal: Digital Preservation, July 15*

### [Romania's first green library](#)

Ari Katz writes: "One of our IREX staff, training manager Camelia Crisan, is active in the corporate social responsibility community in Romania. At one event, she began talking with the head of Romania's Green Building Council. From that discussion emerged the competition for Romania's first green library, which was conducted in 2010. The council agreed to mobilize its members to donate the labor and supplies to renovate a library. Around 50 communities submitted applications to a contest which IREX facilitated, and the selection panel chose [Cacica](#) in Suceava county."...

*IREX Global Libraries, July 19*



### [The Uni: A portable reading room for public spaces](#)

Stephanie Rocio Miles writes: "Look at this great idea to help bring libraries to public spaces. [The Uni](#) is a light structure that can hold a small library collection and a number of benches for people to sit while reading. Each section of the structure is meant to be a small, curated collection on a particular subject." A Uni NYC unit is under construction at MIT and will launch in New York this fall. Compare the non-portable but similar concept of the [Garden Library](#) in Tel Aviv's Lewinsky Park..."

*Bilingual Librarian, July 18; Kickstarter; Christian Science Monitor, July 14*



### [Biblioburro debuts on PBS](#)

Carlos Rendón Zipagauta's 2008 documentary, *Biblioburro: The Donkey Library*, tells the story of 39-year-old Luis Soriano and his mobile library in rural Colombia from the point of view of the man himself and his two hardworking burros. The film made its broadcast debut on PBS stations July 19 on the *POV* series. The



producers, POV Digital, have created a [user-generated Google map](#) where librarians can add their own mobile or alternative library programs, then share the feature on Facebook, Twitter, or other media outlets to get the word out about mobile libraries....

POV Digital

### [Cursive lingers on](#)

Lauren Barack writes: "Should cursive still be taught in school? Apparently not, according to the [Common Core Standards](#), which leaves handwriting behind as it embraces other requirements such as keyboarding. Yet teachers and librarians say that while not required, cursive still plays a role in a child's education—although perhaps not as intensively as before."...

*School Library Journal*, July 19

### [Banksy of the book-art world](#)

Michael Lieberman writes: "Is there a Banksy-style book artist roaming the streets of Scotland? In June, the book art piece on the right was found at the National Library of Scotland. It was the fourth piece found since March in a book-friendly location in Scotland. All are reference books or are devised from the work of Scottish mystery writer Ian Rankin and include a note professing some book love. Earlier, it was the Scottish Poetry Library where a 'poetree' was discovered on a bookshelf."...



Book Patrol, July 18

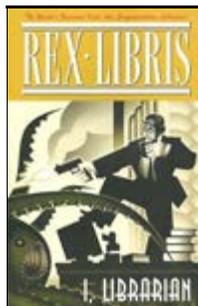
### [Susan Sarandon to play future librarian](#)

The newly formed Park Pictures Features has begun filming a family comedy, *Robot and Frank*, this summer. Set in the future, *Robot and Frank* follows aging curmudgeon Frank (Frank Langella), a confused loner with a love for books. His one friend is the librarian Jennifer (Susan Sarandon) that he regularly visits. Other than his library outings and weekly visits from his son, Frank lives a quiet, lonely life, until his grown-up kids (James Marsden, Liv Tyler) install a caretaker robot (voiced by Liev Schreiber) to care for their dad, and an unlikely friendship begins....

Collider, July 12

### [Rex Libris on the way to the big screen?](#)

Walden Media, a children's film production and publishing company best known as the producers of *The Chronicles of Narnia* film series, has acquired the feature film rights to the humorous sci-fi graphic novel series *Rex Libris*, written by James Turner in 2005–2008. The series follows Rex Libris, head librarian at the Middleton Public Library, who is over 1,000 years old and was the librarian at the ancient Library of Alexandria....



*Variety*, July 19

### [FAQs about catalogers](#)

Will Manley writes: "Frequently Asked Questions about catalogers. **Q.** How many catalogers does it take to screw in a light bulb? **A.** None, they screw in ILLUMINATION—SOURCES OF. **Q.** How can you tell when you're in a cataloger's cemetery? **A.** The tombstones are all arranged by Cutter number. **Q.** When can you tell a cataloger is underpaid? **A.** When he is standing on the freeway entrance with a sign that says 'Will catalog for food.'"...

Will Unwound, July 15

## [25 easy rules of Comic-Con etiquette](#)

Cyriaque Lamar writes: "[Comic-Con](#) may look like a four-day saloon brawl of geek culture, but know that there's a well-defined code of conduct designed to make everyone's experience optimally enjoyable. For all you San Diego pilgrims July 21–24, here be the rules." Rule #23: "Absolutely nothing at Comic-Con is worth stampeding over." And here is a [traveler's guide](#) to the con....

io9, July 18; Kotaku, July 15



[Go back to the Top](#)

# american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | July 27, 2011

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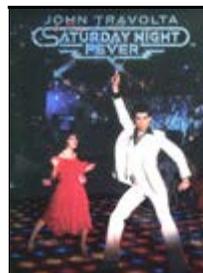
american  
libraries  
BUYERS GUIDE

## American Libraries Online

### [No R's behind bars in California](#)

A federal court has ruled that a California Department of Corrections policy prohibiting inmates from viewing R-rated movies, as well as movies that "glorify violence or sex," does not violate the First Amendment. The First Amendment Center [reported](#) July 14 that inmate Perry Robert Avila, housed in a California prison in Corcoran, challenged the constitutionality of the policy, which states that only movies rated G, PG, or PG-13 by the Motion Picture Association of America may be shown to inmates....

AL: Censorship Watch, July 26; First Amendment Center, July 14



### [Privatization and pushback in Santa Clarita](#)

The three-branch Santa Clarita (Calif.) Public Library opened its doors over the Fourth of July weekend (right) as an independent city system for the first time since city officials voted in August 2010 to depart from the County of Los Angeles Public Library. Hundreds came to check out materials, eyeball the expanded Canyon County branch, and size up their libraries' new staffs—employees of contract-services firm Library Systems and Services, Inc., whose five-year, \$19-million contract to manage the nascent system was the focus of almost a year's worth of debate and litigation....

American Libraries news, July 27; Santa Clarita City Briefs, July 6



### [Newsmaker: Daniel Ellsberg](#)

Forty years ago, Daniel Ellsberg leaked the Pentagon Papers, documents that revealed the secret history of the United States' involvement in Vietnam from 1945 to 1967. Since then, Ellsberg has been a lecturer, writer, and activist on controversial U.S. interventions and the need for patriotic whistleblowing. Former *American Libraries* Editor Leonard Kniffel and others from ALA interviewed Ellsberg after his



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address at Annual Conference in New Orleans. What follows is a transcript of that [interview](#) (50:57), edited for clarity....

*American Libraries* column, July/Aug.; AL Focus, July 27

### [How to offer more than a movie](#)

Alan Jacobson writes: "Your library's films are some of the highest-quality work in your building, often unjustly ignored, maligned, and simply consigned to popular material (Charles Dickens or Alfred Hitchcock, anyone?) when there is so much thematic and artistic richness waiting to be mined in a discussion format. Here's how to make your screening a quality cultural event equal to your book discussions."...

*American Libraries* feature



### [Is the line between librarianship and journalism blurring?](#)

Office for Intellectual Freedom Director Barbara Jones writes: "What do journalists and librarians have in common? How can collaboration on their common ground make libraries and the media better for our democracy? More than 125 attendees worked on these questions April 6-7 at the first-ever conference of its kind, 'Beyond Books: News, Literacy, Democracy, and America's Libraries,' immediately preceding the National Conference for Media Reform in Boston." Watch the [video](#) (7:23)....

*American Libraries* feature; Vimeo, June 24



### [Programming, pixels, and privatization](#)

The July/August issue of *American Libraries* has just mailed to members, bringing to your workplaces and doorsteps the news and analysis that is delivered every day online. This issue includes articles on graphic novels, digital collections, the future of electronic content delivery, film programming, and the privatization controversy. You can also read the full issue [online](#)....

*American Libraries*, July/Aug.



### [Currents](#)

Donna Dziedzic (right) retired as executive director of Naperville (Ill.) Public Library June 30. On July 25 John Spears became executive director of Naperville Public Library. Hester Miller, 90, died July 9; she was arts specialist at Albuquerque (N. Mex.) Public Library from 1958 until her retirement in 1982....

*American Libraries* column



## ALA News

### [Empowering voices](#)

ALA President Molly Raphael writes: "We are living in extraordinary

## Booklist ONLINE

If you missed us at ALA Annual, here's another chance to get **Booklist Online** for 50% off. Good on single user or unlimited-use accounts! [Use this special link](#), enter Promotion Code **AN11ALD**, and you'll be billed half the regular price. **NEW!** From **Booklist**.

### New this week in *American Libraries*



#### [Movie Screenings](#)

#### [Librarians and Journalists](#)

#### [Newsmaker](#)

#### [Censorship Watch](#)

#### [Currents](#)

times. Throughout the library world, reductions in financial resources threaten our survival. At the same time, many libraries are experiencing large increases in demand and usage. In academic, public, school, and special libraries, these challenges call for all of us to work together and build a better future for all library communities.”...

ALA President’s Message, July 27

### [National Gaming Day registration is open](#)

It’s time to start gearing up for the big event. [Registration](#) is officially open for the 2011 National Gaming Day, November 12, and we are excited that there are some great donations again this year (while they last). This year’s official sponsor for National Gaming Day @ your library, [All Things Equal](#), is donating an amazing *four* games in support of gaming in libraries. There will again be two national video game tournaments, the Epic Super Smash Bros. Brawl and a retro 30th Anniversary Frogger Library High Score Contest....

National Gaming Day @ your library, July 27



### [Volunteer to serve on a committee](#)

ALA President-Elect Maureen Sullivan is encouraging members to volunteer for ALA and Council committees during the 2012–2013 appointment process. Sullivan is chairing both the Committee on Appointments and Committee on Committees. To volunteer, complete the [online committee volunteer form](#) by November 4....

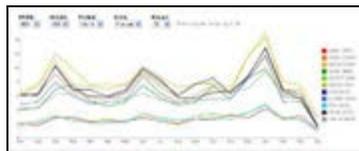
ALA Executive Office, July 20

### [New ALA Connect reports](#)

Jenny Levine writes: “[ALA Connect](#) experienced a couple of major milestones during the last few months. First, it turned two years old at the beginning of April.

Second, the new servers valiantly weathered a huge spike in usage (above) thanks to the 2011 ALA Annual Conference. To monitor Connect’s progress, I’ve written up reports for each milestone.”...

ITTS News, July 27



### [Summer school is in session for intellectual freedom](#)

The Office for Intellectual Freedom is offering a series of online learning opportunities August 2–30 to meet the pressing needs of busy library professionals. “Intellectual Freedom Summer School” webinars will provide information and insight on some current topics. Specific programs are offered for public, academic, and school librarians. These hour-long, interactive sessions will feature speakers from OIF as well as practicing librarians in the field. [Registration](#) is now open....

Office for Intellectual Freedom, July 26

### [Banned Books Week to feature a Virtual Read-out](#)

This year, for the first time, readers from around the world will be able to participate virtually in Banned Books Week, September 24–October 1, by posting videos of themselves reading excerpts to a dedicated YouTube channel. Videos (no more than two minutes long) can be submitted by anyone as long as the video includes a reading from a [banned or challenged book](#). Alternatively, videos of up to three minutes can be submitted giving eyewitness accounts of local challenges. Details will be available in early August....

Office for Intellectual Freedom, July 21

### [Perpetual Beta](#)

### [Inside Scoop](#)

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

### [Solutions and Services](#)

### [AL Focus](#)

## Great Libraries of the World



### [Real Gabinete Português de Leitura](#), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Established in 1837 by Portuguese immigrants, this library contains depository copies of all books published by Portuguese authors, making it the largest collection of Lusophone literature outside Europe.



### [National Library of Chile](#), Santiago, Chile. Founded in 1813, the library is housed with the National Archives

### [Join your state library association](#)

Don Wood writes: "If you are not already a member of your state library association (also known as an [ALA Chapter](#)), please join. There are many reasons to do so, including discounts for attending conferences, networking, mentoring, and all kinds of other opportunities and services. And, most importantly, you can contribute to your state association's efforts to support libraries and the library profession."...

ALA Membership Blog, July 21



### [Student chapter members, take this survey](#)

By completing this 20-minute [survey](#), you will provide ALA with invaluable information that no doubt will result in a better [ALA student chapter](#) experience for both you and future student chapter members. Help publicize this survey widely to student chapter members, elected officers, faculty advisers, directors, deans, and anyone else associated with ALA student chapters....

ALA Student Membership Blog, July 27

### [Do we have the will to help guide digital natives?](#)

ALA Literacy Officer Dale Lipschultz writes: "Today's kids are digital natives. They're eager to learn, innovate, create, and share. They're looking to us for direction and strategic guidance. The Learning from Hollywood Forum is a starting point. Our task, as educators and innovators, is to work together, think creatively, and build new systems for educating America's youth. We have this opportunity, we have the minds, we have the tools, and we have the support. The question is: Do we have the will?"...

OLOS Columns, July 27

### [FTRF welcomes ruling that overturns video game ban](#)

The Freedom to Read Foundation, ALA's First Amendment legal defense arm, welcomes the U.S. Supreme Court's 7-2 [decision](#) June 27 to overturn a 2005 California law that banned the sale of violent video games to minors. FTRF joined booksellers, publishers, writers, and other media groups to urge the Supreme Court to strike down the law, which sought to create a new category of unprotected speech encompassing violent images and themes of violence in video games....

Freedom to Read Foundation, July 20; *New York Times*, June 27

### [Guadalajara Book Fair free pass](#)

ALA and the [Guadalajara International Book Fair](#) are partnering for the ninth year to provide support for ALA members to attend the 24th book fair from November 26 to December 4. Free passes will be awarded to 150 librarians who work in the area of Spanish-language acquisitions. The deadline for [applications](#) is August 15. This year's invited country is Germany....

International Relations Office



### [Induction Day @ your library](#)

July 24 was Induction Day at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. By registering for [Step Up to the Plate @ your library](#), you can help one of your library users win the chance to go to the Hall of Fame just

in a neoclassical structure that opened in 1913. Among its valuable holdings is the collection of early American printed works and Chilean nautical, geographical, and ethnographic history donated by bibliographer and historian [José Toribio Medina](#). Other treasures include the first map of Easter Island in 1770, a 1498 copy of Sebastian Brant's *Ship of Fools*, and Luis de Valdivia's *Sermon on the Language of Chile* published in Spain in 1621.

**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.





like 2011 inductees, Roberto Alomar and Bert Blyleven. Developed by ALA and the Baseball Hall of Fame, Step Up to the Plate @ your library teams up two American classics—libraries and baseball—to promote libraries and librarians as essential information resources....

Public Information Office, July 21

**Fall into the new ALA Graphics catalog**

There's something for everyone inside the new ALA Graphics fall catalog ([PDF file](#)), full of fresh products designed to encourage readers of all ages. More than a dozen new posters and bookmarks make their debut, including those inspired by the popular children's book series *Bad Kitty* and *Five Little Monkeys*, as well as Caldecott Honor recipient Marla Frazee and author Mary Lyn Ray's forthcoming book *Stars*....

ALA Graphics, July 21



**Business Research Librarian**

Goizueta Business Library, Emory University, Atlanta. An exciting opportunity for a self-confident, imaginative, and energetic business librarian to work with a top business school. Marketing liaison responsible for building relationships with marketing faculty, collection development, and instruction; shared liaison role to MBA program. Experience in assessment preferred....

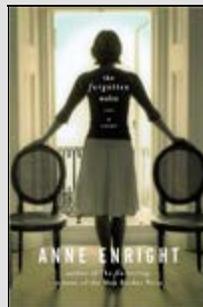


@ [More jobs...](#)

**Booklist ONLINE**

**Featured review: Adult fiction**

Enright, Anne. *The Forgotten Waltz*. Oct. 2011. 288p. Norton, hardcover (978-0-393-07255-6). Although the story of an affair is certainly not an uncommon theme in fiction, for the reader to be so engrossed in such a tale by the writing style alone is a less-common situation. But in fairness, in balance, this stunning novel by a Booker Prize winner (for *The Gathering*, 2007) also offers up its brilliance by way of astonishingly effective storytelling. The setting is the author's native Ireland, which, ironically, because of the immaculate presentation of story and character, almost doesn't matter. Gina is married, holds a professional business position, and is now recalling an obsessive, selfish, and problem-riddled affair with the equally married Sean. Enright suitably constructs her narrative to reflect the natural tendency of a person to remember events not necessarily in strict chronological order but in fits and starts....



**Core collection**

Brian Odom writes: "Over the next five years, each day will mark the 150th anniversary of some seminal event from the American Civil War. Armies of student researchers will descend upon public libraries and school media centers looking for those elusive resources that simultaneously edify and provide adequate historical context



**Digital Library of the Week**



The [New York Philharmonic Digital Archives](#) launched in July with more than 3,200 programs, more

for everything from the Gettysburg Address to Sherman's March to the Sea. Luckily, there has been no shortage of information published on what many consider the defining event in American history. The resources listed here represent just a fraction of reliable, up-to-date chronologies, dictionaries, companions, and encyclopedias but serve as a starting point to help gear up your collection to meet the approaching challenge."...

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

## Division News

### [Create an ASCLA interest group](#)

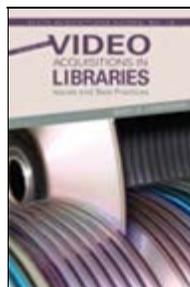
Approved by the membership in the 2011 ALA/ASCLA election, interest groups provide a way to easily create a home within the division for topics and issues that have an active member base, are specifically of interest to ASCLA members, or may be currently underrepresented in the organization. Interest groups can also consist of any ALA members; they are not restricted to ASCLA members. Here are seven [current interest groups](#), and here is how to [petition](#) for a new one....

ASCLA Blog, July 25

### [New ALCTS publications](#)

ALCTS has released three new publications: [Guide to Video Acquisitions in Libraries](#), a book by Mary S. Laskowski; [Institutional Repositories: Benefits and Challenges](#), a hybrid publication issued a chapter at a time in PDF format until all of the content is ready to be printed as a book; and [Collection = Connection](#), a new blog sponsored by the ALCTS Collection Management Section....

ALCTS, July 25



### [Educational tours at the AASL conference](#)

Attendees of the AASL 15th National Conference and Exhibition in Minneapolis should sign up early for one of the exciting educational tours offered October 26–27 prior to the official opening. Tours include the University of Minnesota Libraries' Children's Literature Research Collection, F. Scott Fitzgerald's homes and haunts, and the Wabasha Street Caves. [School tours](#) and [preconferences](#) will also be offered. Information is available [online](#)....

AASL, July 26



### [Early-bird rates for LITA National Forum](#)

LITA is offering [early-bird rates](#) through August 15 for its National Forum, held September 29–October 2 in St. Louis. The forum will feature dynamic keynote speakers John Blyberg, Karen Coyle, and Barbara McGlamery....

LITA, July 26

### [New LITA officers](#)

Elisabeth (Zoe) Stewart-Marshall (right), assistant director of library systems and user services

than 1,000 scores marked by past conductors such as Bernstein and Mahler, and other documents from 1943 to 1970, the "International Era" corresponding to Leonard Bernstein's association with the orchestra. The project plans to finish this first phase of digitizing by 2012 (helped by a \$2.4-million grant from the Leon Levy Foundation), with plans to eventually offer the entire collection, culminating in 8 million pages of documents and 7,000 hours of audiovisual material, including scores, videos, business documents, correspondence, and programs, as additional content is digitized. The documents in the digital archives are for study and research only.

**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

**"Much speech is protected that is not wholesome or**

development at OhioLINK, is the new LITA president. Her term, and that of newly elected LITA board members, began at the conclusion of the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans. Three newly elected directors-at-large begin their three-year terms: John Blyberg, David Lee King, and Lauren Pressley....

LITA, July 25



### [LITA online learning courses](#)

LITA has two upcoming web education opportunities. The online course "Creating Library Web Services: Mashups and APIs" will be presented August 22–26, and the webinar "Roadmap to JPEG2000" will be offered September 13. Additional information and registration for these programs are available [online](#)....

LITA, July 25

## Awards

### [2011 Achievement in Library Diversity Research](#)

Camila Alire, dean emerita at the University of New Mexico Libraries and Colorado State University Libraries, has been named the 2011 Achievement in Library Diversity Research honoree. As part of its ongoing support of the propagation of library-based diversity research, the ALA Committee on Diversity and the Office for Diversity recognize Alire for her promotion of diversity within the profession, including writing books and articles, recruitment and retention of librarians of color, library service to Latinos and diverse populations, and library marketing and advocacy....

Office for Diversity, July 26



### **Yolo County, Knowledge River host Spectrum scholarship fundraisers**

Library supporters came together to raise over \$1,600 for the Spectrum Presidential Initiative through a recent dinner for Spectrum scholars at the [Yolo County \(Calif.\) Library](#). Hosted by Patty Wong, county librarian at the Yolo County Library, and Kenneth Yamashita, city librarian (retired) at the Stockton–San Joaquin County (Calif.) Public Library, the event brought together more than 30 attendees to celebrate and support the Spectrum Scholarship Program. The University of Arizona's Knowledge River Scholars also raised \$1,500 at a [fundraiser](#) in Tucson (above)....

Spectrum Initiative, July 25–26



### [Miami University chosen as site for 2012 Arbuthnot Lecture](#)

The 2012 May Hill Arbuthnot Committee has chosen Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, to be the site of ALSC's 2012 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture featuring Peter Sís. An award-winning Czech-American children's book writer and illustrator, Sís was chosen to be the presenter at the 2011 ALA Midwinter Meeting held January 7–11 in

**uplifting. The court was merely saying that the choice as to whether to engage in or receive such speech should be made by us, not by government."**

—First Amendment attorney Steven Helle on the June 27 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that video games are fully protected speech, even with regard to minors, *Chicago Tribune*, June 29.

@ [More quotes...](#)

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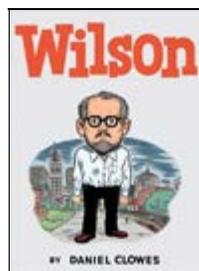
San Diego....  
ALSC, July 26

### [2011 Will Eisner Awards](#)

The 2011 Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards, presented by Comic-Con International in San Diego, ended on an unusual note July 22 with the Best Graphic Album–New category going to two winners: Jim McCann and Janet Lee's *Return of the Dapper Men* (Archaia) and Dan Clowes's *Wilson* (Drawn and Quarterly). The Graphic Album category is somewhat comparable to "Best Picture" in the comics industry.

The full list is [here](#)....

Comic-Con 2011; io9, July 23



### [2011 Bulwer-Lytton Fiction Contest](#)

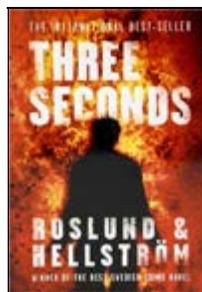
The winner of the 2011 Bulwer-Lytton Fiction Contest is Sue Fondrie, an associate professor of curriculum and instruction at the University of Wisconsin–Oshkosh who works groan-inducing wordplay into her teaching and administrative duties whenever possible. The contest challenges entrants to compose bad opening sentences to imaginary novels. Fondrie won with "Cheryl's mind turned like the vanes of a wind-powered turbine, chopping her sparrow-like thoughts into bloody pieces that fell onto a growing pile of forgotten memories."...

San Jose State University English Department, July 25

### [Crime Writers Association Dagger Awards](#)

The Crime Writers Association announced the winners of its annual Dagger Awards, celebrating the best in crime and thriller writing, on July 22. The Swedish writing team of Anders Roslund and Börge Hellström received the International Dagger for *Three Seconds*, translated by Kari Dickson. Douglas Starr accepted the Non-Fiction Dagger for *The Killer of Little Shepherds*, a work focused on the 19th-century French serial murderer Joseph Vacher....

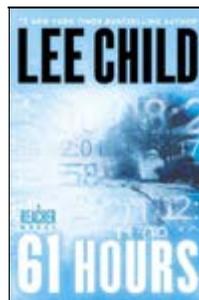
*Mystery Series Examiner*, July 23



### [Theakstons Old Peculier Crime Novel of 2011](#)

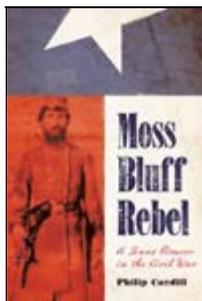
Lee Child has won the Theakstons Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year Award for *61 Hours* (Transworld), the 14th installment in his bestselling Jack Reacher thriller series. The announcement was made July 21 at the Harrogate Crime Writing Festival in the U.K. The award of £3,000 (\$4,883 U.S.) is open to British and Irish authors and is one of the most prestigious prizes in crime fiction....

BBC News, July 22



### [2011 Summerfield G. Roberts Award](#)

Philip Caudill, an adjunct professor of history at Lone Star College–Montgomery, has won the 2011 Summerfield G. Roberts Award, presented by the Sons of the Republic of Texas, for *Moss Bluff Rebel: A Texas Pioneer in the Civil War* (Texas A&M, 2009), a biography of William Berry Duncan, a Texas pioneer and sheriff who reluctantly joined the Confederate army to fight in the Civil War. The award of \$2,500



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videos, at:

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### **Calendar**

**July 31–**

**Aug. 2:**

[Ohio Library Support Staff Institute](#), Biddle Hall, Ohio University, Athens.

**Aug. 9–11:**

[International Association of Francophone Librarians and Archivists](#), 2nd World Congress, Martinique.

**Aug. 18:**

[ACRL New England Chapter](#),

Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Griffin Building, Boston.  
"Current Trends in E-Journals."

encourages literary and historical research about the days of the Republic of Texas, 1836–1846....

*The Paper Magazine* (The Woodlands, Tex.), July 25



## Seen Online

### [Federal information resources at serious risk](#)

Michael Kelley writes: "Even as all eyes focus on the stalemate over the debt ceiling, the House of Representatives has been assiduously working on bills that, if unchanged, would have a deleterious effect on information resources at the Government Printing Office and the Census Bureau. On July 22, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 2551; unless the Senate acts, the bill would reduce GPO's budget for FY12 by 20% to \$108.1 million." Funding for the Federal Depository Library Program and the Federal Digital System is in serious jeopardy....

*Library Journal*, July 27



### [NYPL's reading-for-fines program](#)

The New York Public Library will waive the outstanding fines of up to 143,000 children 17 or under who are currently barred from borrowing new items on the condition they do one thing: read. Beginning July 25, children enrolled in the library's summer reading program will be able to knock \$1 from their bills for every 15 minutes of reading they complete. NYPL would rather have children reading than hold out for the possibility of reaping fines that might never be paid....

Reuters, July 25

### [Two books pulled from Missouri school library shelves](#)

Two of the three Republic (Mo.) High School books singled out in a public complaint in 2010 will now be removed from the school curriculum and the library. On July 25, the school board voted 4–0 (three members were absent) to keep Laurie Halse Anderson's *Speak*, an award-winning book about date rape, and remove Kurt Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse Five* and Sarah Ockler's *Twenty Boy Summer*. Resident Wesley Scroggins challenged the use of the books, arguing that they teach principles contrary to the Bible....

*Springfield (Mo.) News-Leader*, July 26



### [LC: We did not call WikiLeaks "extremist"](#)

The Library of Congress says it was not responsible for categorizing a WikiLeaks-related book as "extremist" and that it has removed that label. A spokesman for the library told CNET July 21 that it adopted that classification in its catalog automatically after another major library system, apparently the National Library of Australia, had applied it to a recent book about the document-leaking website. "Copy cataloging was the method used for the book in question," LC spokesman John Sayers said. [Kevin Gosztola](#) offers more details....

**Aug. 31–**

**Sept. 4:**

[Beijing International Book Fair](#), China International Exhibition Center (New Venue), Beijing, China.

**Sept.:**

[Library Card Sign-Up Month](#).

**Sept. 15–16:**

[Northwest Interlibrary Loan and Resource Sharing Conference](#), Portland Community College, Sylvania Campus, Portland, Oregon. "Going Global While Staying Local."

**Sept. 21–24:**

[North Dakota Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Grand International Inn, Minot. "Librarians: Leadership for a New Decade."

**Sept. 24–**

**Oct. 1:**

[Banned Books Week](#).

**Sept. 28–**

**Oct. 1:**

[Kentucky Library Association / Kentucky School Media Association](#), Galt House Hotel and Suites, Louisville. "Information...The Library Superpower."

**Oct. 2–4:**

[New England Library Association / Vermont Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Sheraton Hotel, Burlington, Vermont.

**Oct. 12–14:**

[Ohio Educational](#)

CNET News: Privacy Inc., July 21; Firedoglake: The Dissenter, July 23

### [Library coworkers split \\$250,000 lottery prize](#)

"Quiet" was not an option at the James Blackstone Memorial Library in Branford, Connecticut, once Reference Librarian Debby Trofatter (on the right) shared the incredible news that she, along with seven coworkers, had won \$250,000 playing the Mega Millions drawing on July 19. Trofatter, who was in charge of buying and checking the group's tickets, noticed right away that their hand-picked numbers were a match. The prize will be split between the eight staffers (including Library Director Kathy Rieger), each receiving \$21,407 (prize value after taxes)....

*Branford (Conn.) Patch, July 26*



### [Patron and staff help save a life at Russell Library](#)

A man stopped suddenly and fell to the floor, hitting his head on a table on the way down. The previously calm and quiet Main Reading Room at Russell Library in Middletown, Connecticut, became "action central" as another patron ran to the Information Desk and a librarian called 911 for help. Annie Abbate, who was studying for her upcoming Medical College Admission Test, sprang into action as soon as she saw the man collapse. Taking one look at the fallen patron, she immediately dialed 911 on her cell phone....

*Middletown (Conn.) Press, July 25*

### [Library cuts will happen "in a heartbeat"](#)

Doug Ford, the blunt-talking Toronto councilor and brother to the mayor, is ratcheting up the cost-cutting rhetoric at city hall, vowing to support library closings and dismissing the efforts of literary legend Margaret Atwood to spare branches from the chopping block. Ford said July 26 he would close a library in his ward "in a heartbeat," characterizing a growing movement to save branches backed by Atwood as an "over-reaction" led by "library groups."...

*Toronto Globe and Mail, July 26*

### [Oregon book thief arrested](#)

An Eagle Point, Oregon, man has been arrested in connection with the disappearance of nearly 400 books from multiple local libraries. A July 21 police search of Christopher Earl Storrer's residence revealed hundreds of stolen library books, many of them vandalized. Police began investigating the theft and vandalism of library books from Southern Oregon University's Hannon Library when three thefts were reported in May. Investigators are still sorting out how many other libraries are involved....

*Medford (Oreg.) Mail Tribune, July 24*

### [Senator donates books to vandalized Alaskan library](#)

Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) has donated 191 books to the Togiak Public Library in an effort to help replace materials that were lost to vandalism that destroyed books and caused \$2,500 in damage. In May, vandals broke into the library and damaged books, overturned bookcases, and smeared items with syrup. Murkowski and her D.C. staff collaborated with the Library of Congress book donation program and were able to gather books for all age ranges and interests....

*The Arctic Sounder, July 20*

**[Library Media Association](#)**, Annual Conference, Columbus Convention Center. "21st Century Learning @ your school library."

**Oct. 16–22:** **[National Friends of Libraries Week](#)**.

**Oct. 16–22:** **[Teen Read Week](#)**.

**Oct. 29–30:** **[Maine Library Association](#)**, Annual Conference, Marriott at Sable Oaks, Portland.

@ [More...](#)

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Contributing Researcher

## [Swedish librarians find stolen atlas in New York](#)

One of the books stolen from the Swedish National Library in Stockholm has been identified in a collection in New York. In 2004, a respected specialist at the National Library had been pilfering rare books valued at some 9 million kronor (\$1.4 million U.S.) from the library's collections and selling them off at auction houses worldwide for a number of years. The book, a 16th-century atlas titled *Descriptionis Ptolemaicae augmentum, sive Occidentis notitia brevi commentario*, was illustrated by Cornelis van Wytfliet in Louvain....

*The Local: Sweden's News in English*, July 19



## [IT manager jailed for Scotland library embezzlement](#)

An IT manager who admitted embezzling £500,000 (\$819,850 U.S.) from the National Library of Scotland was sentenced July 25 to two years in jail. David Dinham used a government credit card to make personal purchases from 2006 to 2010 and secretly [awarded](#) his own IT company 10 service contracts. He admitted the embezzlement charge at a hearing at Edinburgh Sheriff Court in May. National Librarian Martyn Wade said a new financial system had recently been installed to prevent any future misappropriations....

BBC News, July 25; *The Scotsman* (Edinburgh), July 26

## [State Library of Iowa cleans its law books](#)

For the better part of a year, State Documents Librarian Tom Keyser, with the assistance of other members of the State Library of Iowa's Law Library staff, have been engaged in a multivolume evaluation and cleaning of its A. J. Small Special Collection. Arthur James Small, who served as state librarian from 1896 to 1937, purchased hundreds of valuable legal texts for the library. Keyser said the idea is to get the collection back into shape by cleaning the books with brushes and making minor repairs....

Davenport (Iowa) *Quad-City Times*, July 25



## [Socially conscious food on the menu at library café](#)

The owners of the little café in the lobby of Fountaindale Public Library in Bolingbrook, Illinois, are serving more than cherry danishes and iced coffee to their daily clientele. Chris and Jennifer Peterson, the couple who operate Brooks Café (right), are running the place with a socially conscious mindset—right down to the biodegradable forks made from potatoes they stock and the coffee beans they buy from a family company in Ottawa....

Bolingbrook (Ill.) *TribLocal*, July 25



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## Tech Talk

### [Four ways iPads help people with](#)

Liz Humrickhouse  
Student Intern

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## [disabilities](#)

Zoe Fox writes: "Noah Rahman has moderate cerebral palsy affecting his communication, cognition, and upper and lower body movement. When he turned 2 years old, his language, cognitive ability, and fine motor skills were diagnosed by a developmental specialist as being at least 12 months behind. Then Noah got an iPad. Four months later, his language and cognition were on par with his age level. His fine motor skills had made significant leaps."...

Mashable, July 25



## [Google+ tips and tricks](#)

Amy-Mae Elliott writes: "Do you still consider yourself a noob when it comes to Google's social platform? If so, we've got some handy hints to help you out. From quicker sharing options to better content curation via savvy privacy settings, we're bringing you 10 tips and tricks that will soon have you Google Plusing like a pro."...

Mashable, July 26

## [7 ways Google Labs changed the internet forever](#)

Kyle Wagner writes: "Google [closed the doors](#) on Google Labs on July 20. The ongoing projects aren't disappearing; they'll be absorbed into other departments, and many have already graduated into full-fledged products. The spirit and mission of the initiative will live on, just in a decidedly less centralized way. Here are some of the coolest and most genuinely world-changing things that Google Labs's mad scientists have cooked up through the years."...

Gizmodo, July 20; Official Google Blog, July 20



## [Logging in to multiple Google accounts](#)

Nicole C. Engard writes: "I use Google for everything. I have my personal Google account and all the apps associated with that and I also use [Google Apps](#) at work. This week, Google forced those using Google Apps to transition their accounts. What this means is that you can only be logged in to one account at a time, or so I thought. Many librarians pointed out that I could still log in to both at the same time, but it's a slightly different process. For those who are still using multiple browsers to access multiple accounts, here are some tips for you."...

What I Learned Today, July 23



## [15 creative QR codes](#)

Amy-Mae Elliott writes: "In the same way that [bar codes](#) don't have to be boring, quick response codes can also be creative. Thanks to a 30% tolerance in readability, you can have some real fun with clever designs. Besides looking good, this can also make them more successful. Take a look through the image gallery for 15 brilliant designs created for a range of businesses from big names such as Disney, little names such as local restaurants, and even conceptual ideas."...

Mashable, July 23



## Publishing

### [Why we won't purchase more Kindles at the Unquiet Library](#)

Buffy Hamilton writes: "An email I received July 21 from Amazon Kindle Education sealed my decision to go with the new Barnes and Noble Nook Simple Touch in our e-book program. It read: 'Amazon recommends schools register each Kindle to a single account. If you are looking for a library solution, we are working to include Kindle books in overdrive.com's offering to libraries before the end of the year.' I emailed Amazon Kindle Education to make sure that I understood."...

The Unquiet Librarian, July 27

### [Apple slams the door on e-book apps](#)

Steve Matthews writes: "Just as iPad and iPhone users were getting used to purchasing and downloading their Kindle, Nook, Google, and OverDrive e-books through the respective apps on their Apple devices, Apple has pulled the plug on those apps that made it possible. That is to say, you must now go through the Apple iStore to purchase your e-book. You can still download and read it on your iPad and iPhone (for now); you just can't buy it directly through those apps. Now that Apple has you hooked, they change the rules and make you pay."...

21st Century Library Blog, July 27

### [Publishers in search of apps](#)

Stuart Dredge writes: "In mid-July, Apps Blog attended a London roundtable of book publishers, convened by digital design studio ustwo and consultancy Literary Platform, to discuss the opportunities and challenges offered by mobile and tablet apps. The attendees were drawn from the digital and marketing teams of several key publishers—including HarperCollins, Faber, Profile Books, and others—and while the agreement was that quotes would not be attributed, here are the key themes that emerged."...

*The Guardian* (U.K.): Apps Blog, July 26



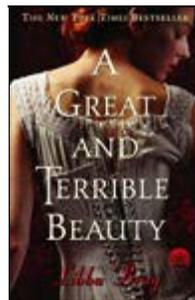
### [Book groups turning more to e-readers](#)

Kaite Stover writes: "In the July 26 *Booklist* webinar 'Book Group Buzzing,' moderator Rebecca Vnuk discussed trends in reading groups. One of them was the growing number of participants attending book group with an e-reader in hand. Recently Reading Group Choices released the results of a [survey](#) that asked book group members about the e-readers they are using. The responses show that 25% are using an e-reader and the majority are using a Kindle followed by the Nook."...

Booklist Online: Book Group Buzz, July 27; *Publishers Weekly*, July 26

### [Are you reading YA lit? You should be](#)

Gretchen Kolderup writes: "I think the reason some grown-ups look down their noses at YA lit is because they haven't read any of it recently, so they don't know how good it's gotten—or how different it is from what they might imagine it to be. While there are still books that deal with Big Issues, the problem novel of the 1970s and 1980s has been eclipsed by more slice-of-life contemporary fiction, romances, fantasies, mysteries, sci-fi stories, and genre-blending tales that



defy categorization. For as much attention as the *Twilight* series has gotten, it's certainly not all that's out there."...

In the Library with the Lead Pipe, July 27

### [Obscure children's books by authors of adult literature](#)

Maria Popova writes: "We've previously explored some beloved [children's classics](#) with timeless philosophy for grown-ups, plus some [quirky coloring books](#) for the eternal kid, and today we are looking at the flipside—little-known children's books by beloved authors of literature for grown-ups." A week later, they were "back with [seven more](#), based on reader suggestions and belated findings from the rabbit hole of research surrounding the first installment."...

Brain Pickings, July 19, 25

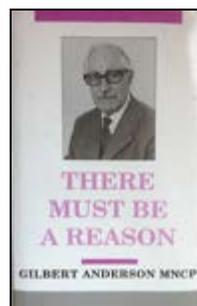


### [The joy of dullness, parts 1 and 2](#)

Bookride writes: "I have been assembling a collection of dull, curious, or odd book covers. Here they are; the scholarly ones are actually of some value and one even sold while I was putting this together, so it does not appear—a book on the Swiss linguist Ferdinand de Saussure entitled *Not Saussure: A Critique of Post-Saussurean Literary Theory*. With the paperback selling at £50, the joke became too costly to hold on to. This collection is devoted to dullness mixed with the curious and the odd, which includes the oddly dull and the curiously odd."

Don't miss [Part 2](#)....

Bookride, June 28, July 9

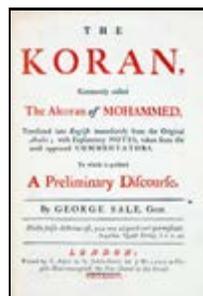


## Actions & Answers

### [Thomas Jefferson's Qur'an](#)

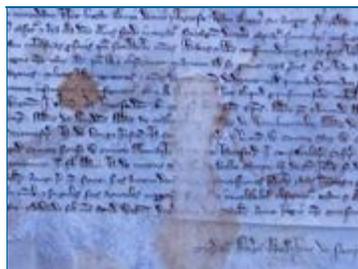
Sebastian R. Prange writes: "Among the nearly 6,500 books Jefferson sold to the Library of Congress in 1815 was a two-volume English translation of the Qur'an, the book Muslims recite, study, and revere as the revealed word of God. The presence of this Qur'an, first in Jefferson's private library and later in the Library of Congress, prompts the questions why Jefferson purchased this book, what use he made of it, and why he included it in his young nation's repository of knowledge."...

*Saudi Aramco World* 62, no. 4 (July/Aug.): 2-7



### [Conserving the Magna Carta](#)

Archivist of the United States David S. Ferriero writes: "The recent work of the MIT Humanities Library's conservation staff on a 1297 version of the Magna Carta is a great example of what they can do. In a project funded by the document's owner, David Rubenstein, the staff provided weeks of intensive treatment to the parchment and seal and eventually revealed previously illegible writing on the Magna Carta using ultraviolet photography. The treatment completes the first phase of a project to re-encase and display the document publicly." Watch the [video](#) (5:56)....



AOTUS: Collector in Chief, July 22; YouTube, July 20

## [Call for proposals: 2012 Joint Conference of Librarians of Color](#)

The Steering Committee of the 2012 Joint Conference of Librarians of Color has announced an open call for program proposals for the conference scheduled for September 19–23, 2012, in Kansas City, Missouri. The conference will bring together a diverse group of librarians, library staff, library supporters, and community participants to explore issues of diversity in libraries and how they affect the ethnic communities libraries serve. Proposals may be submitted through the JCLC [website](#)....

ALA Office for Diversity, July 26



## [“I’m sorry, but I can’t help you”](#)

Anne Behler writes: “Uttering these words generally goes against the fiber of who librarians are as a profession. So it’s certainly a tough pill to swallow that this is a line that we may find ourselves uttering more frequently, thanks to the proliferation of books that are only published in electronic format and served up by accounts designed for private, individual access only. Here are some thoughts that I hope will prompt further discussion.”...

District Dispatch, July 26

## [On mistakenly shredding a prize collection](#)

Carla Tracy writes: “If a library is a growing organism, then I’ve felt the growing pains keenly on our Augustana College campus these last few months. In leading our library staff through an effort to remove certain books used only once in the past 25 years, if at all, I stand at the head of a series of events that inadvertently sent part of a reprint collection, written in classical Chinese, to the recycling center. In the wake of that mistake, I have watched a variety of emotional reactions ripple through our community, and I have realized that those reactions are based on what each person believes a college library should be.”...

*Chronicle of Higher Education*, July 25

## [Gaming and libraries](#)

Vanessa Rhinesmith writes: “On June 20–22, I had the opportunity to attend the [8th Annual Games for Change Festival](#) in New York City. One of the sessions that piqued my interest was titled ‘Games and Cultural Spaces’ that included a look at the use of games in libraries. Three successful library examples of the use of gaming include these benefits: engaging students, improving the quality of information, and energizing younger audiences.”...

TechSoup for Libraries, July 25

## [Are you preparing for the 1940 census?](#)

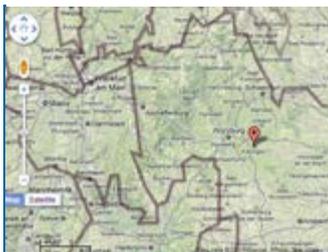
Rebecca Warlow writes: “Do you have the opening of the 1940 Census on April 2, 2012, marked on your calendar? We do here at the National Archives. For past census releases we provided access on microfilm. For the 1940 Census we will be providing free online access. Our Digitization Lab has created more than 3.8 million digital images of census schedules, maps, and enumeration district descriptions. In addition, we have indexed the census schedules to the enumeration district level. Here are some ways you can prepare for the launch.”...

NARAtions, July 25



## **[Historical world boundary maps back to 2000 B.C.](#)**

Randy Majors writes: "The [Historical World Boundary Maps](#) tool has been updated to include boundaries from 2000 B.C. to 2008 A.D. Just type in a present-day city and country, and a historical year, and click Go. The boundaries will appear and you can then



click the map to see what the name of the country, empire, or kingdom was at that location for the year you typed." The new tool supplements Majors's [Historical U.S. County Boundary Maps](#) tool....  
randymajors.com, July 16

## **[Submit your ideas on IMLS's strategic plan](#)**

The Institute of Museum and Library Services wants your ideas on how it can carry out its statutory responsibility "to support museum, library, and information services to meet the information, education, research, economic, cultural, and civic needs of the people of the United States." The agency is currently working on a five-year strategic plan required by the Government Performance and Results Act. The administration has asked agencies to focus on three specific performance-improvement strategies."...

Institute of Museum and Library Services, July 15

## **[How academic libraries annoy academics](#)**

Devon Greyson writes: "Here's a story I'm telling because I think libraries need more allies in the academy. As a librarian, researcher, and professor I have these weird insider/outsider experiences with academic libraries from time to time. In these experiences I can absolutely rationalize why libraries are behaving the way they are, yet I am also acutely aware of how these behaviors serve to irritate and even alienate academic faculty members. I think this story exemplifies the reasons behind these behaviors."...

Social Justice Librarian, July 26

## **[Are you thinking about going corporate?](#)**

Steven Bell writes: "There are any number of reasons why an academic librarian might want to move to a corporate or special library. That was the topic of a recent thread on the BUSLIB-L discussion list. Wondering whether it was time to pursue opportunities outside of higher education, one academic librarian asked others to share the pros and cons of their jobs in academic or corporate libraries. The conversation generated quite a few responses, and here is a summarized list of the pros and cons for each type of library position."...

ACRLog, July 22

## **[European Film Gateway launched](#)** (PDF file)

After nearly three years in development, the [European Film Gateway](#) is now online. The internet portal to the digital collections of European film archives and cinémathèques offers free access to currently about 400,000 digital videos, photos, film posters, and text materials. By



September, the number of digital items will increase to 600,000 from 16 film archives. Users of the portal can search for people (Marlene Dietrich) as well as film title or keywords. EFG is a component of Europeana, the platform for the cultural heritage of Europe....

European Film Gateway, July 26

## [How to connect your LinkedIn profile with Twitter](#)

Lauren Dugan writes: "Both Twitter and LinkedIn are great for networking with professionals, coworkers, and business associates. But rather than flipping between the two networks, they've made it easy to connect to one another in order to leverage both at the same time. Here's how. LinkedIn has a dedicated Twitter application that allows for quick and easy integration of your Twitter account into your LinkedIn profile."...

AllTwitter, July 25

## [Evolution of a painted librarian](#)

Michael Lieberman writes: "In the mid-16th century the Italian painter Giuseppe Arcimboldo gave us *The Librarian*, a portrait composed almost entirely of books. One of the most original painters of the Renaissance, it is not hard to see how his work would influence the Surrealists and Cubists some 400 years later." Peter Sis and Georg Philipp Harsdörffer created variants....

Book Patrol, July 21



## [10 action librarians](#)

Susana Polo writes: "According to [Wikipedia](#), 'stereotypes of librarians in popular culture are frequently negative: Librarians are portrayed as puritanical, punitive, unattractive, and introverted if female, or timid, unattractive, and effeminate if male.' But there are plenty of kick-ass librarians in fiction. Like all the time when they are allowed to be main characters and aren't one-scene jokes. So we made a Power Grid. This week's is dedicated to the reference librarian who didn't bat an eye when I asked her where I could find books on Slavic folklore, prison tattoos, and Marine snipers (preferably autobiographies)."...

The Mary Sue, July 26



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