

american libraries DIRECT

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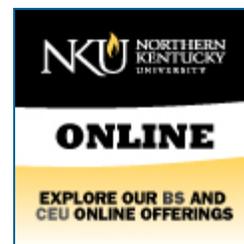
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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | December 5, 2012



American Libraries Online

[American Dental Association library may be set to close](#)

Maria R. Traska writes: "In July, the American Dental Association's library budget was slashed, and eight of 13 library staffers expect to lose their jobs January 1 if the board doesn't reverse action at its December 9–12 board meeting. The library cuts sparked a furor over the summer and at the ADA House of Delegates meeting in October, but the board's budget passed without \$600,000 for the library. The final budget also included a new line of \$800,000 to hire a public relations firm." The [ADA library](#) was started in 1927 and contains a collection of nearly 30,000 books and over 600 current journals....

American Libraries feature; MLS E-announce, Nov. 28, 2007



[Writing for civilians](#)

Laurie L. Putnam writes: "Love to write about libraries? Many of us do. For our fellow librarians, we speak volumes, clamoring to fill blogs, association newsletters, and scholarly journals. But for our communities? Not so much. The volume drops significantly when we consider the words we produce for publications our users and supporters read: local newspapers and company intranets, faculty newsletters, and industry magazines."...

American Libraries feature

[Dispatches from the Field: The Tao of tablets](#)

Rebecca K. Miller, Heather Moorefield-Lang, and Carolyn Meier write: "Mobile phones, personal electronic devices, and tablet computers have infiltrated most corners of the academic library. Although many institutions are interested in exploring these new technologies, some are focusing on tablet computers in particular to enhance and even reimagine their services to better support their communities. Yet we are only at the



[ALA Midwinter Meeting.](#)

Seattle, January 25–29. Connect and get the conversations going—facilitated conversations and discussion groups, award and author events, Exhibits Opening Reception, Book Buzz Theater, the ALA-APA Networking Reception, speed networking, Dine-Around, and much more. Stay in touch and get updates at the [Midwinter website](#).



beginning.”...

American Libraries column, March

Currents

In December, **Judith Sessions** (right) retired as dean of Miami University Libraries in Oxford, Ohio. **Barbara Ann Schmitt Webb**, 66, retired assistant director of electronic resources and technology at Montgomery County (Md.) Public Libraries, died November 10. **Kristin Weltzheimer**, 63, died November 29. She had served as director of the Somers Library in Katonah, New York, and the Warner Library in Tarrytown, New York....



American Libraries column

[Go back to the Top](#)



american libraries **LIVE** Get the inside scoop on pressing library topics.

ALA News

[Lisa Genova to present 2013 Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture](#)

Neuroscientist-turned-novelist Lisa Genova has captured a special place in contemporary fiction by using her immense knowledge of how the brain works in her novels. ALA Midwinter attendees have a chance to hear this unique, popular, and moving author at the 2013 [Arthur Curley Memorial Lecture](#) on Saturday, January 26....



Conference Services, Nov. 28

[Innovative Advocacy in Action Institute](#)

In a changing landscape, libraries and library communities are rethinking the way they advocate for funding and services. “[Innovative Advocacy in Action: An Advocacy Institute Discussion](#),” to be held January 25 at the 2013 ALA Midwinter Meeting, will showcase some of these new efforts from around the country. Speakers include John Chrastka, Ken Haycock, Pat Tumulty, Lauren Comito, and Christian Zabriskie....

Office for Library Advocacy, Dec. 3

[ALA-APA Networking Reception](#)

The ALA–Allied Professional Association will present its first-ever fundraising event on January 26 during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. The [Networking Reception](#) will be an evening of fun, music, and refreshments where you can experience a taste of Seattle’s nightlife. [Register](#) through the Midwinter Meeting registration page....



ALA–Allied Professional Association, Nov. 29

[Ignite yourself at Midwinter](#)

PC Sweeney writes: “This year at Midwinter, the [ALA Think Tank](#) will hold the first-ever Ignite ALA.



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[simmons.edu/ald](#)

Ignite is a geek event held in more than 100 cities worldwide where presenters share their personal and professional passions, using 20 slides that auto-advance every 15 seconds for a total of just five minutes. Many of these presentations are recorded live and broadcast or archived to be shared. This will be ALA's first-ever attempt to Ignite our passions for our profession. We are looking for 8–10 presenters on any number of topics.”...

PC Sweeney's Blog, Dec. 1



[Wrap up Midwinter with a Star Wars party](#)

Best-selling authors Chris Alexander and Tom Angleberger will host a Star Wars–themed [Wrap Up/Rev Up party](#) at the 2013 ALA Midwinter Meeting on Monday, January 28, 2–3 p.m., wrapping up the Seattle event and revving up for Annual Conference in Chicago. From storm troopers to origami, there'll be something for everyone, including photo opportunities with characters....

Conference Services, Dec. 4



[Steve Berry is spokesperson for 2013 Preservation Week](#)

The Preservation Week adventure continues with *New York Times* bestselling author Steve Berry (right) as National Spokesperson for Preservation Week, April 21–27. A devoted student of history, Berry and his wife, Elizabeth, founded History Matters, a nonprofit organization dedicated to aiding the preservation of the fragile reminders of our past. He will appear in print and digital PSAs promoting Preservation Week....

ALCTS, Nov. 30



[Free webinar on digital literacy and libraries](#)

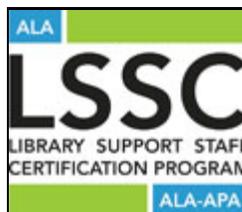
To start a national dialogue on digital literacy education, ALA will host a free webinar, "[Assessing Digital Literacy: Outcomes and Impact.](#)" on December 11. The webinar, hosted by the Office for Information Technology Policy and the ALA Digital Literacy Task Force, is a follow-up to the well-attended web-based forum that ALA hosted in November. To RSVP for the webinar (to be streamed live), email [Marijke Visser](mailto:Marijke.Visser@ala.org) using Digital Literacy in the subject line....

District Dispatch, Dec. 3



[Two support staff webinars in December](#)

The ALA–Allied Professional Association's [Library Support Staff Certification](#) program will be offering two free webinars, one an introduction to the LSSC program on December 10, and another on preparing a portfolio on December 11. Anyone



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With more than a million followers on Twitter, Printz-award winner John Green has a lot to say. When he declares "[Reading Is Awesome](#)" on this new poster, we couldn't agree with him more. Green is the *New York Times*–bestselling author of *Looking for Alaska*, *An Abundance of Katherines*, *Paper Towns*, *Will Grayson, Will Grayson*, and most recently, *The Fault in Our Stars*. **NEW! From ALA Graphics.**

interested in the programs are welcome to sign up....

ALA–Allied Professional Association, Dec. 4

[Present a poster session in Chicago](#)

Share your best ideas and work with the national library community by presenting a poster session at the 2013 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. You can start the [application process](#) now. The [poster session committee](#) encourages submissions from all types of libraries on any topic relevant to librarianship. Submissions could include a description of an innovative library program, an analysis of a solution to a problem, or a research report. The deadline is January 18....

Conference Services



[National Model for Scholar-Led Reading and Discussion](#)

Join the ALA Public Programs Office for a live, one-hour webinar, titled "Let's Talk About It: The National Model for Scholar-Led Reading and Discussion." The session will take place on December 12 at 2 p.m. Central time. Presented by Frannie Ashburn, a Let's Talk About It state-level coordinator and 24-year veteran, the webinar will offer an overview of the model, tips for recruiting and working with a scholar, and a tour of ProgrammingLibrarian.org's ready-to-present program content....

Programming Librarian

[Jump-start your digital career](#)

The skills of digital librarianship are more crucial than ever, and these same skills are in high demand outside the field, from tech startups undertaking digitization projects to digital humanities centers bringing together professors, computer scientists, and information technologists. [Jump-Start Your Career as a Digital Librarian: A LITA Guide](#), edited by Jane Monson and published by ALA Neal-Schuman, helps readers map out a career in this fast-growing field....

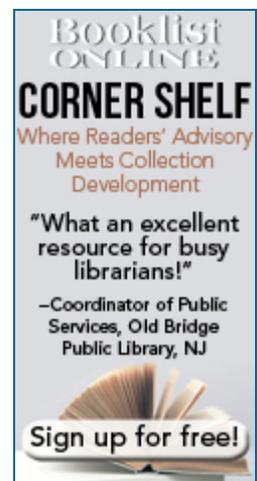
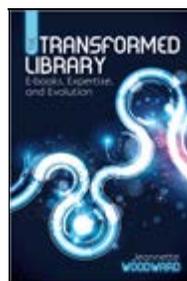
ALA Neal-Schuman, Nov. 28



[The transformed library](#)

A wide-ranging survey that takes stock of our institutions' strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats, [The Transformed Library: E-books, Expertise, and Evolution](#), published by ALA Editions, analyzes how libraries and the very concept of librarianship have been comprehensively transformed over the past few decades. A respected veteran of libraries who has witnessed first-hand the many changes in the library world, author Jeannette Woodward provides a balanced, realistic look at the situation confronting both libraries and information professionals....

ALA Editions, Dec. 4



Great Libraries of the World



[Wren Library](#), Trinity College, Cambridge University, UK.
Designed by architect

[Alternatives to a four-year college degree](#)

As college tuitions soar and the job market tightens, many young adults are questioning whether or not they should go to college. For those interested in diving directly into the workplace, [I Don't Want to Go to College: Other Paths to Success](#) maps out the route to career success. Written by Heather Z. Hutchins and published by Huron Street Press, this book discusses the pros and cons of this path, as well as the reasons why many students fare poorly in college....

ALA Huron Street Press, Dec. 4



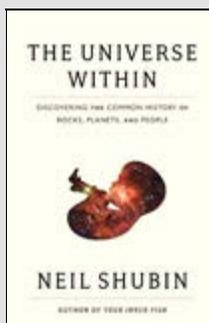
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Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Science](#)

Shubin, Neil. *The Universe Within: Discovering the Common History of Rocks, Planets, and People*. Jan. 2013. 240p. Pantheon, hardcover (978-0-307-37843-9).

Walt Whitman yawned, "I contain multitudes," and in *Your Inner Fish* (2008), Shubin confirmed him by demonstrating how the evolution of life on earth is inscribed in the human body. Now Shubin shows that all creation, from the big bang on, is packed in there, too. Hard to swallow? Well, ingestion had little to do with it. But analogize rocks and bodies, both of which bear "the signature of the great events that shaped them." Shubin relates the discoveries of eight such events and their signatures. The big bang gave us the atoms of our bodies. The formation of the solar system, by allowing earth so much water, helped determine our size, shape, and functionality....



[Top 10 science and health books](#)

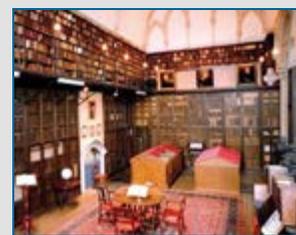


Donna Seaman writes: "From gripping memoirs to tours de force born of arduous research and masterful writing, the 10 best science and health books of the last 12 months offer arresting and invaluable insights into the workings of our minds and bodies and the complexities of nature that sustain and endanger us."...

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

[Go back to the Top](#)

Christopher Wren in 1676 and completed in 1695, the library's first floor is decorated with limewood carvings by sculptor Grinling Gibbons and furnished with a series of marble busts of college alumni by Louis-François Roubiliac, among them naturalist John Ray, ornithologist Francis Willughby, classicist Richard Bentley, philosopher Francis Bacon, and mathematician Isaac Newton. At the far end of the library is a statue of poet Lord Byron by Bertel Thorvaldsen. Some of the college's most notable manuscripts are displayed in the library, including an 8th-century copy of the Epistles of St. Paul, John Milton's shorter poems in his own handwriting, and the original manuscript of A. A. Milne's *Winnie-the-Pooh*.



[York Minster Library,](#)

York, UK. The largest cathedral library in the country, the collection of books, tracts, and pamphlets had its origins in 1414, when Canon Treasurer John Newton bequeathed 40 volumes of manuscripts for a library. In 1629, the library grew to a collection of national significance with the gift of some 3,000



MIDWINTER MEETING AND EXHIBITS
Seattle, Washington | January 25-29, 2013

American Library Association
The conversation starts **here...**

Seattle Update

The Seattle Aquarium

The city's aquarium is the ninth largest aquarium in the US by attendance and among the top five paid visitor attractions in the Puget Sound region. Its species collection is featured within six major exhibits: Window on Washington Waters, Life on the Edge, Pacific Coral Reef, Puget Sound Fish and Dome Room, Puget Sound Orcas Family Activity Center, and Marine Mammals. A special exhibit on Midwinter weekend is "Hawaii in Your Own Backyard." Check out the [otter cams](#)...

Seattle Aquarium



Virtual walking tours of five districts

HistoryLink offers virtual walking tours of Ballard, Pike Place Market, Pioneer Square, Columbia City, and the International District to get you in the proper historical mood for your Midwinter visit....

HistoryLink

Are you up for comedy?

[Unexpected Productions](#) offers improv shows or Seattle Theatresports competitions every night except Monday and Tuesday in Market Theater, at the Gum Wall in Pike Place Market. [Jet City Improv](#), at 5510 University Way N.E., is a fast-paced, audience-interactive, all-ages-appropriate, short-form improv show. [Comedy Underground](#) brings the best in comedy to its venue at Swannies, 109 S. Washington Street....

The Log House Museum

The Log House Museum, 3001 61st Ave. S.W., is located in a renovated 1904 Douglas fir log structure that once served as a carriage house to the Fir Lodge, one of the first year-round homes built on Alki Beach. Run by the Southwest Seattle Historical Society, the museum's current exhibit brings to life the stories of ordinary people on the Duwamish Peninsula....

Log House Museum



Top 10 vegetarian restaurants

Hanna Raskin writes: "Chefs have lately gotten wise to the splendor of vegetables, and eaters of all dietary inclinations are the beneficiaries. Here are our picks for the 10 Seattle restaurants serving the very best vegetarian dishes, no matter what drives you to order them. And, speaking of ordering, the numbering of our list is arbitrary, except that we've put our favorite restaurant, [Carmelita](#), in the number-one slot."...

Seattle Weekly, July 9



Check, Please! Northwest

Check, Please! Northwest on KCTS-TV features local diners, not professional restaurant critics. Each week three guests dine out at and discuss



books by Archbishop Tobias Matthew. The old library resides in a former 13th-century chapel that was restored around 1810 to accommodate it; a new addition was built in 1998.

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. Some will be featured in [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart, which is scheduled for publication in 2013 by ALA Editions. There is also a [Great Libraries of the World Pinterest board](#).

The e-newsletter that keeps you current on job seeking and hiring

Career Leads from JobLIST

[Director of Strategic Assessment](#), North Carolina State University Libraries, Raleigh. Achieving and sustaining the Libraries' vision of being NC State's competitive advantage requires strategic planning along with measurement, assessment, and

their favorite restaurants in the Greater Seattle area. The 2012 season is over, but you can watch all the episodes online....
KCTS-TV, Seattle

[Travel tips from Silicon Valley](#)

Stephanie Rosenbloom writes: "For a certain type of frequent-flying entrepreneur in and around Silicon Valley, travel is an art form—one that doesn't require private jets and fat wallets. Rather, they have perfected the art of traveling comfortably, without anxiety or wasted time. I caught up with half a dozen of these travel aces from companies like Google, Klout, Yelp, and LinkedIn and pumped them for pointers on how to make planning and taking vacations as effortless as shuffling an iPod." Watch the [video](#) (3:04)....

New York Times, July 12



Division News

[J. A. Jance and others highlight the Gala Author Tea](#)

United for Libraries will host the [Gala Author Tea](#), sponsored by ReferenceUSA, on January 28 at the 2013 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. Featured authors will be J. A. Jance (right), Erica Bauermeister, Roger Hobbs, Amanda Hocking, Phillip Margolin, and Thomas Perry. [Register](#) through the Midwinter Meeting registration page....

United for Libraries, Nov. 29



[ACRL launches new Immersion track](#)

Registration is now available for the ACRL new Information Literacy Immersion program's "Practical Management for the Instruction Coordinator" track. The new track will address how to lead from within and develop the powers of persuasion to influence in multiple directions. It will be held April 10 in Indianapolis. The deadline is February 22....

ACRL, Dec. 4



[Celebrate reference at the RUSA reception](#)

All ALA Midwinter Meeting participants are invited to celebrate the winners of numerous adult reading and reference awards and build their 2013 to-be-read lists at the RUSA [Midwinter Book and Media Awards Reception](#) on January 27. The literary winners announced at this event will shape the author lineup for the Literary Tastes program at ALA's 2013 Annual Conference in Chicago....

RUSA, Dec. 4

[Holiday gift recommendations from RUSA](#)

Wondering what to buy for the book lover in your life this holiday season? Let the readers' advisory and collection development librarians of RUSA help you with your shopping list. Each year these experts hand-pick winners for a variety of adult reading awards sponsored by the division, and there's something for every adult reader among the 2012 winners....

RUSA Blog, Nov. 28

[Relax with RUSA colleagues](#)

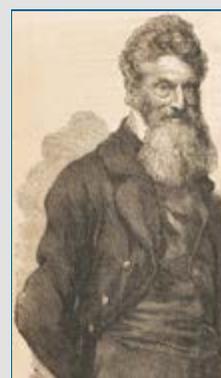
Kick off the 2013 ALA Midwinter Meeting in style with the RUSA

evaluation of organizational performance. The Director of Strategic Assessment will lead the Libraries' systematic collection, analysis, and reporting of organizational data to support management decisions and demonstrate and enhance the library's value....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The [Trials Pamphlet Collection](#) at the Cornell University Law Library consists of pamphlets ranging in date from the late 1600s to the late 1800s. Trial pamphlets are contemporary accounts of trials that involved prominent citizens or that dealt with especially controversial or lurid topics. These pamphlets were produced quickly and inexpensively, and

[Membership Social](#) on January 26—an opportunity to eat, drink, network, win door prizes, and learn more about the division. The social is open to all current RUSA members, friends of RUSA, and those Midwinter attendees interested in learning more about the division and networking with peers....

RUSA Blog, Nov. 28

[YALSA Teens and Libraries Summit](#)

Fifteen applicants have been selected to attend the YALSA [Teens and Libraries Summit](#), January 23–24, prior to the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. The Summit, part of YALSA's year-long National Forum on Libraries and Teens project, will feature two days of speakers, panels, and small group discussion to examine the current state of library services for and with young adults, and to explore how library services may need to evolve to meet the needs of 21st-century adolescents....

YALSA, Dec. 4



[LITA workshops at Midwinter](#)

LITA is offering two full-day workshops, to be held on January 25 at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle: "[Building Web Applications with HTML5, CSS3, and Javascript: An Introduction to HTML5](#)," and "[Developing a Web Analytics Strategy for Your Library: Using Data to Measure Success](#)." ...

LITA, Dec. 4

[ASCLA seeks webinar proposals](#)

Proposals are invited from subject matter experts and experienced librarians for ASCLA webinars to be presented in 2013 on topics such as innovative services for an aging population, collaborative digitization, correctional librarianship 101, data analysis and assessment, and serving disabled patrons. Webinar presenters are compensated for their work and will receive training and support for Blackboard Collaborate. Learn how to [submit a proposal](#)....

ASCLA Blog, Oct. 26

[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[Julie Walker receives Outstanding Achievement Award](#)

AASL Executive Director Julie Walker (right) was recognized with an outstanding achievement award by the Family Online Safety Institute during its 2012 annual conference in Washington, D.C., on November 15. Nominated by the National Cable and Telecommunications Association, Walker was recognized for her role as a leading advocate of information literacy and for educating students to be smart, safe users of information....

AASL, Nov. 29



[Finalists in the 2013 Award for Excellence in YA Nonfiction](#)

YALSA has selected five books as finalists for the 2013 YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults, which honors the best

then sold on the street soon after the trial to a mass audience. The collection contains a wealth of information about the daily lives of ordinary people of the period, with a special focus on the treatment of women and minorities. Because cases were not officially reported on until the 1830s, the collection is one of the few ways to research trials from the 18th and early 19th centuries. The collection includes pamphlets from John Brown's trial for his raid on Harpers Ferry in 1859, the trial of the Lincoln assassination conspirators, the impeachment trial of President Andrew Johnson, and Lizzie Borden's trial for her parents' murders.

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. Check out our [Featured Digital Libraries Pinterest board](#).

Noted and Quoted

"Librarians are pathologically helpful. Google could care less."

—Mark Busse, "[Turn Off Google and Go to the Library](#)," Design Edge Canada, Nov. 23.

@ [More quotes...](#)

nonfiction books written for young adults between November 1, 2011, and October 31, 2012. YALSA will name the winner at the Youth Media Awards on January 28 during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. Annotations and more information on the finalists and the award can be found on the [YALSA website](#)....

YALSA, Dec. 4

[ALA Student Chapter of the Year Award](#)

Has your ALA student chapter had an outstanding year? Has membership in your chapter increased? Do you have outstanding officers or members who should be recognized nationally? If you answered yes to these questions, then [apply](#) for the New Members Round Table Student Chapter of the Year Award. The winner will receive \$1,000 to help defray travel expenses to ALA Annual Conference....

NMRT Notes, Dec. 3

[Nominations sought for Kilgour Award](#)

Nominations are invited for the 2013 Frederick G. Kilgour Award for Research in Library and Information Technology, sponsored by OCLC and LITA. The award recognizes research relevant to the development of information technologies. The deadline for nominations is December 31....

LITA, Nov. 29

[Nominations for RUSA awards due December 15](#)

RUSA is offering travel grants, research grants, and achievement awards, many with cash prizes. Do you know someone who should know about one or more of these? Especially noteworthy this year are two new awards: the [Gale Cengage History Research and Innovation Award](#) and the [BRASS Business Expert Press Award for Academic Business Librarians](#)....

RUSA Blog, Nov. 28

[California State Library website wins award](#)

The International Council on Active Aging has awarded California State Library's [Transforming Life After 50](#) website the Rebranding Aging Silver Award in its Best Website category for 2012. The awards, presented in New Orleans on November 29, were included as part of ICAA's Changing the Way We Age Campaign and went to organizations that exemplify exciting new ideas on aging that help to break stereotypes about older consumers....

California State Library, Nov. 30

[New Stanford Prize for Innovation in Research Libraries](#)

Stanford University Libraries announced December 4 that it will offer a prize to recognize innovation through programs, projects, and new or improved services that benefit readers and users. The goal is to celebrate significant results of the innovative impulses in libraries anywhere in the world that support research. Nominations must be [submitted](#) by January 15....

Stanford University Libraries

[2012 Tower Hamlets Book Award](#)

Liz Pichon's *The Brilliant World of Tom Gates* (Scholastic) was announced as the winner of this year's Tower Hamlets Book Award on November 30

ENJOY OUR LATEST CONTENT

[I Love My Librarian Award Celebrates the Best of the Best in Librarianship](#)



[Longtime Reporter Clark Kent Is Now a Blogger](#)

[Rosa Parks @ your library](#)

[Frank Lloyd Wright: 'A house is more a home by being a work of art'](#)

[Highlights from the 2011 I Love My Librarian Award Ceremony \(video\)](#)

[The Rise and Fall of Apartheid](#)



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Calendar

Jan. 9:
[CurateGear 2013: Enabling the Curation of Digital Collections](#),

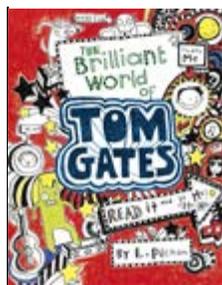
Conference, William and Ida Friday Center for Continuing Education, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Jan. 10:
[American Libraries Live](#), "Landing Your



at a ceremony in the new library at Swanlea Secondary School in Whitechapel, East London. The award, now in its sixth year, is for the best fiction book as voted by Tower Hamlets pupils in grades 5–8, and it aims to inspire children to read for fun and to encourage discussion about some of the best new books....

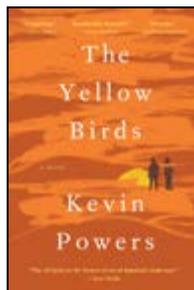
Tower Hamlets Schools Library Service



2012 Guardian First Book Award

The 14th annual *Guardian* First Book Award has been won by Kevin Powers for *The Yellow Birds* (Sceptre), a novel that dramatizes the psychological trauma of Private John Bartle during his first tour in Iraq and the effects of a hidden war on mothers and families at home. It is based on Powers's own experiences as a gunner. The First Book Award, which carries a prize of £10,000 (\$16,106 US) is for new writing in any genre....

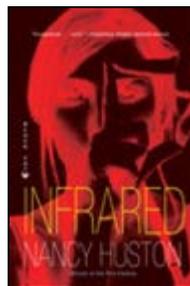
The Guardian (UK), Nov. 29



2012 Bad Sex in Literature Award

Nancy Huston has won the *Literary Review's* annual Bad Sex in Literature Award for her novel *Infrared*. Now in its 20th year, the award continues a tradition of "gentle chastisement of the worst excesses of the literary novel." Follow [this link](#) to read an excerpt. The choice was [announced](#) December 4 by *Downton Abbey* actress Samantha Bond during a ceremony at the Naval and Military Club in London....

GalleyCat, Dec. 4; Huffington Post, Dec. 4



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Libraries in the News

Newark library covers up controversial art

A huge drawing (right) hanging in the second-floor reference room of the Newark (N.J.) Public Library has raised so much ruckus that the head librarian has had to cover it up with cloth so no one can see what it shows. Kara Walker, an African-American artist who examines race, gender, sexuality, and violence, created the drawing, which depicts the horrors of Reconstruction, 20th-century Jim Crow laws, and the Ku Klux Klan. But what has people upset is one section that depicts oral sex....

Newark (N.J.) Star-Ledger, Dec. 2



Neonomicon banned in South Carolina

The executive director of the Greenville County (S.C.) Public Library made the decision in November to [remove](#) Alan Moore's award-winning graphic novel



Ideal Library Job."

Feb. 8:
[HTML5 and CSS3: Ready for Prime Time](#), webinar.

Sponsored by Amigos Library Services.

Feb. 10–15:
[Jerusalem International Book Fair](#), Jerusalem, Israel.

Feb. 12–15:
[2nd International Conference on Academic Libraries](#), GGSIP University, New Delhi, India. "Academic Library Services Through Cloud Computing: Moving Libraries to the Web."

Feb. 14:
[American Libraries Live](#), "Mobile Services: The Library in Your Pocket."

Mar. 15–16:
[Penn State Shenango Teaching Conference](#), Penn State Shenango Campus, Sharon. "Meeting the Challenges of the 21st-Century Classroom."

Apr. 2:
[International Children's Book Day](#).

Apr. 2–3:
[1st Annual North American Data Documentation Initiative Conference](#), Kansas Union, University of Kansas, Lawrence.

Neonomicon from shelves throughout the system, despite a letter of support from anticensorship groups. The removal was against the recommendation of the library's content review committee. WSPA-TV [interviewed](#) retired librarian Pat Scales (above), who is on the board of advisors for the National Coalition Against Censorship, about the situation...

Comic Book Legal Defense Fund blog, Dec. 3-4; *Greenville (S.C.) Journal*, Nov. 6; WSPA-TV, Spartanburg, S.C., Dec. 3

[Undertaking NYPL's destruction](#)

Architecture critic Ada Louise Huxtable writes: "There is no more important landmark building in New York than the New York Public Library. Yet it is about to undertake its own destruction. The library is on a fast track to demolish the seven floors of stacks (right) just below the magnificent, two-block-long Rose Reading Room for a \$300 million restructuring referred to as the Central Library Plan. However, I have become convinced that irreversible changes of this magnitude should not be made in this landmark building. This is all about the building, a subject that has not been adequately addressed."...

Wall Street Journal, Dec. 3



[School librarian wins on Wheel of Fortune](#)

Kathy Mansfield (right, with host Pat Sajak), librarian at Heritage Elementary School in Shelby County, Kentucky, won big on the *Wheel of Fortune* game show that aired November 23. She brought back \$16,000 in cash, a \$1,000 gift certificate from Omaha Steaks, and a ticket for an eight-day cruise through the Panama Canal...

Wheel of Fortune contestant blog, Nov. 24



[Naperville pilot program aims to keep residents healthy](#)

In January, the Naperville (Ill.) Public Library will launch "Healthy, Wealthy, and Wise," a yearlong [pilot initiative](#) that aims to improve the financial and physical health of residents and transform the library into an indispensable center of unbiased health and financial information for the entire community. Naperville Executive Director John Spears (above) said, "Healthy, Wealthy, and Wise is an excellent opportunity to reposition us as a community center: a vital resource for the well-being of our residents and library users."...

RUSA Blog, Dec. 3; Naperville (Ill.) Community Television, Nov. 16



[Tennessee library wants to end LSSI contract](#)

Library officials in Millington, Tennessee, want to cut ties with their private operator and create a library services department in the city. Millington contracted with Library Systems and Services (LSSI) in 2005, when control of the public library transferred from Shelby County to the city. Library Board Chair Sue Nan Hartley told the city board December 3 that LSSI has been helpful over the years, but recently has boxed them in, limiting what books they can order and what equipment they can purchase....

Memphis (Tenn.) Commercial Appeal, Dec. 3

[Apr. 4-5: Research Data Access and Preservation Summit](#)

Baltimore Marriott Waterfront. Sponsored by the American Society for Information Science and Technology.

@ [More...](#)

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[Kaplan Collection of Early American Judaica](#)

Pennsylvania State University Libraries have received the Arnold and Deanne Kaplan Collection of Early American Judaica, a gift valued at \$8.5 million and containing more than 11,000 items. It documents the social and economic development of early Jewish life in the Western Hemisphere, with its core covering the period before mass Jewish migration to the Americas in the late 1880s....

Pennsylvania State University, Dec. 3

[Cornell lays down the lawn for finals week](#)

On December 3, Cornell University custodial staff laid down a patch of grass inside Olin Library in preparation for finals week.

According to a couple of the library employees and at least one guy at the circulation desk, it's grass trucked in from the Adirondacks because apparently the feel and sight of it has a "cognitive relaxing effect."...

Cornell Daily Sun, Dec. 3



[Pennsylvania modernizes its library code](#)

On November 30, Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett ceremonially signed into law changes (Senate Bill 1225) that will modernize the state's Library Code. The new law will help all of Pennsylvania's libraries by eliminating outdated mandates and updating requirements for staffing, collections, facilities, and accessibility. It will also establish continuing education requirements for librarians, include more librarians on the Advisory Council on Library Development, and require a complete review of all regulations that apply to Pennsylvania libraries....

Pennsylvania Office of the Governor, Nov. 30

[UK public libraries face rapid changes](#)

More than 1,000 library staff in the UK will lose their jobs in the next 12 months, according to a new survey ([PDF file](#)) by the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals. A survey of local authorities by CILIP, carried out during July and September with the support of the Society of Chief Librarians, led to their estimate that 1,720 opening hours a week will also be cut. The library service in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland will also lose £22.5 million (\$36.2 million US) in revenue expenditure....

Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals, Dec. 4

[Medieval trench uncovered in future Vaclav Havel Library](#)

Archaeologists conducting research on the courtyard of a Prague building that is to host the Vaclav Havel Library have uncovered a medieval trench filled with ground layers that come from a cemetery and contain a number of human bones. Experts say the trench was used from the latter half of the 13th century to the mid-16th century. The planned reconstruction of the historical house, built in the 16th century near Prague Castle, has stirred up stormy discussions....

Czech News Agency, Dec. 3

[Go back to the Top](#)

Issues

Jennifer Henderson,
Contributing Researcher

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[Online privacy protection moves forward](#)

The Senate Judiciary Committee took an important bipartisan vote November 29 to reform the Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986 and strengthen the privacy protection of emails and documents stored online in the cloud. Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) spearheaded an amendment to the existing law to require that the government seek warrants before law enforcement can obtain personal online records from internet service providers and third-party providers. The current ECPA law allows investigators access without judicial approval....

District Dispatch, Nov. 29

[How community broadband saves tax dollars](#)

Schools, libraries, and other community anchor institutions have an acute need for high-capacity telecommunications connections. But the cost of leasing can break budgets already under pressure to shrink while the demand for bandwidth grows. However, local and regional governments can find new and unexpected ways to cut costs when they build their own next-generation networks, as shown by this Public Savings Fact Sheet ([PDF file](#))....

Institute for Local Self-Reliance, Nov. 29



[Let's \(not\) do the numbers](#)

Barbara Fister writes: "There seems to be a sense that if libraries can't please everyone all the time, if they don't have as much market share and mindshare as possible, they are not demonstrating their value. Why does it matter so much whether students recognize our brand and find it valuable for their own self-interest? When did being liked become our mission? I blame Mark Zuckerberg. Actually, I blame the larger forces that have primed us to believe that being liked in quantifiable numbers is our goal in life."...

Inside Higher Ed: Library Babel Fish, Dec. 3

[What motivates donors](#)

Katya Andresen writes: "A new study from Charity Dynamics and NTEN, the Nonprofit Donor Engagement Benchmark Study ([PDF file](#)), as well as the hot-off-the-presses [Donor Perspectives Study](#) from Blackbaud, come to the same conclusions. The findings aren't surprising but are certainly worth remembering as we go into fundraising season. The bottom line? Establishing emotional connections with donors remains paramount."...

Katya's Nonprofit Marketing Blog, Nov. 14

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Publishers must catch up to mobile adopters](#)

Judy Luther writes: "When content is available on a mobile device, we expect the convenience of access anytime from anywhere. However, if the content is licensed to an institution, the user's path for mobile access can be complicated with pitfalls. The current method of using IP authentication to verify legitimate users is a location-based method that requires the user to either be on campus or appear to be on campus by signing on through the university's network. So unless the user plans ahead, he or she is likely to be disappointed."...

The Scholarly Kitchen, Dec. 3

[Stand-up desks gaining favor in the](#)

[workplace](#)

Steve Lohr writes: "The health hazards of sitting for long stretches are significant even for people who are quite active when they're not sitting down. Yet many of us spend long hours each day sitting in front of a computer. There are now workstations that allow modern information workers to stand, even walk, while toiling at a keyboard. Steelcase offered its first models of height-adjustable desks in 2004, and in the last five years sales of its adjustable desks and the treadmill desk have surged fivefold." [Less expensive models](#) can be found....

New York Times, Dec. 1



[Using volunteer technology instructors](#)

Crystal Schimpf writes: "Volunteer technology instructors make it possible for libraries to expand technology training programs and reach more people needing assistance and instruction. Volunteers can provide dedicated attention to technology learners without juggling other responsibilities like the reference or circulation desk. Here are some important tips and best practices to remember as you find ways to involve volunteers as tech instructors."...

TechSoup for Libraries, Dec. 5



[Can I leave my gadgets in a cold or hot car?](#)

Whitson Gordon writes: "Leaving gadgets in your car in the cold or heat affects the battery, screen, and other parts. In general, you want to avoid extreme temperatures as much as possible, so no, I would not recommend leaving it in your car. Here's a bit more detail on what your laptop or smartphone can take."...

Lifehacker, Dec. 5

[Five essential WordPress tips](#)

Jonathan Goldford writes: "Have you ever been driving your car, playing on your computer, or trying to change the input on your TV when, all of a sudden, someone introduces you to a mind-blowing new feature? Here, we cover five great, lesser-known WordPress features. Soon, you too will experience that elusive 'Ah-ha!' moment."...

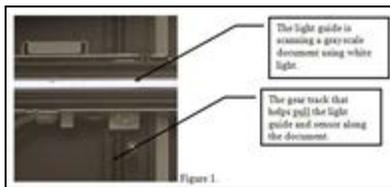
Mashable, Dec. 5



[What resolution should I use?](#)

Barry Wheeler writes: "What is resolution? What resolution should I look for when I buy a scanner? What resolution should I use when using my scanner? These are questions we hear frequently when speaking to people about their digital conversion projects. Unfortunately, the questions are hard to answer. The material can get very technical and can be difficult to apply. So I'll try to answer the first question now and the second two questions in a follow-up blog post later on."...

The Signal: Digital Preservation, Dec. 5



[Making reference targets for digital images](#)

Robin Ness writes: "It is standard practice to

include a reference target for tone and color reproduction in each digital image capture. Reference targets are used to achieve accurate color reproduction by providing visual references to known swatch color values directly within digital image captures. The Kodak Q-13 is recommended for the grayscale and color reference. Here are the materials and tools you will need.”...
Curio, Nov. 28



[Go back to the Top](#)

E-Content

[Survey for librarians on ebook use](#)

[Against the Grain](#) is conducting a survey of librarians’ personal and professional ebook usage. The survey is 24 questions long and should take approximately 15 minutes to complete. Contact [Leah Hinds](#) if you have any questions or comments....

Against the Grain

[Children’s ebooks come up missing](#)

Christopher Harris writes: “For its December ebook report ([PDF file](#)), Douglas County (Colo.) Libraries looked at availability of books the top 10 [New York Times Children’s Chapter Books list](#). The mix of fiction and nonfiction on the list reveals the problem of trying to force a move towards digital content. In this case, 40% of the books are simply not available in any electronic format.”...

AL: E-Content, Dec. 5

[For authors: Six essential issues in ebook contract negotiations](#)

Deanna Utroske writes: “Publishers and authors are shaping new standard contracts as the industry shifts toward digital-first and e-original book publishing. As opposed to big publishers, which are thought to pay authors a [standard ebook royalty](#) of 25%, new independent ebook publishers like The Atavist, Open Road Media, and OR Books, can and do pay authors substantially more. But on what terms? There are six basic issues at stake.”...

Digital Book World, Dec. 4; Authors Guild Blog, Feb. 3, 2011

[Who is tracking your ebook reading habits?](#)

Cindy Cohn and Parker Higgins write: “If you’re in the market for ebooks or an e-reader this year, you might want to know who’s keeping an eye on your searching, shopping, and reading habits. As we’ve done since 2009, we’ve taken some of the most popular ebook platforms and combed through their privacy policies for answers to [common privacy questions](#) that users deserve to know. In nearly all cases, reading ebooks means giving up more privacy than browsing through a physical bookstore or library, or reading a paper book in your own home.”...

Electronic Frontier Foundation, Nov. 29

Can they keep track of searches for books?				
Google Books	Amazon Kindle	Barnes & Noble Nook	Kobo	Sony
Yes	Yes/Unclear	Yes/Unclear	Yes	Yes
Logs all search data with IP address. Will also associate searches with user's Google	Logs data on products viewed and/or searched for on the device, and associates info with Amazon account	The privacy policy indicates that searches made on the Nook are probably not recorded, but B&N associates user	Kobo seems to have the capability to keep track of book searches because it indicates that it shares	Sony seems to collect information on "the interaction, which presumably includes user

[Why we need two national digital libraries](#)

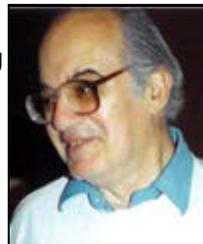
David Rothman writes: “A commenter writing as Front Line Librarian

[shares](#): 'On a daily basis I help people who struggle with literacy, never mind using a computer, to apply for jobs like cook, janitor, deck hand. When that requires you to fill out a web form, complete with CAPTCHA spam shield, I know there is a problem.' Front Line is strengthening my argument that America urgently needs two intertwined but separate national digital library systems—one public and one academic. Believe me, I of all people know the digital gap is alive and wide."...

LibraryCity, Dec. 2, 3

[Has it ever been this bad?](#)

Brian Kenney writes: "When I left magazine publishing and returned to working in libraries a year ago, I promised myself one thing: When it comes to ebooks, I wouldn't get my boxer shorts into a twist. It hasn't been easy. To find a period as bleak as this, we have to jump back to 1966 and the Senate hearings on the price fixing of library books. Sound familiar? It was Marvin Scilken (right), then the young director of the Orange (N.J.) Public Library, who blew the whistle on the growing practice of publishers and wholesalers requiring libraries to purchase 'library editions' costing 50% more than trade editions."...



Publishers Weekly, Nov. 30

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Books & Reading

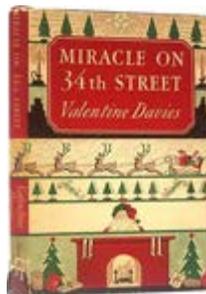
[OED word-deletion story a bit more prosaic](#)

Last week, the UK newspaper *The Guardian* broke a story from the dictionary world about a former *Oxford English Dictionary* editor who quietly deleted thousands of words. But the truth is more prosaic. The former editor, in compiling material for four supplements to the *OED*, had not seen fit to include everything that was in a previous supplement to the dictionary's first edition, published in 1933, including thousands of words borrowed from foreign languages. All omitted words are now being reincorporated....

New York Times, Dec. 2

[Vintage holiday books](#)

Beth Carswell writes: "Pinterest's specialty lies in an abundance of beauty—a feast for the eyes. AbeBooks's [Pinterest board](#) embraces that notion, along with some wonderful memories and nostalgia for the booklover. It showcases a huge selection of Christmas books and holiday books from the late 19th century to the 1960s, including titles from Charles Dickens, Jean de Brunhoff, L. Frank Baum, Alison Uttley, G. A. Henty, and Enid Blyton."...



AbeBooks's Reading Copy, Dec. 3

[The top 10 novellas of all time](#)

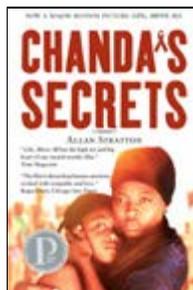
Johann Thorsson writes: "Novellas, works of between 20,000 and 40,000 words, are awesome and wildly underrated. With the rise in e-readers—Kindle and Kobos and whatnot—it is my theory that the time of the novella is upon us, since reading a novella is a more rewarding experience than long books. So what are the best of this best form of fiction? Here is the

definitive list, the best of the best of novellas.”...
Book Riot, Nov. 30

[AIDS in YA literature](#)

Molly Wetta writes: “Despite advances in treatment and an increased awareness about transmission of the disease, the statistics related to HIV-positive individuals and new infection rates are alarming: 1.2 million in the US are living with HIV, and about 20% of them are unaware of their status. Reading literature about characters living with this affliction is one way to promote understanding that will reduce the stigma associated with the disease as well as increase education. These books tackle this issue.”...

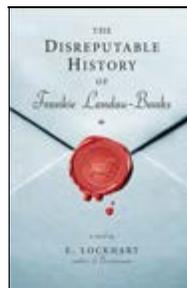
YALSA The Hub, Dec. 1



[Gender-neutral names in YA novels](#)

Allison Tran writes: “As an admitted name nerd, I’ve noticed a trend in YA fiction recently—many characters who sport gender-neutral names. Gender-neutral names aren’t new: Morgan, Ashley, and Kelly crossed over from the boys’ side during the mid-20th century, for example. Authors might be using them to make their characters sound strong, maybe even a little edgy. Let’s take a look at some of the gender-neutral character names in recent YA novels.”...

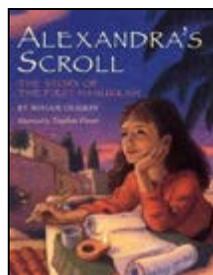
YALSA The Hub, Nov. 29



[Hanukkah books for kids](#)

The Association of Jewish Libraries has created “Hanukkah Read Up!” ([PDF file](#)), a list of Hanukkah books for children recommended by the Sydney Taylor Book Award committee. Each of the 29 titles includes a brief summary and age recommendation. All the books on the list have been recognized by the award committee as gold or silver medalists or as Notable Books. The list will serve as a guide for librarians and booksellers who wish to stock holiday titles....

“People of the Books” Blog, Dec. 4



[12 days of Christmas book club meeting ideas](#)

Neil Hollands writes: “A December meeting is always tricky for book groups. Readers are busy and can’t get through the book or give priority to another holiday event. My answer to this dilemma can be summarized this way: Go big or stay home. I don’t like the idea of staying home. If your book club is succeeding, your readers will care enough about each other to make a holiday meeting a priority. So that leaves ‘go big’ as the go-to option. Here are 12 ideas for a special December meeting.”...

Booklist Online: Book Group Buzz, Nov. 30

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tips & Ideas

[Making implicit library skills more explicit](#)

Bonnie Swoger writes: "One of the reasons I love being a librarian is that I have an opportunity to do many different things as a part of my job. At the Geological Society of America annual meeting in Charlotte, November 4–7, I had a chance to wear many hats: advisor to an undergraduate giving a talk, librarian looking at possible books to purchase and strategies for teaching students about the scientific literature, editor of a society newsletter, and occasional instructor of an introductory geoscience course."...

Scientific American: Information Culture, Nov. 29

[Makerspaces move into academic libraries](#)

Erin Silva Fisher writes: "During the past year, makerspaces have been gaining traction in public libraries. These tech shops provide opportunities for people to learn with their hands. A handful of academic institutions have already implemented aspects of makerspaces with great success. Other academic libraries are eager for information about equipment and programming. If you are curious about the hardware in current academic library makerspaces, read on."...

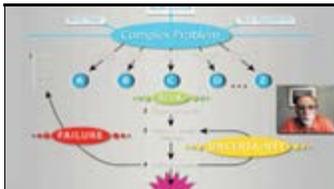
ACRL TechConnect Blog, Nov. 28



[The Year of the MOOC](#)

Audrey Watters writes: "Massive Open Online Courses. MOOCs. This was, without a doubt, the most important and talked-about trend in education technology this year. The trend started to pick up in late 2011 with the huge enrollment in the three computer-science courses that Stanford offered for free online during the fall semester, along with the announcement of [MITx](#) in December. Add to that the increasing costs of college tuition and arguments that there's a '[higher education bubble](#),' and the promise of a free online university education obviously hit a nerve."...

Hack Education, Dec. 3; MIT News, Dec. 19, 2011; Hack Education, Dec. 13, 2011



[Behold: The Yelp of MOOCs?](#)

Students looking for massive open online courses (MOOCs) can now turn to a handful of websites that have popped up in the past few months, much as a restaurant-goer might turn to Yelp. Some sites incorporate students' reviews of the MOOCs they've taken. [Course Buffet](#) lists more than 500 MOOCs from various providers, assigning each course a difficulty level (i.e., Psychology 100) to help users move from easier to more difficult material...

Chronicle of Higher Education: Wired Campus, Dec. 4



[Digital tools for formative assessment](#)

Jennifer LaGarde writes: "When incorporated into a lesson, formative assessment provides the teacher-librarian with a snapshot of teaching and learning while it is still happening. Teachers and students today have a plethora of digital teaching and learning tools at their fingertips that makes incorporating formative assessment in the learning process both easy and fun. Here are some of my picks, along with a few that were suggested by others."...

The Adventures of Library Girl, Dec. 3

[ePals Common Core Implementation Center](#)



Richard Byrne writes: "Many of you probably know of ePals, a global classroom community for collaborating on projects with others worldwide. ePals recently launched its new [Common Core Implementation Center](#) that gives teachers access to a broad range of online communication and collaboration tools, along with rigorous learning resources designed to facilitate authentic, project-based learning, as specified by Common Core State Standards."...

Free Technology for Teachers, Dec. 3

[Manga mania: DIY edition](#)

Wendy Stephens writes: "Purists may scoff at a point-and-click way to ape the Japanese art form of manga, but the free iOS app [Manga Camera](#) makes rendering black-and-white scenes with drama and romance nearly foolproof. The app includes 32 backgrounds, most of them with manga-style captions or actions suggested, which will take your photo to entirely new places."...

YALSA Blog, Nov. 28



[Take the Global Libraries Initiative survey](#)

Take a five-minute [survey](#) to help the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation fine-tune its Global Libraries Initiative. The purpose of the survey is to help the GLI identify opportunities to focus its current support of public libraries in ways that foster innovation and dramatically accelerate positive and lasting change in libraries throughout the US and around the world....

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

[Posting a parody video? Read the Lansdowne story first](#)

Meredith Schwartz writes: "Lansdowne (Pa.) Public Library's 'Read It' [video](#) (3:09), based on Michael Jackson's 'Beat It,' was originally yanked from YouTube for a copyright violation. But the story may have a happy ending. Library Director Sandra Samuel

Giannella said that the video was back up on YouTube and she believes that it will stay there. Lansdowne is far from the first to post a parody—or a satire—of a Michael Jackson song. They're not even the first library to do so. So why was Lansdowne singled out for harsher treatment?"...

Library Journal, Nov. 29



[You would not say "Astronomer: The original telescope"](#)

Rory Litwin writes: "I hate the slogan, 'Librarian: The Original Search Engine.' I find it problematic as an attempt to promote the services of librarians or the value of the library profession. It concedes that search engines do what librarians do, which would be another way of saying that there is no reason to talk to a reference librarian if you can just Google it. A better slogan would be designed to get at what librarians can do that search engines don't know how to do."...

Library Juice, Dec. 4



[Winter break @ your library](#)

Kids, tweens, and teens are counting down the days until winter break and looking forward to two weeks without school. While part of the vacation will be taken up with family celebration, two weeks can lead to a lot of free time. Here are just a few ideas of how libraries are planning something for everyone this winter break....

Campaign for America's Libraries, Dec. 4



[Hear what an Edison wax cylinder recording sounds like](#)

In the Special Collections department at the University of Utah's Marriott Library, Roy Webb and Molly Creel allow us in to have a look at their Amberola phonograph from about 1911, donated by a former employee of the library. They show the actual phonograph and play a few wax cylinders, including a 19th-century comedy skit between two men about a job available on a farm (7:10)....

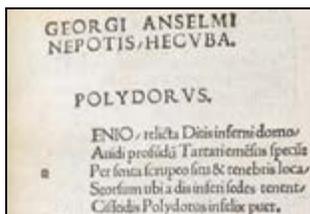
YouTube, May 17



[Cataloging at the Folger](#)

Deborah J. Leslie writes: "The days are long gone when a cataloger sat down with a book and a stack of blank cards. Let's look at the cataloging history of an ordinary book from the Folger Shakespeare Library's large collection of early Italian imprints. This Latin translation of Euripides's *Hecuba* (right) was issued without a title page; the opening pages are a dedicatory epistle facing the first page of text. Publication information is from the colophon. The Folger copy belonged to Michael Wodhull (1740–1816), a book collector, poet, and translator of Euripides's corpus into English."...

The Collation, Nov. 26



[Tips for going on TV](#)

David Lee King writes: "My library is lucky: Our local TV news station loves the library and gives us a spot every Tuesday afternoon called Library Tuesday. The afternoon anchor does a quick three-minute interview with someone from the library. Once in a while, that someone is me. Between being prepped by the library's marketing director, by reading a couple of articles, and just by doing it, I have picked up a few pointers along the way that I'd like to share with you."...

David Lee King, Dec. 5



[The art of the library cross-sell](#)

Michelle Dalton writes: "Marketing is now an essential aspect of library management, but communicating your value to customers achieves very little if you don't create conversions. Cross-selling (think of McDonald's and their 'Would you like fries with that?' tagline) and up-selling (getting a customer to upgrade to a higher-value product) are two classic sales techniques. The basic principles behind these sales strategies—encouraging your customers to use more of your products or to try higher-value services—are common objectives for many libraries."...

Libfocus, Nov. 27

[Notebooks compared: Paper notebooks, that is](#)

UK writer and musician Joe Craig (right) compares two writing notebooks, a Moleskine vs. the Leuchtturm1917, and [explains](#) why he has switched brands (10:26). The Leuchtturm notebooks have better paper quality, page numbers, a table of contents, archival stickers, optional pen loops, brighter colors, and lined paper....



YouTube, Nov. 30

[Libraries are such a drag](#)

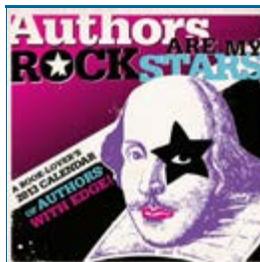
Oscar Gittemeier, a library professional in Atlanta, has put together a 2013 calendar featuring some of Atlanta's queer literary devotees and their allies. The calendar is called "[Libraries Are Such A Drag](#)" and all proceeds from its sale will go to the Georgia Library Association's Beard Scholarship. The calendar is available on Amazon.com. Gittemeier's partner Jessi Noreault is the calendar's cover model....



GA Voice, Nov. 26

[Other 2013 calendars for book nerds](#)

Kim Ukura writes: "A highlight of every new year is the chance to pick out new planners and a calendar. While I usually end up buying myself a calendar with [tiny pigs hanging out on farms](#) (for real, don't ask, I know it's weird), there are always a huge variety of calendars for the bookish people you know (yourself included). These are a few of my favorites."...



Book Riot, Nov. 30

[Five annoying things librarians have a right to do](#)

Ellyssa Kroski writes: "I love being a librarian, but we can be a little eccentric, and that's okay! Here are five annoying things that we have every right to do as librarians: Shush people, tell people to 'look it up,' design obscure classification systems, discuss DRM at cocktail parties, and repurpose library furnishings."...

iLibrarian, Nov. 30

[The Diboll, Texas, Christmas book tree](#)

After seeing another Christmas book tree in a magazine, the staff of the T. L. L. Temple Memorial Library in Diboll, Texas, started collecting discarded and donated books to make their own and place it in the library entrance. Most of the books are covered with red wrapping paper to make them a uniform color, allowing them to attach additional decorations without damaging the covers. Circulation Assistant Justin Barkley said the library is having a contest for its patrons to guess how many books are in the tree. See some other efforts [here](#)....



T. L. L. Temple Memorial Library, Dec. 3; The Mary Sue, Dec. 13, 2011

[Christmas tree made from catalog drawers](#)

The University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Poland, topped their Christmas book tree creation last year by [building](#) a tree out of empty card catalog drawers (1:06). The Special Collections Department took the initiative to create a three-meter-high, sparkling, monumental tree made of 400 drawers. They explain the process [here](#) (in Polish, with photos)....

YouTube, Dec. 3; Pulowerek.pl, Dec. 3



[The quagmire of circulation](#)

Brian Herzog writes: "I'm sure every library has its 'regulars,' but I was struck by how well the writers of the November 4 [episode](#) of *Family Guy* captured a typical interaction at the circulation desk between Glenn



Quagmire and a library worker (right). At first I cringed at what I saw as the negative portrayal of public libraries. But then I realized just how amazingly accurate it was—how, no matter what, it's almost impossible to break off aimless and never-ending conversations. Now that is a skill I would love to learn." Watch the [segment](#) (0:52)....

Swiss Army Librarian, Dec. 1; *Family Guy*, Nov. 4

[I Ran After the Gingerbread Man](#)

Meredith Myers, the StandUpLibrarian, writes: "I decided to premiere my new holiday literary parody video live on stage in early December where I choreographed a chase sequence with a real ginger man (my friend, librarian Justin Brasher) and concluded with gingerbread man cookies I baked myself. Watch '[I Ran After the Gingerbread Man](#)' (5:06), a mashup of 'I Ran (So Far Away)' by A Flock of Seagulls with the Gingerbread Man folktale."...



StandUpLibrarian.com, Dec. 3; YouTube, Dec. 2

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[American Libraries Magazine](#), 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611

american libraries DIRECT

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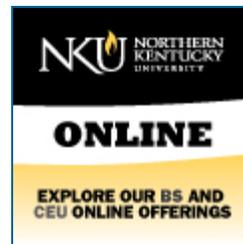
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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | December 12, 2012



American Libraries Online

Toughing it out in a tight job market

Janice Arenofsky writes: "You're all alone—with thousands of other information professionals—pursuing a library job in a down economy. If not for sheer stubbornness and hard-won self-respect, you might consider a career in the fast-food industry. But don't despair, said David Connolly (right), who compiles ALA's [JobLIST](#), the market is back to pre-2008. 'We may be treading water,' he said, 'but at least it's not getting worse.'"



American Libraries feature

Local music: Live! at your library

Matthew Moyer and Andrew Coulon write: "It's hard to miss the ever-growing enthusiasm for the 'buy local' movement. People want locally created products, so now is the best time for libraries to join that movement and collect local content, particularly local music. They're a plus for libraries in terms of economics and partnerships. But why stop there? You can also host concert events in the library or promote local musicians and albums on the library website."



American Libraries feature

On My Mind: Libraries as safe spaces

Shawn Vaillancourt writes: "Despite gains in the 2012 elections, those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning (LGBTQ)—especially youth—are still targets of bullying, harassment, violence, and discrimination. The great news is that so many libraries are already taking positive steps to show youth and the broader LGBTQ population that they are welcome and safe in their libraries."

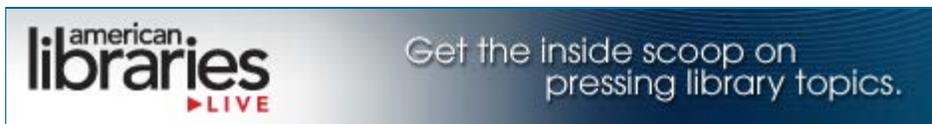
American Libraries column, Jan./Feb.

[Go back to the Top](#)



ALA Midwinter Meeting.

Seattle, January 25–29. Do you need to know more about effective web advocacy, developing web analysis strategies, libraries and online learning, planning career moves, or building web applications? There's still time to register for several unique opportunities for in-depth professional development at [pre-Midwinter Institutes](#).



ALA News

[A holiday greeting from Keith Michael Fiels](#)

Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels addresses ALA members, friends, and supporters with a [message of appreciation](#) for the 2012 holidays (1:18): "We're here to support librarians, libraries, trustees, and volunteers at libraries of all types—public, school, academic, and special—as they meet the needs of their communities. Thank you very much for your generosity and your support during the last year."...
 YouTube, Dec. 10



[Follow the 2013 Youth Media Award results live](#)

Approximately 12,500 [webcast](#) viewers will join more than 1,300 onsite audience members for the 2013 announcement of ALA's [Youth Media Awards](#) at 8 a.m. Pacific time on January 28, as part of the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. There will be 19 awards given, including the 75th Randolph Caldecott Medal, John Newbery Medal, Coretta Scott King Book Awards, and Michael L. Printz Award....
 Public Information Office, Dec. 11



[Midwinter session on ebooks and libraries](#)

On January 26, members of the ALA Digital Content and Libraries Working Group will discuss ALA initiatives taken thus far—from [reports](#) and [articles](#) to [in-person discussions with publishers](#) in visits to New York—and discuss ALA ebook policy strategies for the future. Moderated by Sari Feldman, the [session](#) will also include Bob Wolven, Alan Inouye, Skip Dye, Matt Tempelis, and Jamie LaRue....
 AL: E-Content, Dec. 10

[Innovative advocacy in action](#)

In a changing landscape, libraries and library communities are rethinking the way they make the case, whether they're in a struggle



to keep library doors open or to improve services. In this Midwinter preconference, "Innovative Advocacy in Action! An Advocacy Institute Discussion" on January 25 in Seattle, attendees will hear techniques and strategies from a librarians and grassroots organizations that are reshaping our notions of library advocacy. Save \$25 by registering before you go....

Office for Library Advocacy

[Teens learn News Know-how at the library](#)



First-year projects completed in the News Know-how initiative, which teaches basic news literacy skills to 9–12th graders at 10 public libraries, are now [online](#). Participants worked with librarians, journalists, and news ethicists to learn how to distinguish between fact and opinion in print and online coverage during the 2012 presidential election. [News Know-how](#) is funded by the Open Society Foundations....

Office for Intellectual Freedom, Dec. 11

[Apply for "StoryCorps @ your library"](#)



The ALA Public Programs Office, in partnership with StoryCorps, is accepting applications from public libraries and library systems interested in hosting "StoryCorps @ your library" programs. Funded by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the program seeks to bring StoryCorps' popular interview methods to libraries and develop a replicable model of oral history programming. Program guidelines and an application are available [online](#). The deadline is January 18....

Public Programs Office, Dec. 10

[APALA sponsors two Emerging Leaders](#)

The Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association is sponsoring Frans Albarillo and Susan Hoang as participants in the 2013 class of ALA Emerging Leaders. APALA will provide funding to support their attendance and participation in the program at the 2013 ALA Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference. Albarillo is bibliographer for business and sociology at Brooklyn College, and Hoang is reference and instruction librarian at Carleton College....



Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association, Dec. 3

[Student chapter members chosen for Student to Staff program](#)

Forty ALA student chapter members were nominated by their schools and were accepted to assist ALA staff during the 2013 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. In exchange for working four hours a day (or a total of 16 hours), these students participating in the [ALA Student to Staff program](#) receive free conference registration, housing, and a per diem for meal expenses....

ALA Student Membership Blog, Dec. 10

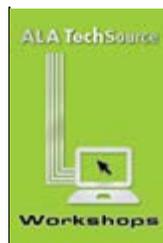
[Create a digital media space for teens](#)

To get teens more active in the library and enthusiastic about library programs and services, a digital media space can be the draw—a place where teens can go to



record videos, use social media, create projects, and engage with their peers on their own terms. ALA TechSource is hosting a new workshop, "[Creating a Digital Media Space for Today's Teens](#)," featuring Corey Wittig, digital learning librarian at Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. It will take place January 24 and 31 in two 60-minute sessions....

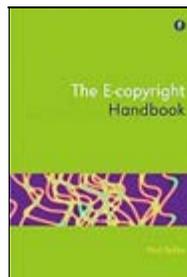
ALA TechSource, Dec. 10



[The E-copyright Handbook](#)

Providing practical guidance to minimize the risk of copyright infringement, [The E-copyright Handbook](#) by Paul Pedley considers how copyright applies internationally to diverse e-content types such as APIs, ebooks, blogs, wikis, RSS feeds, email, streaming, podcasts, broadcasts, databases, social networking sites, and GUIs, while focusing on activities that are especially relevant to library and information services, such as e-content lending and mass library digitization. He also covers copyright issues associated with deep linking, file sharing, mashups, and scraping....

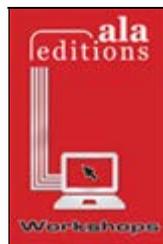
ALA Neal-Schuman, Dec. 11



["Introducing RDA" workshop returns](#)

By popular demand, ALA Editions has announced a new session of its popular workshop, "[Introducing RDA](#)" with Chris Oliver. Author of the bestselling *Introducing RDA*, Oliver will give an overview of RDA and look at the key aspects that make RDA different from AACR2. She will provide background for catalogers before they begin RDA training but will also serve as a refresher for those wanting to brush up. [Registration](#) is open for the January 9 session....

ALA Editions, Dec. 11



[Women librarians and ALA's Library War Service](#)

Larry Nix writes: "With ALA's decision to play an active role in providing reading materials to America's armed forces during World War I, it was only natural that women would seek to be involved in that enterprise. However, their efforts were thwarted to a large degree by [Herbert Putnam](#), the Librarian of Congress and the general director of the Library War Service. At the 1918 ALA Annual Conference, seven women (including [Theresa Elmendorf](#), ALA's first woman president) petitioned the ALA War Service Committee to modify the policy against women serving as camp librarians."...

Library History Buff Blog, Dec. 11



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Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Adult fiction

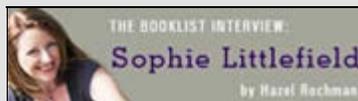
Littlefield, Sophie. *Garden of Stones*. Mar. 2013. 320p. Harlequin, paperback (978-0-7783-1352-6).

Suspense, mystery, and love drive the intricate plot in this moving drama of women in a Japanese-American family over the course of three generations. In 1978, Patty is preparing for her wedding when her mother, Lucy Takeda, is accused of murdering a man in her neighborhood. Locals say they could identify Lucy by her horrifying facial deformity. Flash back to 1942, after Pearl Harbor, when Lucy, 14, is called "Jap" at school, and even her best friend avoids her. Lucy cannot speak Japanese; to her, "we" means "Americans." But she and her beautiful widowed mother, Miyako, are forced from home in Los Angeles and imprisoned in the Manzanar concentration camp....



The Booklist interview: Sophie Littlefield

Hazel Rochman writes: "To commemorate Pearl Harbor Day in a thoughtful way, we asked *Garden of Stones* author Sophie Littlefield to discuss her book, her research, and the legacy of Manzanar. **Q.** For your research about conditions in the camp, did you interview survivors and their families? Are they still haunted? **A.** I relied on the written accounts of those who were interned, as well as others involved in the camps. I discovered that people I've known for years have connections to the internment experience. Living in California, we are surrounded by the living legacy of internment."...



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

[Go back to the Top](#)



Bibliotheca Alexandrina.

Alexandria, Egypt. Completed in 2002 as a tribute to the Great Library of antiquity, the library has space for 8 million books, as well as a conference center, art galleries, planetarium, preservation laboratory, and digital repository. Collections have been donated by countries from all over the world, and the library maintains the only external backup of the Internet Archive.



Saint Catherine's Monastery Library.

Sinai Desert, Egypt. This library of the oldest working Christian monastery contains the second largest collection of early codices and manuscripts in the world (some 3,300), outnumbered only by the Vatican Library. Its strength lies in Greek, Arabic, Armenian, Hebrew, Georgian, Syriac, and Udi texts. There are many early and important editions of the bible, patristic and classical texts, and Orthodox service books. The [Syriac Sinaiticus](#) palimpsest is



MIDWINTER MEETING AND EXHIBITS
Seattle, Washington | January 25-29, 2013

American Library Association
The conversation starts here...

Seattle Update

Thrilling Tales: Special Library Edition

Twice each month, the Seattle Public Library's Central

branch hosts a lunch-hour storytime for grown-ups, read for you live by reader services librarian David Wright (right). On [January 28](#), during the ALA Midwinter Meeting, Wright is hosting a special Thrilling Tales lunch hour devoted to libraries: This week's stories are: "The General in the Library" by Italo Calvino, "The Reference Room" by John D. MacDonald, and "Exchange" by Ray Bradbury. Midwinter attendees are invited... Shelf Talk, Dec. 7; Seattle Public Library



[Teriyaki: Seattle's national dish](#)

John T. Edge writes: "In Seattle, teriyaki is omnipresent, the closest this city comes to a Chicago dog. Many Hawaiian restaurants serve a version. Some Thai restaurants do too. Tokyo Garden Teriyaki in the University District violates the dictates of traditional American and Japanese cookery with its corn dog teriyaki. Here, teriyaki is shorthand for a range of dishes, from teriyaki burgers piled with chopped beef, to pineapple teriyaki, platters of chicken paved with canned pineapple."...

New York Times, Jan. 5, 2010



[Ye Olde Curiosity Shop](#)

Ye Olde Curiosity Shop is a store on the Central Waterfront of Seattle, founded in 1899. It has moved several times, mainly within the waterfront area, and is now located on Pier 54. Best known today as a souvenir shop, it also has aspects of a dime museum, and was for many years an important supplier of Northwest Coast art to museums. Its museum of oddities and curiosities range from genuine mummies and shrunken heads to a two-headed lamb and a four-legged chicken. As of 2008, the store has been owned by four generations of the same family....

Wikipedia; Ye Olde Curiosity Shop



[The Center for Wooden Boats](#)

The Center for Wooden Boats is a museum dedicated to preserving and documenting the maritime history of the Pacific Northwest area. Located at 1010 Valley Street in South Lake Union, the center collection includes over 100 vessels, mostly small sailboats and rowboats. Its fleet of boats for rent operates year-round, renting sail and rowboats to the public. The center also offers classes in sailing and other skills for [adults](#) and [youth](#) as well as [one-on-one](#) sailing lessons....

Center for Wooden Boats



[Visit the Center of the Universe](#)

Fremont is a funky Seattle neighborhood, home to Adobe and Google as well as many good ethnic restaurants and excellent boutique stores. As the self-proclaimed Center of the Universe, Fremont has year-round unexpected and unconventional entertainment. Visit the old Carnegie branch library while you're there and get your photo



one of only two manuscripts that preserve the text of the Old Syriac translation of the Gospels. The [Codex Sinaiticus](#), a 4th-century manuscript that contains the oldest complete New Testament, was housed here until 1859 when the German scholar Constantin von Tischendorf removed it to Russia for study; it was sold in 1933 to the British Museum, where the greater portion of it now resides.

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. Some will be featured in [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart, which is scheduled for publication in 2013 by ALA Editions. There is also a [Great Libraries of the World Pinterest board](#).



**Career Leads
from**

taken with the [Fremont Troll](#) (located on N. 36th Street at Troll Avenue N., under the north end of the George Washington Memorial Bridge) or Vladimir Ilyich Lenin (a [statue](#) at 600 N. 36th Street that was salvaged from Slovakia by a local art lover)....

Fremont.com; Wikipedia; Roadside America

[Apps for last-minute hotel rooms](#)

Susan Stellin writes: "Smartphones and tablets are giving travelers a reason to wait until the last minute to book a hotel: discounts if you reserve a room for the same day using an app. Kayak, Priceline, Orbitz, Travelocity, and Expedia all offer apps that let travelers search for available hotel rooms, often discounted 10%–50% for stays that begin the day you book. The apps have different features (and flaws) but they basically use a device's GPS to show where you can find a room near you."...

New York Times, Oct. 31



Division News

[Literary Landmark: Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine](#)

The Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine in New York City was dedicated as a Literary Landmark on November 29 in honor of Madeleine L'Engle (1918–2007) on what would have been her 94th birthday. L'Engle, author of the 1963 Newbery Medal winner *A Wrinkle in Time*, served as the church's librarian for more than 40 years....

United for Libraries, Dec. 11



[Register your Día program](#)

ALSC is inviting librarians to register their 2013 El día de los niños / El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day) programs in the [2013 National Día Program Registry](#). By registering, libraries build a national database that showcases all types and sizes of Día programming. The information will display on the website, in both the map and database format, allowing you to share program information. This year's slogan is "Día: Diversity in Action."...

ALSC, Dec. 7



[Winter ALSC online courses offer CEUs](#)

ALSC encourages participants to sign up for its winter 2013 [online courses](#). Classes begin January 14. Registrants will find that ALSC has increased the number of courses offering certified education units (CEUs). As participants frequently noted in post-course surveys, ALSC stresses quality and caring in its online education options....

ALSC, Dec. 6

[New articles available in School Library Research](#)

Two new peer-reviewed articles are now available online as part of AASL's research journal, [School Library Research](#). Judi Moreillon and Maria Cahill report on "State Library Conferences as Professional



ALA JobLIST

[Educational Technology and Reference Librarian](#)

Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. This full-time position reports to the Head of Research Support and Educational Technology and shares responsibility for coordinating and supporting campus educational technology planning, pedagogical support of instructional technology, and library reference services and bibliographic instruction to students, faculty, and staff. The Educational Technology and Reference librarian interacts directly with faculty and students to serve their library and educational technology needs and plays a major role in the Tri-College (Bryn Mawr, Haverford, and Swarthmore) library and information technology development....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week

Development Venues: Unbalanced Support for the AASL-Defined Roles of the School Librarian" ([PDF file](#)), and Karla Collins and Carol Doll document "Resource Provisions of a High School Library Collection" ([PDF file](#))....

AASL, Dec. 11

[Small acts, big impact](#)

Steven J. Bell writes: "I want to share two items with you. Individually they are they are the sort of things we hardly give much thought about. Together they are important symbols of the value that ACRL brings to its members and a valuable reminder of the impact ACRL has on academic librarians. What makes it all possible are the members and the support they provide for beneficial ACRL initiatives."...

ACRL Insider, Dec. 10

[ALCTS YouTube channel](#)

ALCTS has made all of its free webinars available on the [ALCTS YouTube Channel](#). Categories include collections, cataloging, preservation, institutional repositories, and RDA Series Webinars....

TSLL TechScans, Dec. 7

[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[YALSA names 2013 Morris Award finalists](#)

YALSA has selected five books as finalists for the 2013 William C. Morris Award, which honors a book written for young adults by a previously unpublished author. The division will name the 2013 award winner at the Youth Media Awards on January 28 during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. More information on the finalists and the award can be found on the [YALSA website](#)....

YALSA, Dec. 11



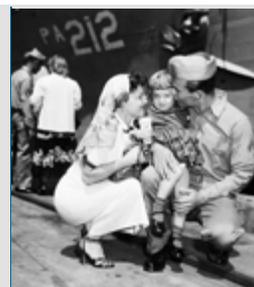
[Join the Morris/Nonfiction Reading Challenge](#)

Gretchen Kolderup writes: "There are now seven weeks until the winners of the William C. Morris Award, the Award for Excellence in Nonfiction, and all of YALSA's other book awards are announced at the Youth Media Awards, so it's time to start our Morris/Nonfiction Reading Challenge! We're hoping the challenge will push you to read as many of these outstanding titles as possible. You have until January 28."...

YALSA The Hub, Dec. 10

[YALSA chooses 2012–2013 Spectrum Scholar](#)

As part of its commitment to furthering diversity in the profession, YALSA has chosen Ivelisse Maldonado (right) as its 2012–2013 Spectrum Scholar. Maldonado has attended North Carolina



The [University of Southern California Digital Library](#) is now

providing improved search and discovery tools to help the USC community integrate digital collections more easily into teaching, learning, and research. New and upgraded research capabilities include fully searchable text for every page of every document, supplementing the metadata developed by the libraries to describe content. A more powerful document-viewing tool reveals details—such as names on street signs and words on billboards—that previously were inaccessible to researchers. The new Digital Library also offers improved engagement tools, including a system for creating individualized collections of materials that are relevant to specific papers or courses, as well as easier integration with social media services, such as Facebook and Pinterest. Its collections include early photos of Southern California, early-20th-century Russian satirical journals, and photographs from the archives of the *Los*



Central University in Durham since August 2011, pursuing an MLS with a concentration in school media....

YALSA, Dec. 11

[Apply for a Baber Research Grant](#)

The ALA Office for Research and Statistics is now accepting applications for the Carroll Preston Baber Research Grant, a grant of up to \$3,000 given to one or more librarians or library educators who will conduct innovative research that could lead to an improvement in services to any specified group of people. The [application](#) deadline is January 3....

Office for Research and Statistics, Dec. 6

[ARL names 2013 Career Enhancement fellows](#)

The Association of Research Libraries Career Enhancement Program Coordinating Committee has selected 10 fellows. This competitive diversity recruitment program gives MLIS students from underrepresented groups an opportunity to jump-start their careers in research libraries by providing a robust fellowship experience that includes an internship in an ARL member library....

Association of Research Libraries, Dec. 12

[Apply for an Innovations in Reading Prize](#)

The National Book Foundation has opened its [Innovations in Reading Prize](#) for the fifth year, giving up to \$2,500 to efforts "that have developed innovative means of creating and sustaining a lifelong love of reading." You must [apply](#) for the prize before February 20. The winning individuals will get a free trip to New York City, attending all the National Book Awards Week events....

GalleyCat, Dec. 11

[Gift to LC will support three new literacy awards](#)

The Library of Congress on December 6 opened the first International Summit of the Book, a gathering of leaders in academia, libraries, culture, and technology to discuss the powerful and crucial form of information transmittal. As the conference opened, longtime friend of reading David Rubenstein announced he is contributing \$1.5 million to fund three new Library of Congress annual literacy awards over five years: the David M. Rubenstein Prize for a groundbreaking contribution to the sustained advancement of literacy, the American Prize, and the International Prize....

Library of Congress, Dec. 6

[2012 Goodreads Choice Awards](#)

The [results](#) of the Goodreads Choice Awards 2012 are in. The winners were voted on by the Goodreads site users, making it a sort of people's choice of the book world. There were a few close calls, and more than a few landslide victories (including *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn in the Mystery and Thriller category). More than 1.1 million votes were cast this year—winners and runners-up are listed here....

Book Riot, Dec. 5; Goodreads



Angeles Examiner.

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, Check out our [Featured Digital Libraries Pinterest board.](#)

Noted and Quoted

"Our lights went out for 10 days due to Hurricane Sandy. It would have been intolerable, if not for the Oakland (N.J.) Public Library. They extended their hours and days to accommodate many citizens of many towns in the crisis. The library gave us a place to warm up, read, watch TV, charge our phones, and utilize their computers. In this digital age when some are saying libraries are obsolete, it is so easy to forget that our libraries are more than just books. They provide a wonderful community resource for families and seniors alike."

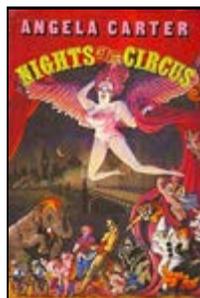
—Letter to the Editor from Rich and Beth Pierce, *Franklin Lakes-Oakland (N.J.) Suburban News*, Dec. 6.

@ [More quotes...](#)

[Best of the James Tait Black Prize](#)

The late Angela Carter's masterpiece *Nights at the Circus* has been declared the best-ever winner of Britain's oldest literary prize, the James Tait Black Memorial Prize. Awarded since 1919, the James Tait Black embarked on a quest this autumn to find the best novel from a roll call of former winners who included Graham Greene, Walter de la Mare, E. M. Forster, and Aldous Huxley. *Nights at the Circus*, the story of winged circus performer Sophie Fevvers's travels through 19th-century Europe, was the eventual choice....

The Guardian (UK), Dec. 6



[Go back to the Top](#)

Libraries in the News

[New York Times bedbug story was misleading](#)

Edward Champion writes: "On December 5, the *New York Times* published a [story](#) written by Catherine Saint Louis claiming that public libraries were now devoting precious resources to a new threat: bedbugs nesting inside the spines of hardcover books and making their way into public libraries like Norway rats stowing away on dusty ships. But we talked with many of Saint Louis's sources and learned that the article is misleading. In fact, some of the library directors who Saint Louis spoke with have never had a bedbug epidemic at all." However, bedbugs occasionally [turn up](#) and librarians must take [precautions](#).

Here is what bedbug expert Jody Gangloff-Kaufmann [recommends](#)....

Reluctant Habits, Dec. 6; *New York Times*, Dec. 5; Associated Press, Dec. 7; KCPO-TV, Seattle, Dec. 7; Cornell University, Dec. 11



[St. Johnsbury Athenaeum lays off its library staff](#)

St. Johnsbury (Vt.) Athenaeum is cutting its workforce. The board of trustees will lay off all 11 of its library-based employees as of February 1, but will retain all four of its nonlibrary employees. One of those people cut will be Head Librarian Lisa von Kann.

The athenaeum will maintain just five full-time or near-full-time library-based positions going forward....

St. Johnsbury (Vt.) Caledonian-Record, Dec. 7



[Gary Public Library reacts to scathing audit](#)

Gary (Ind.) Public Library board President Nancy Valentine has promised state officials that the library will tighten up its financial-documentation policies in response to the issuance of a scathing FY2008–2011 audit by the State Board of Accounts. The report lists a slew of instances of financial mismanagement by the library, [including](#) issues with credit card use and an unauthorized wage increase. GPL has had five acting, interim, and permanent [directors](#) since 2008....

Gary (Ind.) Post-Tribune, Dec. 12; *Munster Times of Northwest Indiana*, Dec. 7; *Library Journal*, Apr. 19

[Elmhurst College librarian headed to](#)

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[Highlights from the 2011 I Love My Librarian Award Ceremony \(video\)](#)

[Gluten-Free Baking @ your library](#)



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Calendar

Jan. 9:
[CurateGear 2013: Enabling the Curation of Digital Collections.](#)

Conference, William and Ida Friday Center for Continuing Education, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

[state legislature](#)

Kathleen Willis (right), coordinator of access services at Elmhurst (Ill.) College library, was elected to the Illinois General Assembly on November 6 to represent the state's 77th legislative district. The district covers parts of western Cook and eastern DuPage counties. Willis will leave the college to serve as a full-time legislator. Her inauguration will take place January 9. Her priorities will be to protect funding for education and provide relief for homeowners facing foreclosure....

Suburban Life Media, Dec. 5



[St. Louis Central Library reopens after renovation](#)

The public had its first chance to explore St. Louis's historic Central Library December 9 after it had been closed for more than two years. The \$70 million renovation retained the building's classic design elements, while integrating state-of-the-art technology. Overall, the historic parts of the 190,000-square-foot building were restored, while space available to the public almost doubled. Here's a guide to some of the highlights, old and new....

St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Dec. 9; KSDK-TV, St. Louis, Dec. 9



[Banned book trading cards at Lawrence Public Library](#)

Susan Brown writes: "Banned Books Week may have ended weeks ago, but for one public library in Kansas, the spirit of the week lives on. This year, Lawrence Public Library celebrated the freedom to read with a unique project that engaged the local arts community, heightened awareness of intellectual freedom, and gave library patrons the chance to collect seven original pieces of art."...

The Library As Incubator Project, Dec. 10



[Santa Rosa settles ex-director's lawsuit](#)

The Santa Rosa County (Fla.) Commission gave preliminary approval December 10 to a settlement in a federal lawsuit brought by former County Library Director Linda Hendrix, asserting that she had been discriminated against because of a disability and her age. The settlement would give Hendrix \$80,000. She was demoted and fired after she returned to work in February 2011 following cancer surgery, according to the suit filed June 20....

Pensacola (Fla.) News Journal, Dec. 10

[Intersection near LAPL named for Ray Bradbury](#)

The intersection of 5th and Flower streets in downtown Los Angeles was designated Ray Bradbury Square by city officials on December 6. The location, near the front entrance to the Central branch of the Los Angeles Public Library, is a fitting place to honor the author of *The Illustrated Man* and *The Martian Chronicles* because Bradbury was a lifelong supporter of libraries and wrote his early short stories and novels on library typewriters that were available to the public....

Los Angeles Times, Dec. 6

[Retired school librarian wins on](#)

Jan. 9–11: [Atmospheric Science Librarians](#)

[International](#), Annual Conference, Austin, Texas. "Taking Atmospheric Sciences Information to the Next Level: Expanding Beyond Today's Library Collections and Resources."

Jan. 10: [American Libraries Live](#), "Landing Your Ideal Library Job."

Feb. 5–6: [NASA Space Science Training: Explore: Life on Mars?](#)

Arizona State University Mars Space Flight facility, Tempe. Public library staff that provide programs for 8–13 year-olds in Arizona can apply.

Feb. 11–14: [Code4Lib](#), Conference, University of Illinois at Chicago Forum.

Feb. 12–15: [iConference 2013](#),

Worthington Renaissance, Fort Worth, Texas. "Scholarship in Action: Data, Innovation, Wisdom."

Feb. 14: [American Libraries Live](#), "Mobile Services: The Library in Your Pocket."

Feb. 28– Mar. 1: [EDGE Conference](#), Roxburghe Hotel, Edinburgh, Scotland. "Rising to the Challenge—Delivering

Millionaire

A retired Belleville (N.J.) high school librarian handled herself quite well on the December 6 taped episode of ABC-TV's popular game show program, *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?* Michele Monica (right) answered five questions correctly (including one worth \$25,000 about the dinosaur *Albertosaurus* having originally been found in Canada) and left the program \$23,000 richer....

Belleville (N.J.) Times, Dec. 6



UK lost more than 200 libraries in 2012

The fight to keep libraries open has dominated recent headlines, but the UK has quietly lost more than 200 branches over the past year, according to an annual report from the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy. A total of 146 branches closed between 2010 and 2011, with the number stepping up to 201 this year. The UK now has 4,265 libraries, compared with 4,612 two years ago, and the number of closures is likely to grow. Phil Bradley puts these depressing numbers into [perspective](#)....

The Guardian (UK), Dec. 10; Phil Bradley's Weblog, Dec. 11

[Go back to the Top](#)

Issues

Facebook's new privacy settings

Sam Biddle writes: "As surely as the sun rises, Facebook will keep revising its privacy settings in an effort to keep everyone from complaining. Starting December 12, there's a brand new method, and it's simpler than ever before. But there are some catches."...

Gizmodo, Dec. 12

New Ithaka report on historians

In 2011–2012, Ithaka S+R examined the changing research methods and practices of academic historians in the United States, with the objective of identifying services to better support them. Its new report, *Supporting the Changing Research Practices of Historians* ([PDF file](#)), recommends that libraries address changing format preferences and develop new research support models that address historians' need both for expertise at a subdisciplinary level and for assistance in discovering and accessing primary source materials....

Ithaka S+R, Dec. 7



Year End, 2012

Andy Woodworth writes: "Awhile back, I wrote a post about [librarians picking needless fights](#). I'm starting to rethink parts of that. I think the departure point from last year to this one should be librarians picking *more* fights. Not frivolous ones like the Amazon lending service, but bigger ones like copyright reform, fair practices in ebook lending, vendor negotiation transparency, open access, and digital content rights. It needs to go beyond the underlying anger and frustration that dwells within online petitions and cosigned press releases statements."...

Agnostic, Maybe, May 14, Dec. 10

[Go back to the Top](#)

Value through Innovation and Partnership."

Mar. 4–7: SXSWedu (South by Southwest Education).

Conference, Hilton Austin Downtown, Austin, Texas.

Mar. 8–10: SXSW (South by Southwest) Interactive Gaming Expo.

Palmer Events Center, Austin, Texas.

Mar. 8–12: SXSW (South by Southwest) Interactive.

Conference, Austin (Tex.) Convention Center.

Mar. 17–20: Electronic Resources & Libraries.

Conference, AT&T Conference Center, Austin, Texas.

Mar. 25–26: NASA Space Science Training: Explore: Jupiter's Family Secrets.

Worcester County (Md.) Library, Ocean Pines branch. Public library staff that provide programs for 8–13 year-olds in Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, and Virginia can apply.

May 18–21: Acquisitions Institute.

Timberline Lodge, Oregon.

May 19–22: Academic Library Advancement and

Tech Talk

Emerging and disruptive technologies

Chad Haefele writes: "As the years go by I'm less a fan of the term 'emerging technology.' Any new technology emerges, just by virtue of being new. I find myself looking at a new technology and asking: Is it disruptive to libraries?"

'Disruptive' does a better job of defining what I deal with on a day-to-day basis. The technologies I look at tend to be new, but as they emerge they also disrupt that context and the way we do things. Disruptive technology arrives in two different flavors."...

Hidden Peanuts, Dec. 3



Tech review and forecast for 2013

Marshall Breeding writes: "It's time to reflect on the trends in play related to library technologies and anticipate their trajectory going forward. We are in an incredibly interesting period in the realm of library technologies. Rather than just refining and rebuilding products on models of functionality that have been in place since the early decades of library automation, many efforts are under way to break free from well-established historical approaches. The current cycle includes some uncharacteristically revolutionary tracks."...

Computers in Libraries: The Systems Librarian, Dec.

Your guide to new features of iTunes 11

Bakari Chavanu writes: "Apple recently released the 11th version of its popular media player iTunes, and its redesign and new features have gained much praise from critics of the older versions who found the player bloated with features and difficult to browse. This one focuses on the most-used features of iTunes and tucks secondary features out of the way."...

MakeUseOf, Dec. 12



Laptop buyers: Pay attention to the Chromebook

David Pogue writes: "There seem to be a trillion variations on tablets and laptops these days. There are laptops with keyboards that slide, with screens that flip, with hinges that bend backward. I have a strong feeling most of them will wind up in the junk drawers of history. But one of them is eminently successful, and it's not getting enough attention: Google's new Chromebook."...

New York Times: Pogue's Posts, Nov. 29



Which tablet should I buy?

David Pogue writes: "No wonder people are confused. The marketplace has gone tablet-crazy. There's practically a different model for every man, woman, and child. So how are you, the confused consumer, supposed to keep tabs on all these tablets? By taking this handy tour through the jungle of tablets 2012. Keep hands and feet inside the tram at all times."...

New York Times, Nov. 28

The 10 best digital cameras

Wendy Sheehan Donnell writes: "The problem with

Development Network (ALADN).

Annual Conference, Renaissance Pittsburgh Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. "Getting to the Point."

@ [More...](#)

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buying a digital camera is not only that there are hundreds of models for sale at any given point in time, but you also need to figure out which type of camera is right for you. The good news is that we review *lots* of cameras—and these 10 are among the best we've tested."...

PC Magazine, Dec. 3

[How to buy a game console](#)

Will Greenwald writes: "Microsoft, Nintendo, and Sony all continue their slow, steady battles for gaming and entertainment domination. The Xbox 360 and PlayStation 3 are still going strong, with each console continually adding functionality. Here we'll take a look at the big three consoles and help you decide which ones are best to buy right now. We'll also outline the top options for non-console and on-the-go gaming."...

PC Magazine, Dec. 5

[Learn how to code, effectively](#)

Bohyun Kim writes: "I would like to share some effective strategies to obtain coding skills and cover common mistakes and obstacles that librarians make and encounter while trying to learn how to code in the library environment, based upon the presentation that I gave at the Charleston Conference in November, 'Geek out: Adding Coding Skills to Your Professional Repertoire.' At the end, you will also find a selection of learning and community resources."...

ACRL TechConnect Blog, Dec. 10

```

1 var codeMaster = false;
2
3 if ( codeMaster === false ) {
4   print( "Use Codecademy to start on \
5     the path to becoming a better \
6     programmer" );
7 }
8 else {
9   print( "Hone your skills or help teach \
10    the craft" );
11 }
12

```

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E-Content

[Ebooks for libraries](#)

David Lee King (right) writes: "Ever wondered what your library shelves would look like if you removed all the books you can't get in an ebook format? This [video](#) (1:47) shows you what that shelf would look like. (Warning: It's pretty scary.) Why did we make this video? Pretty simple: Most of us, if we're honest, really don't know much about the current ebook landscape. The issues, the hurdles, or even the possibilities. But [Ebooks for Libraries](#) is here to help."...

Ebooks for Libraries, Dec. 10; YouTube, Dec. 10



[Protest at Amazon over Kindles in schools](#)

The National Federation of the Blind is gathering outside Amazon headquarters in Seattle on December 12 to protest efforts to put Kindle devices and ebooks in classrooms across the US. The organization [contends](#) that Kindle ebooks are inaccessible to blind students. According to the NFB, the Kindle text-to-speech functionality that would give the blind access must be turned on by a sighted person, and Amazon allows publishers to restrict that feature for certain titles. Federal law mandates that school districts use only



Jennifer Henderson,
Contributing Researcher

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technology that is accessible to students with disabilities....

Digital Book World, Dec. 10; National Federation of the Blind

[Kindle Fire adds accessibility features](#)

Christopher Harris writes: "Accessibility is one of those issues that often needs a headline to grab attention. Pretty much the only general consumer reading devices that meet accessibility standards are the Apple iPad and iPhone/iPod Touch families.

Amazon recently announced new [accessibility features](#) that should help bring the Kindle Fire line of tablets into compliance. While the E Ink versions of Kindle have had some text-to-speech capabilities for content (if the publisher allows it), the inaccessible menu system has left the devices with an overall failing grade."...

AL: E-Content, Dec. 10; Amazon.com, Dec. 6



[The wrong war over ebooks: Publishers vs. libraries](#)

David Vinjamuri writes: "Libraries and Big Six publishers are at war over ebooks. This column is the first in a two-part series about libraries and their role in the marketing and readership of books. This first part addresses the present conflict. The second part will look forward to the future for libraries and publishers and the important challenges that they must address. Conclusion: A system based on actual use would more fairly allocate cost and risk as long as ebooks are not governed by the first-sale doctrine." Jamie LaRue [comments](#) on this conclusion....

Forbes, Dec. 11; myliblog, Dec. 11

[Three ebook consumer-pricing predictions](#)

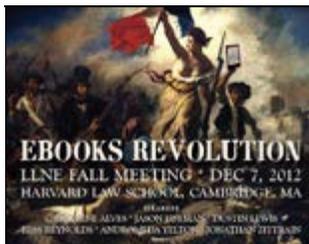
Jeremy Greenfield writes: "In case you haven't been paying attention, there's been a little flap over the past year about ebook pricing: a Justice Department lawsuit alleging a price-fixing conspiracy, a major settlement with billion-dollar implications, and an upcoming court date between Apple, Penguin, Macmillan, and the DOJ that should feature some special guests, including Amazon. I think we will see a much more diverse ebook pricing marketplace, with retailers angling to eke out advantages against each other whenever possible. Here are some predictions."...

Forbes, Dec. 10

[Calling for an ebooks revolution](#)

Andromeda Yelton writes: "What's the future of ebooks? Well, we are all doomed. Why are we doomed? Over the last 200-some years the scope of copyright protection has steadily increased and the space left for fair use has shrunk. With some types of works—ebooks, software—you don't even get first-sale rights because they're typically not sold; they're licensed. Contract law, not just copyright law, applies. For content that's already been produced, we need a grassroots revolution to make it free, in a way that respects authors' and publishers' incentives."...

Andromeda Yelton, Dec. 8



[Right-pricing digital content](#)

Christopher Harris writes: "I love living and working in rural Western New York, but the schools and libraries in my geographic area are facing daunting challenges in the shift to digital content. E-content is often priced on a site-based basis, and that means our small school libraries end up paying an inequitably high price. What is needed is a

new pricing model that takes into account the potential user base of a school site. Yet publishers often struggle to translate their traditional site-based pricing into a user-based model.”...

AL: E-Content, Dec. 7

[Folger launches open-source digital Shakespeare](#)

The Folger Shakespeare Library, home to the world’s largest collection of Shakespeare materials, launched the [Folger Digital Texts](#) on December 6. It’s a set of authoritative Shakespeare plays available for free, along with the source code that noncommercial app builders and scholars can use. The first releases includes a dozen plays, including *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, and *The Tempest*. Throughout 2013, the Folger will add new material until it includes all of Shakespeare’s plays and poems....

Folger Shakespeare Library, Dec. 6



[Welcome to my rare and antiquarian ebook shop](#)

Eric Hague writes: “Why, hello there! I was just appraising some rare PDFs in the back room when I heard you come in. Feel free to peruse our inventory, and if you have any questions, please allow me—one of the world’s foremost authorities on and purveyors of fine electronic books—to act as your steward through the wonderfully esoteric world of antique ebook collecting. No, I’m sorry. The bathroom is for customers only.”...

McSweeney’s, Dec. 6

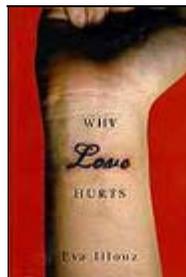
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Books & Reading

[Choice previews its 2012 Outstanding Academic Titles](#)

Celebrating the best in scholarly publishing, *Choice’s* annual Outstanding Academic Titles will appear in its January 2013 issue, featuring 644 exceptional titles. Again this year, the *Choice* subject editors have selected from the full run of Outstanding Academic Titles their list of 25 favorite print titles and 10 digital resources, which is now available at [Choice Reviews Online](#)....

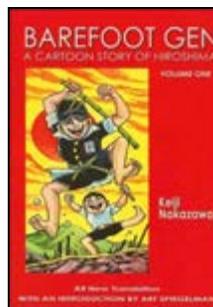
ACRL, Dec. 11



[Teaching controversial comics](#)

Anastasia Betts writes: “As teachers we have to make determinations every day on whether *this* image, *this* book, *this* movie, or *this* discussion is appropriate for our classroom. For some reason though, comics seem to get a bad rap in terms of classroom appropriateness. Whenever this happens, I am confronted with a dilemma: How can I use a book that I think is incredibly important for students to study, but that contains some content that my colleagues or parents would find controversial?”...

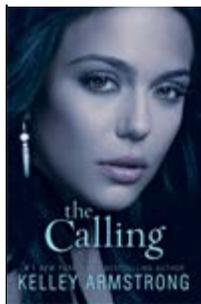
The Comics Observer, Nov. 26



[Racism in YA book covers](#)

Annie Schutte writes: "There's usually a moment once a month when I feel sick, tired, and embarrassed to be working with YA books for a living. That's when I see a menagerie of gorgeous white girls staring back at me from the covers of upcoming releases. If a YA book features a white, female protagonist, it seems inevitable that the book cover will display an idealized and airbrushed masterpiece of her on the cover. And when a YA book actually does have a protagonist of color, too often one of three things seems to happen."...

YALSA The Hub, Dec. 10



[Islam in YA fiction](#)

Whitney Etchison writes: "The following books provide insight into Islam, a religion that is all too often stereotyped and villainized in American society. However, as I was putting together this list, I noticed that every novel but one includes an Islamic terrorist act or organization as part of the story line. Within the context of each novel, I don't feel that any of them perpetuate the negative stereotype of 'Muslims are terrorists,' but as a trend, it is somewhat disturbing to think that four out of five deal with violent acts by Muslims."...

YALSA The Hub, Dec. 6



[2012 children's lit: The year in miscellanea](#)

Travis Jonker writes: "It's time to take a look back at the year that was in children's lit miscellanea. For example, Most Unexpected: Maurice Sendak on *The Colbert Report*. In an appearance that proved to be a swan song of sorts, the children's lit legend sat down for a typically ridiculous Colbert interview at Sendak's house (above). Watch both [part 1](#) and [part 2](#)....

School Library Journal: 100 Scope Notes, Dec. 10



[Artists' books](#)

Michael Levine-Clark writes: "We have done such an amazing job building digital collections that students can attend the University of Denver without ever needing to touch paper publications, without ever having to encounter physical books—and that's a shame. There is value to the book as a physical object, and libraries need to find ways to emphasize that value to digital natives. We decided to emphasize books by increasing funding for special collections. Within that context, we began collecting artists' books heavily about five years ago and now have a collection of almost 900 titles."...

OUPblog, Dec. 10



[Mystery book sculptor returns](#)

Scotland's mystery [book sculptor](#) was up to her old tricks again in late November, leaving a series of literary-themed sculptures in secret locations. The sculptor—all that has been revealed about her is that she is female and she loves books—made her first startling appearances in 2011. Now, to mark



Book Week Scotland, she has been enticed into making a comeback, with five new sculptures inspired by classic Scottish stories hidden around the country....

The Guardian (UK), Dec. 1, 2011; Nov. 30

[Beall's list of predatory publishers 2013](#)

Jeffrey Beall writes: "The gold open-access model has given rise to a great many new online publishers. Many of these publishers exist only to make money off the author-processing charges that are billed to authors upon acceptance of their scientific manuscripts. Here are two lists. The first includes questionable, scholarly open-access publishers. The second list includes individual journals that do not publish under the platform of any publisher; they are essentially independent, questionable journals."...

Scholarly Open Access, Dec. 4

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tips & Ideas

[Top 10 academic library websites](#)

Emily Singley writes: "Here is my annual review of academic library websites. This year I reviewed sites based on the following 10 criteria: help with research, ILL, tech help, faculty info, accessibility, integration, navigability, readability, searchability, and design. [Virginia Commonwealth University](#) was my choice for Best Overall Academic Library website."...

The Cloudy Librarian, Dec. 3



[Four tools for determining web cred](#)

Joyce Valenza writes: "As teachers and librarians we are used to discussing traditional measures of credibility with student researchers. Scholars and journalists let you know about their credentials. *Serious* bloggers generally do that too. But creators of social media and members of networked communities don't always have CVs. So what strategies can we share for analyzing the credibility of social media and user-generated content?"...

School Library Journal: NeverEndingSearch, Dec. 9



[Holiday feasts @ your library](#)

Libraries across the country are offering programs, tools, and resources on cooking during the holiday season, covering everything from gluten-free cookbooks to classes on how to prepare a vegan feast. Here are a few examples....

Campaign for America's Libraries, Dec. 11

[What is outreach and why do we do it?](#)

Betha Gutsche writes: "For libraries, outreach is about reaching out to those who don't know how awesome the library is—to nonusers and people with special needs that can be addressed by library services. That means getting out of the library and reaching potential users where they are. Delineating the benefits to the library clarifies why outreach makes sense as an integral part



of planning, communication, and advocacy. What does library outreach mean to you? [Take the poll.](#)"...

OCLC Webjunction, Dec. 4

[Teen advocates](#)

Diane P. Tuccillo writes: "Teens often have the biggest impact in impressing their peers—this can be negative or positive, and with library advocacy, it's positive. Adults are readily impressed by teens and their contributions. I have heard so many great responses from parents who truly appreciate their teens' library involvement, and those parents are telling their friends and relatives in the community what their teens are doing. The teen library activity presence filters to their fellow teens, families, and friends, becoming advocacy in itself."...

YALSA Blog, Dec. 10

[Twitter image filters launched](#)

Twitter's image filters have been officially released for its Android and iOS apps. The app now offers eight filters, including "vignette, black and white, warm, cool, vintage, cinematic, happy, and gritty" tones. It also allows users to preview filters for their images in a grid format, and includes standard editing features like cropping, zooming, and auto-image enhancement. The [update](#) is thought to be a direct response to Facebook's purchase of Instagram earlier this year....

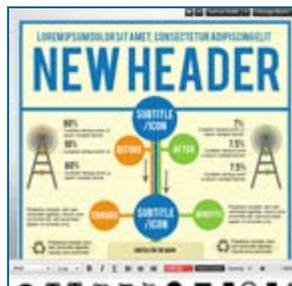


The Verge, Dec. 10; Twitter Blog, Dec. 10

[7 new tools to create your own infographics](#)

Ellyssa Kroski writes: "If the popularity of Pinterest has proven anything this past year, it's that people love images. They love creating them, curating them, and learning from them. So why not give your patrons what they want and create helpful infographics demonstrating how to use the library and other information literacy topics? Here are seven free and easy-to-use tools to get you started."...

iLibrarian, Dec. 11



[IE, PubMed, and the end of the world](#)

Michelle Kraft writes: "If you haven't heard about the Mayan civilization's calendar predicting the end of the world on December 21, then you have been living under a rock. Personally I believe the Mayans were on to something, but I think the end of the world will happen on January 1. Why? On that date, the National Center for Biotechnology Information will no longer support Internet Explorer 7, and all the hospitals that haven't upgraded will begin to have problems searching PubMed."...

The Krafty Librarian, Dec. 12

[Cultural recovery center opens in Brooklyn](#)

The Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (FAIC) is opening a temporary facility the week of December 10 to provide volunteer assistance and work space to museums,



libraries, archives, historic sites, galleries, collectors, and artists in Brooklyn affected by Superstorm Sandy. The Cultural Recovery Center will be operated by the foundation, in cooperation with a consortium of cultural organizations. Information for owners of cultural materials can be found [here](#)....

American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works, Dec. 6; Museum of Modern Art

Strategic directions for school libraries

Judy O'Connell writes: "Perhaps one of the most challenging conversations to have in libraries and learning communities as we move toward 2013 is the arrival of RDA. Yes, here is a new acronym that needs to be embedded in our thinking. 2013 will be a *year of living dangerously* when RDA arrives. Don't know about RDA yet? Then it's time to get excited, and up-to-date."...

Hey Jude, Dec. 6

Identifying spurious quotations by Thomas Jefferson

In this [video](#) (3:45) Monticello Research Librarian Anna Berkes (right) describes common misuses of Jefferson quotations and how the Thomas Jefferson



Foundation at Monticello is trying to identify and dispel [spurious sayings](#) by the third president: "There are quotes that bear no relationship to what Jefferson thought about a particular topic." Here is Berkes's [top 10 misconceptions](#) about Thomas Jefferson....

YouTube, Dec. 7; Monticello Library

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | December 19, 2012



American Libraries Online

All about the I Love My Librarian winners

Sally Chapralis writes: "Ten dedicated and passionate librarians were honored for their unwavering commitment to patrons, communities, and libraries when they received the [2012 I Love My Librarian Award](#), sponsored by the Carnegie Corporation of New York and the *New York Times*, administered by ALA, and presented to the winners at a ceremony in New York City on December 18." Read what each of them said about the honor and why they were nominated....

American Libraries feature, Dec. 19



NOPL celebrates the arts

On November 29 New Orleans Public Library welcomed musician Irvin Mayfield for the exclusive premiere of "Dust, Dirt, and Trees," written by Mayfield and performed by the New Orleans Jazz Orchestra. The concert, a tribute to literary legend Ernest Gaines, is part of a series titled *The NOJO 10*, which celebrates the orchestra's 10th anniversary with 10 signature jazz events....

AL Focus, Dec. 17



Another Story: The wheel turns again

Joseph Janes writes: "And here we are, at my 100th column, which comes smack on top of my 10-year anniversary writing it; this double circle has given me an opportunity to reflect on what has been, what is, and what could be, and I've arrived at the conclusion that a column called Internet Librarian is no longer necessary. So, am I done here? No such luck."...

American Libraries column, Nov./Dec.

Library Design Showcase moves

The conversation starts here...



ALA Midwinter Meeting.

Seattle, January 25–29. Starting at 1 p.m. on January 28 with members of the 501st Legion (a *Star Wars* fan organization) in the Exhibit Hall and special discounts from exhibitors, [Wrap Up/Rev Up](#) will continue with bestselling authors Tom Angleberger and Chris Alexander hosting a *Star Wars*-themed party at 2–3 p.m., featuring the storm troopers, origami, and photo opps with characters. The exclusive READ posters and bookmarks featuring [Origami Yoda](#) and Darth Paper will be available at the ALA Store.

to Sept./Oct.

American Libraries is now accepting submissions for its 2013 Library Design Showcase, an annual feature celebrating the best new and newly renovated or expanded libraries of all types. In 2013, the showcase will be moving from the March/April issue to the September/October issue. Send a completed submission form ([PDF file](#)), along with color prints or high-resolution digital images, to *American Libraries*, Attn: Library Design Showcase, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. Submissions can also be sent via [YouSendIt](#) to ALShowcase@ala.org. View last year's selections [here](#)....



American Libraries news, Dec. 19

No AL Direct for two weeks

AL Direct is taking two weeks off for the holiday season. Look for a new edition on Wednesday, January 9. Happy Holidays!

[Go back to the Top](#)

american libraries **LIVE** Get the inside scoop on pressing library topics.

ALA News

Theoharis to keynote Dr. Martin Luther King Sunrise Celebration

Jeanne Theoharis, professor of political science at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York, who has written on the black freedom struggle and the contemporary politics of race in the US, will keynote the 2013 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Sunrise Celebration on January 28, during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. The Call-to-Action Speaker will be Sandra Hughes-Hassell, professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill SLIS, whose current research focuses on social-justice issues in youth library services and the role of school librarians in education reform.... Social Responsibilities Round Table, Dec. 18



23 chapters offer joint ALA student membership

Twenty-three ALA chapters (aka state library associations) partner with ALA to offer students the opportunity to join both a chapter and ALA for one low price of \$35, now through August 31, 2013. If you [join online](#), ALA Membership and the participating chapters each receive a receipt on the day you joined.... ALA Student Membership Blog, Dec. 14

How to educate your staff and patrons on copyright

As libraries move into the roles of publisher, platform-

Boston & South Hadley, MA
SIMMONS
A Top 10 Program
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FREEDOM

provider, or aggregator, making sure that your staff has basic knowledge of copyright is important. A new session of the four-week facilitated eCourse "[Demystifying Copyright: How to Educate Your Staff and Community](#)" will begin February 4, taught by copyright, licensing, and digital property lawyer Lesley Ellen Harris (right). Harris will show step-by-step how to develop a copyright education program for library staff and community. [Registration](#) is open....

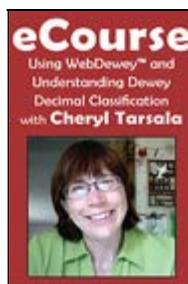
ALA Editions, Dec. 18



[Using WebDewey and Understanding DDC](#)

Gain a comprehensive grounding in Dewey Decimal Classification principles and practice in a new session of the four-week facilitated eCourse "[Using WebDewey and Understanding Dewey Decimal Classification](#)," which begins February 4. Expert cataloging instructor Cheryl Tarsala (right) will teach you how to assign DDC numbers with correct meaning in hierarchy, build numbers using tables, and apply numbers that help patrons browse your library. [Registration](#) is open....

ALA Editions, Dec. 18



[Get babies into books with early literacy programs](#)

Whether you're preparing programs for babies in your library or community center, teaching early literacy skills to daycare providers, or providing support to new parents in an outreach program, "[Getting Babies into Books with Early Literacy Programs](#)" will make your work easier and more productive. Taught by children's librarian Kathy Kirchoefer (right), the new four-week facilitated eCourse, which begins February 4, teaches how to plan a baby program from start to finish, including how to select the best books and music. [Registration](#) is open....

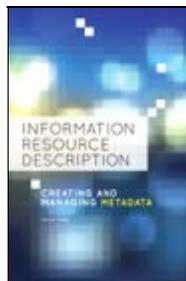
ALA Editions, Dec. 18



[Learn how to create and manage metadata](#)

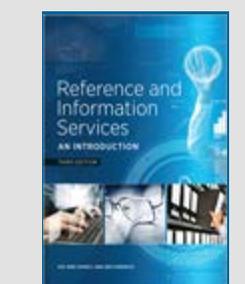
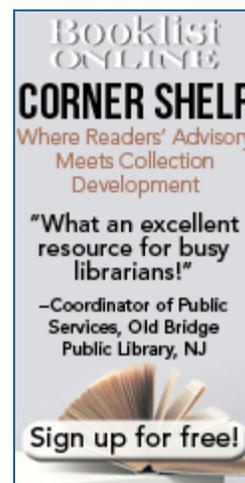
A primer on information and knowledge organization, with particular reference to digital environments, [Information Resource Description: Creating and Managing Metadata](#) introduces the conventions and standards of contemporary document description and the principles and trends of professional practice. Employing the unifying mechanism of the Semantic Web and the resource description framework, author Philip Hider integrates the various traditions and practices of information and knowledge organization....

ALA Editions, Dec. 18



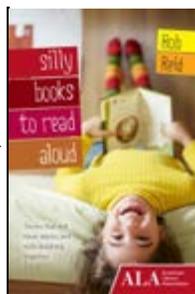
[Silly Books to Read Aloud](#)

[Silly Books to Read Aloud](#) is the ultimate guide to choosing fun and funny stories to read with and to children. Acclaimed children's book authority Rob Reid



offers a concentrated look at the content and appeal of different books, helping adults make informed decisions about what children read. More than simply a recommended reading list, books in this guide help children's language development and encourage good reading habits, improved comprehension, and a broadened vocabulary....

ALA Huron Street Press, Dec. 13



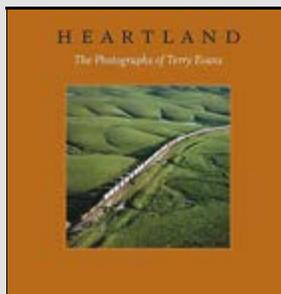
[Go back to the Top](#)

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Adult nonfiction](#)

Evans, Terry, and Keith F. Davis. *Heartland: The Photographs of Terry Evans*. Dec. 2012. 220p. Illustrated. Yale, hardcover (978-0-300-19075-5).

The first retrospective volume of Terry Evans's work establishes beyond question her standing as a major American photographer. She took her first flight over the majestic prairie in 1980 and began creating the breathtaking aerial compositions for which she is known best, photographing prairies from Texas to Canada, Chicago, mountaintop-removal coal mining, melting glaciers in Greenland, and the oil and gas boom in North Dakota. The salient essays that accompany the book's exceptionally sharp and saturated plates elucidate the "central tension in her work: the play between fact-gathering and personal expression."...



[Holiday shopping list for male readers](#)

David Wright writes: "Books make lousy gifts, or books can make the perfect gift. It all depends on whether you've picked a book the recipient will read, or even open—something he hasn't already read that is easy to get into and hard to get out of. If you're heading to the bookstore to pick up something for the various men in your life, readers or not, here's a shopping list to take along."...



[She shopped; she read; she scored](#)

Kaite Mediatore Stover writes: "It seems as if holiday shopping for biblio gal pals would be easy, but not so. I avoid the fiction section



The third edition of [Reference and Information Services: An Introduction](#) by Kay Ann Cassell and Uma Hiremath is the perfect text for students and librarians looking to expand their personal reference knowledge, teaching failsafe methods for identifying important materials by matching specific types of questions to the best available sources, regardless of format. **NEW! From ALA Neal-Schuman.**

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Services**
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scoop on
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library
topics.

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since these gal pals are always caught up on the latest titles. The nonfiction section, though, offers infinite possibilities, and I get to employ my readers' advisory skills as I craft how I'll describe the beribboned books that match each babebrarian's personality (and one guybrarian). Here's my shopping list."...

[Great reads of a Booklist Online editor](#)



Keir Graff writes: "With the list-making and gift-giving season in full swing, this would be a good time to show restraint. But the holidays, at least as we practice them in the US, are all about poor judgment and excess, and so I'll add to the overkill by offering a list of suggestions for gift giving, choosing only from the books I've read and reviewed over the past 12 months."...

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

[Go back to the Top](#)



[University of Al-Karaouine](#), Library, Fes, Morocco.

Originally a madrasa for a mosque founded in 859 A.D., the school attained university status in 1947.

Although it undoubtedly kept copies of the Qur'an and other religious manuscripts from the beginning, its library was formally established by Sultan Abu Inan Faris in 1349. Among its treasures are volumes of the Al-Muwatta compiled by Malik ibn Anas and written on gazelle parchment; the *Sīrat Rasūl Allāh* of Ibn Ishaq; a copy of the Qur'an given to the madrasa by Sultan Ahmad al-Mansur in 1602; and the original copy of Ibn Khaldun's universal history *Kitab al-'Ibar*.



[International Library of African Music](#),

Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa. The largest archive of sub-Saharan African music in the world, the library was founded by ethnomusicologist Hugh Tracey in 1954



Seattle Update

[Chihuly Garden and Glass](#)

This long-term exhibition at the Seattle Center provides a look at the inspiration and influences that inform the career of artist Dale Chihuly. Intended to function as a community gathering place, "Chihuly Garden and Glass" broke ground in August 2011. Its Exhibition Hall contains eight galleries and three Drawing Walls, offering visitors a comprehensive look at Chihuly's significant series of work. The installation of artworks in the Gardens started March 2012, and then moved into the Glasshouse and Exhibition Hall....

Chihuly Garden and Glass



[Best Seattle bakery, 2012](#)

Gavin Borchert writes: "[Pike Place Bakery](#) keeps a low profile, even though it's at the Market's central crossroads, right where Pike Street bends into 1501 Pike Place. Tucked into a corner behind the fish-throwers (ah, that explains it), its glass cases are stuffed with rolls and breads, yes, but mostly old-school sweets. Their philosophy seems to be never to use one topping on a sweet roll when you can use more: cream cheese strawberry, chocolate-chip cream cheese, almond cinnamon caramel."...

Seattle Weekly



[Top 10 Seattle food trucks](#)

New food trucks are opening in Seattle almost every week. And if the quantity isn't crushing, the trucks' overall quality is reason for mobile food fans to celebrate. But there are a few standouts. Jen says the following 10 trucks are the ones you ought to wish were permanently parked outside your office. And they are [increasingly cooperating](#) by forming "pods," or spaces shared by a bunch of trucks, such as the one that opened November 8 on the corner of Second Avenue and Pike Street....

Seattle Weekly, Oct. 22; *Puget Sound Business Journal*, Nov. 1



[On the waterfront](#)

The Central Waterfront of Seattle is the most urbanized portion of the Elliott Bay shore. It runs from the Pioneer Square shore roughly northwest past Downtown Seattle and Belltown, ending at the Broad Street site of the Olympic Sculpture Park. Several century-old piers are now devoted to shops and restaurants. There are several parks, a ferris wheel, an aquarium, and one over-water hotel, the Edgewater. The piers are numbered from Pier 46, at the south end of the area, to Pier 70 at the northern end....

Wikipedia



[Vashon Island, a trip across time](#)

Unknown to the rest of us, the Washington State Department of Transportation has invented a time machine. Sure, it looks like a ferry, running the route between Seattle and Vashon Island dozens of times a day. But how else to explain what you find when you arrive on Vashon? The island has no bridge connecting it to the mainland, so it retains its Mayberry-meets-Burning-Man character, a place where Seattleites get a taste of small-town life—including a [Food Preservation Tool Library](#) and the historic [Vashon Island Coffee Roasterie](#) (a coffee museum)....

New York Times, Mar. 30; *Seattle Weekly*, Aug. 22; Vashon Island Coffee Roasterie



[Go back to the Top](#)

Division News

[Check in for 2013 Teen Tech Week](#)



The theme for Teen Tech Week 2013, March 10–16, is "Check In @ your library," which was designed to encourage libraries to showcase the outstanding technology they offer for teens and their families, services such as online homework help, digital literacy–focused programs, ebooks, movies, music, audiobooks, and databases.

[Registration](#) is open for a free webinar on makerspaces with Hilary Kolos from Dreamyard and materials from TTW Partners, such as database trials and books....

YALSA, Dec. 18

[More Great Websites for Kids](#)

Nine websites have been added to ALSC's list of

after 25 years of field recording and research. In 1978, ILAM moved to Rhodes University where it is now affiliated with the Department of Music and Musicology. Since 1999, the library has been working to digitize its entire collection of thousands of recordings.

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. Some will be featured in [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart, which is scheduled for publication in 2013 by ALA Editions. There is also a [Great Libraries of the World Pinterest board](#).



Career Leads from
JobLIST

[Collections Strategist](#), Ohio State University, Columbus. Partnerships with other libraries are integral to collection development and

[Great Websites for Kids](#). GWS features links to high-quality websites of interest to children 14 years old and younger, organized into diverse subject headings such as animals and dinosaurs, games and entertainment, history and science, and art and music. Each site entry includes a brief annotation and a grade-level rating. GWS users can also rate sites and save their favorite sites to access later....

ALSC, Dec. 18



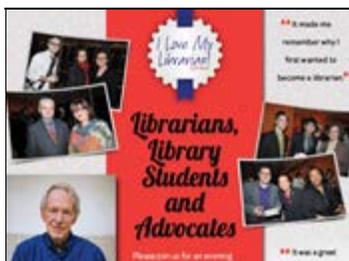
[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[I Love My Librarian winners announced](#)

Ten librarians have been recognized for service to their communities, schools, and campuses as [winners](#) of the Carnegie Corporation of New York / *New York Times* I Love My Librarian Award. More than 1,500 library patrons nationwide nominated a librarian. Each received a \$5,000 cash award and was honored at a ceremony and reception in New York, hosted by the *New York Times*, on December 18. In their nominations, library patrons told stories of how their librarians make a difference in their communities....

Campaign for America's Libraries, Dec. 18



[Two new 75th Caldecott Facebook Forums](#)

ALSC has announced two more 75th Caldecott Facebook Forums. On January 10, ALSC will host Melissa Sweet (illustrator of *A River of Words: The Story of William Carlos Williams*), and on February 26, Laura Vaccaro Seeger (author and illustrator of *First the Egg*) will be the guest. As part of the forum, ALSC will interview Sweet and Vaccaro Seeger about their Caldecott experiences. This event is open to the public, and a Facebook account is not required to view the event, held on the [ALSC Facebook page](#)....

ALSC, Dec. 14

[Call for United for Libraries trustee nominations](#)

United for Libraries is accepting applications for the ALA Trustee Citation and the United for Libraries/Gale Outstanding Trustee Grant. The citation recognizes public library trustees for distinguished service to library development and the grant will enable a public library trustee to attend the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. [Apply](#) by December 31....

United for Libraries, Dec. 18

[RUSA extends awards-nomination deadlines](#)

The nomination deadline has been extended to January 15 for several annual awards offered by RUSA, with the exception of the BRASS Gale Cengage Learning Student Travel Award, whose deadline is January 31. [Visit](#) the RUSA Awards website for details about each award, including eligibility, criteria, submission guidelines, and committee information....

RUSA, Dec. 18

[Nomination deadlines extended for ASCLA awards](#)

management strategy for OSU Libraries. The Collections Strategist will advance an environment of active consortial engagement through OhioLINK, the CIC, HathiTrust, and other cooperative programs. The Collections Strategist leads OSU participation in the OhioLINK Cooperative Information Resources Management Committee and other OhioLINK groups as appropriate and represents OSU Libraries in initiatives with CIC partners, CRL, OCLC Research Libraries Partnership, HathiTrust, and elsewhere....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The beta version of the [Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek \(German Digital Library\)](#) launched on November 28. Its goal

ASCLA has extended the nomination deadline to January 31 for its 2013 awards, which recognize projects focused on library services to people with disabilities; the advancement of library services for the blind and physically handicapped; exceptional achievement in extension and outreach services; exemplary leadership and achievement in consulting, state library services, and library cooperatives; and service to ASCLA. [Visit](#) the ASCLA Awards website for more information....

ASCLA, Dec. 18

[EMIERT 2013 Distinguished Librarian Award](#)

The ALA Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table is seeking nominations for its 2013 Distinguished Librarian Award. The award recognizes significant accomplishments in multicultural library services that are national or international in scope and that include improving, spreading, and promoting multicultural services in libraries.

[Nominations](#) will be accepted through January 21....

Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table, Dec. 14

[RUSA represented on PROSE Award jury](#)

RUSA member Dan Mack, deputy director for collection management and special collections at the University of Maryland Libraries, has been named to the 2012 PROSE Award jury as the subject matter expert for language and linguistics. The [PROSE Awards](#), presented by the Association of American Publishers, recognize the very best in professional and scholarly publishing by bringing attention to distinguished books, journals, and e-content in more than 40 categories....

RUSA, Dec. 18

[EBSCO scholarships awarded for ALA Midwinter](#)

Five librarians have received \$1,500 scholarships to attend the 2013 ALA Midwinter Meeting, January 25–29, in Seattle. They are: Susan H. Brown of Lawrence (Kans.) Public Library, Ariel Cummins of San Antonio (Tex.) Public Library, Liane Elizabeth Elias of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Jacqueline Keleher of Southern University at New Orleans, and Stacey Nordlund of Toronto (Ont.) Public Library....

Office of ALA Governance, Dec. 18

[Ginnie Cooper wins architecture award for DCPL](#)

Ginnie Cooper, chief librarian and executive director of the District of Columbia Public Library, has won the 2012 Thomas Jefferson Award for Public Architecture from the American Institute of Architects. Cooper was in the award's third category, which recognizes the role of elected officials, public administrators, and institutional leaders who encourage the production of high-quality architecture. She is credited for D.C.'s recent renaissance in library construction and renovation of [14 branches](#) since 2006....

American Institute of Architects; District of Columbia Public Library



[Carole King wins LC's Gershwin Award](#)

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington announced December 13 that Carole King (right) is the 2013 recipient of the Gershwin Prize for Popular Song. The singer-songwriter, known for such hits as "You've Got a Friend," "So Far Away," "(You Make Me Feel Like) A

is to offer the public unrestricted access to Germany's cultural and scientific heritage, which includes access to millions of books, archived items, images, sculptures, pieces of music and other sound documents, as well as films and scores from all over the country. More than 1,880 institutions are contributing digital resources to the project, which currently offers some 5.6 million items. The German federal government contributed 8 million euros to developing infrastructure, and federal, state, and local authorities have guaranteed an annual operational budget of 2.6 million euros for five years.

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. Check out our [Featured Digital Libraries Pinterest board.](#)

Noted and Quoted

"We need a place where children can come and not be bothered by reporters and people seeking information. Just a neutral place they can come where they can feel normal in an abnormal situation."

—Alana Bennison, children's librarian at the Cyrenius H. Booth Library in Newtown, Connecticut, on creating a



Natural Woman," and "I Feel the Earth Move," will receive the prize in Washington, D.C., in the spring of 2013....

Library of Congress, Dec. 13

[Booklist 2012 Top of the List selections](#)

Booklist magazine has announced its Top of the List winners for 2012. The eight winning titles were chosen from the annual Editors' Choice selections as the best books and media of 2012, and, as every year, the expert selections influence readers and book buyers in libraries, bookstores, and beyond. The Top of the List picks are featured in Booklist Online as well as in the special combined January 1 and 15 issue of *Booklist*, which includes the complete annotated Editors' Choice lists for adult books, adult books for young adults, books for youth, reference sources, and media....

Booklist, Dec. 13



[2012 Edublog Award winners](#)

The winners and runners-up of the [2012 Edublog Awards](#) were announced December 13. Sponsored by blogging service Edublogs, the awards are determined by a nomination process open to the general public, and winners are chosen by vote. The winner in the category of "Best Library/Librarian blog" was a Bulgarian-language site translated as "[Educational Blog](#)" by Iliana Ilieva-Dabova, who works in the Bulgarian School in Barcelona, Spain. Runners-up were [Mighty Little Librarian](#), [Bulldog Readers](#), [Watch.Connect.Read](#), and [The Adventures of Library Girl](#) (right)....

School Library Journal, Dec. 14; Edublogs, Dec. 13



[Is your school innovative?](#)

With just three weeks remaining before the January 4 entry deadline for the 2012–2013 Follett Challenge, Follett has sweetened the deal by announcing it will throw a party for the contest's two grand-prize winners at their respective schools. The contest will award \$200,000 worth of Follett products and services to six K–12 schools that are aligning their curriculum to teach 21st-century learning skills. The challenge is open to all public and private K–12 schools in the United States and Canada. [Apply](#) by January 4....

Follett, Dec. 14



[Go back to the Top](#)

Libraries in the News

[Sandy Hook library staff saves 18 children](#)

During the horrific December 14 shootings at Sandy Hook

safe space for traumatized youngsters in the aftermath of the Sandy Hook shootings, quoted in "[Librarian: No One Is Untouched by This Tragedy](#)." *Danbury (Conn.) News-Times*, Dec. 15.

@ [More quotes...](#)

ENJOY OUR LATEST CONTENT

[Meet the Winners of the 2012 I Love My Librarian Award](#)



[Scott Hutchins: 'There would have been no option for books except for the library' \(video\)](#)

[Asperger's Syndrome and the Journey Taken by One Family to Understand It](#)

[Whistler's Changing London](#)

[Animal Welfare Libraries](#)

[Gordon Parks-- Humanitarian Journalist, Master of the Camera](#)

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Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, the quick thinking of school librarian Yvonne Cech and library clerk Mary Ann Jacob saved the lives of 18 fourth graders. Cech and Jacob locked themselves, two other library assistants, and the students inside a storage room used to house servers for the library computers. After barricading the door with filing cabinets, they tried to [keep the kids calm](#) by giving them crayons and paper. They were rescued by state police after about an hour. Jacob was [interviewed](#) afterwards by Fox News. AASL President Susan Ballard had some [timely words](#) to say about the event....

New York Times, Dec. 14; *Daily Mirror* (UK), Dec. 15; Fox News, Dec. 15; *AL: Inside Scoop*, Dec, 14



[Probe centers on Detroit library's IT contracts](#)

A search warrant from a Detroit Public Library raid on November 20 shows that a federal grand jury is investigating Chief Administrative Officer Tim Cromer and his ties to two library technology contractors, Cubemation and Core Consulting and Professional Services. They also sought library records concerning Dacrotek, a company that Cromer formed in 2005, while he was director of the library's information systems department....

Detroit News, Dec. 17

[How CUNY libraries adjusted after Hurricane Sandy](#)

Maura Smale writes: "Overall, most City University of New York facilities escaped serious damage from the hurricane and were able to reopen to students on November 2. We all returned to a semester that looked different from the usual, and in some cases, very different. Here my colleagues and I share our post-hurricane adaptations in some of the libraries across the CUNY system."...

ACRLog, Dec. 14

[Alec Baldwin helps out Central Falls library](#)

The Adams Memorial Library in Central Falls, Rhode Island, has received an unexpected check for \$5,000 from actor Alec Baldwin, his second donation in 12 months. "A year ago, Alec's donation [of \$10,000] helped us keep the doors open," said board President Bruce Kaplan. "This year he's helping us expand hours of operation and community programming." The library was closed for several months in 2011 in the wake of Central Falls's bankruptcy, until volunteers raised enough money to [reopen](#) it. The library [was almost halfway](#) toward its \$40,000 fundraising goal....

Lincoln (R.I.) Valley Breeze, Dec. 18; *New York Times*, Sept. 30, 2011; WPRI-TV, Providence, R.I., Dec. 18



[Meet the Labrary](#)

Corydon Ireland writes: "Ever get the urge to print a few words on a graham cracker, with chocolate? No? Well, you only have until December 21 to sample that creation. That's the last day the [Labrary](#) will be open on the Harvard campus. The student-designed pop-up space explores what libraries of the future might look like. The project



Calendar

Jan. 10:
[American Libraries Live](#), Web Episode.
"Landing Your Ideal Library Job."

Feb. 1–3:
[Los Angeles Art Book Fair](#), Geffen Contemporary at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles.

Feb. 12–14:
[O'Reilly Tools of Change for Publishing Conference](#), New York Marriott Marquis, New York City. Librarians save 30% with the discount code ALATechSource.

Feb. 14:
[American Libraries Live](#), Web Episode.
"Mobile Services: The Library in Your Pocket."

Feb. 27–
Mar. 3:
[Music Library Association](#), Annual Meeting, Fairmont Hotel, San José, California.

Mar. 1:
[Hug-a-Librarian Day](#).

Apr. 4–5:
[Coalition for Networked Information](#), Membership Meeting, San Antonio, Texas.

Apr. 10–13:
[ACRL National Conference](#), Indiana

originated in an advanced seminar called 'Library Test Kitchen.'"...
Harvard Gazette, Dec. 12

[The Russians love the Librarian of Congress](#)

The Russian ambassador used Italian opera to honor the Librarian of Congress on December 11, part of a resplendent evening the Russians put together for James H. Billington (right). The official reason for the gathering was to celebrate Billington's 25 years as head of LC. But there is much personal affection among the federation's diplomatic and artistic set for Billington, a Russia scholar. The ambassador's residence, where the soirée was held, is rarely used to fête individuals in such a manner, much less an American official....

Roll Call: Heard on the Hill, Dec. 12



[Illinois GSLIS collaborates with French school](#)

In December, University of Illinois Associate Professor Terry Weech (right) visited [ENSSIB](#), France's national school for information and librarianship in Lyon, to talk to students, staff, and faculty about an exchange program with GSLIS. The program, recently authorized by the board of trustees, is the formalization of a nearly 20-year informal collaborative relationship with l'École Nationale Supérieure des Sciences de l'Information et des Bibliothèques (ENSSIB), the premier LIS school in France....

iSchool at Illinois, Dec. 14



[New town library in Maranello, Italy](#)

A glazed reading room appears to float over the still waters of a shallow pool at this town library in Maranello, Italy, by Japanese architect Arata Isozaki and Italian architect Andrea Maffei. It opened to the public on November 19, 2011. The curving glass façade wiggles back and forth to form the building's perimeter, while study areas behind the glass offer visitors a view out across the water towards the ivy-covered walls that bound the site....

Dezeen, Dec. 16



[Go back to the Top](#)

Issues

[Social justice and the public library](#)

Sarah Hashemi Scott writes: "As librarians, we know that intellectual freedom, education, and democracy are among the most important of our profession's ethics, values, and foundational principles. These values and principles are codified in the [ALA Code of Ethics](#) and the [Library Bill of Rights](#). A related but perhaps less-talked-about value is that of social justice. Public libraries can—and, in many ways, already do—play a vital role in advancing the cause of social justice."...

Public Libraries Online, Dec. 11

[Keeping up with Facebook's](#)

Convention Center, Indianapolis. "Imagine, Innovate, Inspire."

Apr. 17–19:
[American Society for Indexing](#), Annual Conference, Hotel Contessa, San Antonio, Texas. "The Art and Craft of Indexing."

Apr. 19–22:
[International Reading Association](#), Annual Convention, Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, San Antonio, Texas. "Celebrating Teachers Making a Difference."

Apr. 25–29:
[Art Libraries Society of North America](#), Annual Conference, Pasadena Convention Center, Pasadena, California. "Crafting Our Future."

May 4:
[Boston Book, Paper, and Photo Exposition](#), Shiner's Auditorium, Wilmington, Massachusetts.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct



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



[privacy changes](#)

Jill Duffy writes: "Anytime Facebook makes changes to its Privacy Settings, as it did [once](#) [again](#) on December 12, a number of users panic. An equal number of users berate the panickers for panicking, and many more don't even realize anything changed. Do you need to keep up with Facebook's privacy changes? Getting rid of Facebook isn't such a simple proposition, nor is ignoring its ever-shifting privacy policies." See more on [Mashable](#)....

PC Magazine, Dec. 12-13; *Mashable*, Dec. 12



[Where books go to die](#)

Marianna Tax Choldin writes: "I'm writing a memoir about my more than 50 years of engagement with Russia, nearly 40 of which I've devoted to the study of censorship in three eras: imperial Russia, the Soviet Union, and post-Soviet Russia. The Soviet period has been the most difficult to document, because the Soviet authorities always denied that censorship existed in their country. But scholars like myself were able to learn quite a bit anyway, from emigrés, from some published sources available outside the Soviet Union, and by the time-honored method of reading between the lines."...

Illinois Library Association, Dec. 19



[Ending the book famine for the blind](#)

Carrie Russell writes: "The World Intellectual Property Organization General Assembly decided on December 18 to convene a Diplomatic Conference in Morocco in June 2013 to finalize negotiations on an international copyright treaty that would allow for the cross-border sharing of accessible content to people with print disabilities around the world. This is the final step in a long diplomatic process to end the 'book famine' for the blind."...

District Dispatch, Dec. 19



[The importance of physical space](#)

Jill Hurst-Wahl writes: "How do we arrange our libraries? Do we think about the best layout for the goals that we have? If we want the library to be a community center, have we laid it out with that goal in mind? If our focus is on literacy, does the layout and placement of material support that? Are our aisles wide and uncluttered? Do we make it easy for people to linger? For those who linger, can they find the things they need (restrooms, power outlets, water, food)? Is our signage big and easy to read, even from across the room?"...

Digitization 101, Nov. 26

[The library as a free enterprise](#)

Barbara Fister writes: "Mita Williams, of the University of Windsor, recently posted her [slides](#) from an amazing talk that she gave in November. It was a wide-ranging talk, but it projected the kind of future we can have if we pay attention to what's going on and keep hold of one important idea: The future of the academic library is free. Free as in freedom. Free as in access to ideas without gatekeepers or tolls. Free as in libraries."...



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Inside Higher Ed: Library Babel Fish, Dec. 13; New Jack Librarian, Nov. 30

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Tech Talk

[Mobile app use studies at UIUC](#)

Jim Hahn writes: "The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign team of IT diversity interns is working on departmental-specific mobile app modules and user studies of those app modules this fall semester. Specifically, we wanted to understand how departmental collections and other library locations would use our already developed web services for departmental and subject-based mobile application modules. The modules we studied include enhanced wayfinding support of multistory buildings and collections, a reserves module for all libraries, and hours integration into book information data elements."...

ACRL TechConnect Blog, Dec. 17



[Are desktop computers still relevant in academic libraries?](#)

Susan Thompson writes: "A two-year study conducted at California State University, San Marcos library analyzed student use of computers in the library, both the library's own desktop computers and laptops owned by students. The study found that, despite the increased ownership of mobile technology by students, they still clearly preferred to use desktop computers in the library. It also showed that students who used computers in the library were more likely to use other library services and physical collections."...

Information Technology and Libraries 31, no. 4 (Dec.): 20-33

[Essential Windows 8 peripherals](#)

Brian Westover writes: "Windows 8 may be touch friendly, but there are many people upgrading to the new OS that won't be running it on tablets and touch screens. For those whose desktops and laptops get poked and prodded the old-fashioned way (through the keyboard and mouse), you don't need to worry about being out of touch. New peripherals put many of the touch capabilities and gesture controls of Windows 8 into devices usable on older systems."...

PC Magazine, Dec. 13



[Netflix vs. Amazon: Who streams supreme?](#)

Russell Holly writes: "The natural evolution of the video rental store is the ability to watch content digitally for a set number of days. Amazon Instant Video started out as exactly this kind of service, but has grown into a much larger video distribution system, one that seeks to compete with the 800-pound gorilla of the streaming video world: Netflix. The two services also offer fairly different content." And how do [Netflix and Hulu Plus](#) compare?....

Geek.com, Dec. 3, 13

[PowerTrip charger](#)

David Pogue writes: "Everyone probably knows the heartbreak of Dead Battery Syndrome. It's barely dinnertime, and your iPhone, Android phone, or tablet is giving you the '10% remaining' sign. The [PowerTrip charger](#), about the size of a deck of cards, nips that

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problem in the bud. This one can be charged from three different sources: a wall outlet, a computer's USB jack or —get this—the sun. Yes, there's a solar panel on the back for topping off the charge."...

New York Times: Pogue's Posts, Dec. 12

[The Interactive Guide to Blog Typography](#)

Melanie Pinola writes: "If you have a blog or other website, your choice of fonts and how you style the text can make a big difference not only in how attractive your site looks, but also its readability. This [interactive guide](#) by Tommi Kaikkonen can quickly teach you what you need to know about typography."...

Lifehacker, Dec. 19

[How to edit Word files in Google Drive](#)

Richard Byrne writes: "This morning I received an email from a friend of mine who needed some help opening a Word (Docx) file in Google Drive. Google recently made a slight change to how this is done. And since it threw off my friend who is a fairly savvy Google Drive user I thought that there are probably others who have or will have the same question."...

Free Technology for Teachers, Dec. 17

[Sharing digital photos on the web](#)

Michael Muchmore writes: "If you want to get your photos out to colleagues, there are many good ways to do so via the internet.

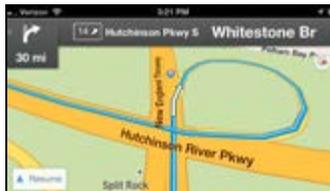


Most photo-editing software applications and mobile apps offer built-in tools for sharing pictures through email, photo sharing sites, and social networks. If you can't wait to get to your PC, some cameras (and memory cards such as Eye-Fi) and all smartphones now let you do so right from the same device that snapped the photo."...

PC Magazine, Dec. 14

[Maps app for iPhone](#)

David Pogue writes: "It was one of the biggest tech headlines of the year: In September, Apple dropped its contract with Google, which had always supplied the data for the iPhone's [Maps app](#), and wrote its own app. It was like a 22-car pileup. But in December, Google Maps for the iPhone has arrived. It's free, fast, and fantastic. Even if public transportation were all it did, Google Maps would be one of the best apps ever." Watch the [video](#) (1:11). More than 10 million people [downloaded](#) Google Maps from the App Store in the first 48 hours....



New York Times: Personal Tech, Dec. 12; WebProNews, Dec. 17

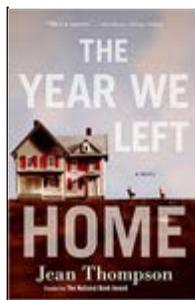
[Go back to the Top](#)

E-Content

[Simon & Schuster ebooks can't resist Iowans](#)

Christopher Harris writes: "I had the honor of delivering the opening general session address at the Iowa Library Association conference in October, and I was certainly impressed by the persistent power of Iowa librarians. That power was again evident in the December 17 announcement that Simon & Schuster would be making an exception to its policy of not selling ebooks to libraries: The 2013 All Iowa Reads book selection, *The Year We Left Home* by Jean Thompson, will be available to libraries on OverDrive beginning January 1."...

AL: E-Content, Dec. 18



[Kansans make ebook inequity go viral on Facebook](#)

Jazzy Wright writes: "After years of being on the receiving end of unfair ebook prices and library lending restrictions from some of the world's largest book publishers, leadership at the State Library of Kansas has had enough. To bring the public's attention to libraries' ongoing ebook conflict with some publishers, the state library created a [Facebook page](#) that lists ebook titles that publishers refuse to sell or license to libraries, as well as ebooks currently offered to libraries only at sky-high prices."...

AL: E-Content, Dec. 18



[E-content in libraries: The year in review](#)

Mirela Roncevic writes: "2012 was a busy year for e-content. New alliances were formed among both publishers and vendors, more mergers took place, controversies surrounding ebook lending in public libraries persisted, open access initiatives showed no signs of slowing down, and the pressing need to digitize scholarly publishing gave rise to several monograph e-platforms. Emerging technological advances continued to push the boundaries of what we thought was possible only a year before."...

No Shelf Required, Dec. 17



[Predictions for digital media in 2013](#)

The paidContent editors write: "What changes will next year bring in digital media? Everyone loves to look into their crystal ball, and we're no different. So here are our collective predictions for 2013, from books and video to newspapers and advertising." Laura Owen thinks: "Remaining book publishers will settle with the DOJ in the ebook pricing lawsuit, a well-known author will turn down a seven-figure deal to self-publish, and Barnes & Noble will drastically cut back its Nook product line."...

GigaOM, Dec. 11

[The history of text digitization](#)

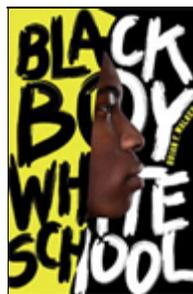
Leslie Johnston writes: "We are all pretty familiar with the process of scanning texts to produce page images and converting them using optical character recognition to full-text indexing and searching. But electronic texts have a far older pedigree. Text digitization in the cultural heritage sector started in earnest in 1971, when the first [Project Gutenberg](#) text—the United States Declaration of Independence—was keyed into a file on a mainframe at the University of Illinois."...

The Signal: Digital Preservation, Dec. 19

[YA covers that got it right in 2012](#)

Annie Schutte writes: "Publishing companies aren't putting out enough YA titles that feature protagonists of color. And when they do, some book covers try to obscure the characters' race by showing them in silhouette or in shadow, or at times whitewashing them completely. However, some publishers have no problem putting people of color on the covers of their books. Here are some book covers that got race right in 2012."...

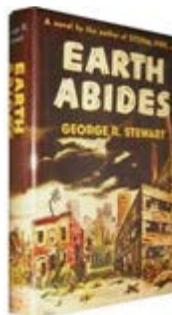
YALSA The Hub, Dec. 17



[20 books for the end of the world](#)

Beth Carswell writes: "Well, it's been a great 5,125 years, folks. Sure, we made some mistakes, but I like to think we've all learned a little, loved a little, grown a little. And now, according to some, we are in the end of days. Some of those inclined toward the prophecies believe that on December 21 the world will undergo catastrophic and cataclysmic events. We have you covered with this selection of [apocalyptic and post-apocalyptic fiction](#)—the perfect books for the end of the world."...

AbeBooks' Reading Copy, Dec. 18



[Authors who pin](#)

Joyce Valenza writes: "We've followed their blogs and tweets. Now many of us are following their boards. Through Pinterest, some of our favorite authors are sharing fan art, previewing book covers and chapters, allowing us a lens on the inspirations for their writing, illustrating the background and locations for their books, suggesting literary extension activities, and revealing their hobbies and interests and style preferences."...

School Library Journal: NeverEndingSearch, Dec. 16

[A critic's tour of literary Manhattan](#)

Dwight Garner writes: "Is Manhattan's literary night life, along with its literary infrastructure (certain bars, hotels, restaurants, and bookstores) fading away? Not long ago I installed myself at the Algonquin, the Midtown hotel where Dorothy Parker, Alexander Woollcott, and others once traded juniper-infused barbs, and used it as a launching pad to crisscross the island for a few days, looking to see what's left."...

New York Times, Dec. 14



[The best literary quotes ever tattooed](#)

Emily Temple writes: "Some people choose to literally ink odes to their favorite books on their bodies, whether [inspired by children's books](#) or by some of the incredible turns of phrase shown here, which we've chosen for their resonance as well as their beauty. Certain books tend to spark more tattoos than others—so we've simply chosen our favorites." Mental Floss has [12 more literary tats](#)....

Flavorwire, Nov. 1, Dec. 9; Mental Floss, Dec. 14



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tips & Ideas

[30 resources to help children cope with tragedies](#)

Julie Greller writes: "As teachers, we go through lockdown drills on a regular basis, praying that we will never have a real life-and-death situation. If not for those practice drills, teachers in Newtown, Connecticut, would not have known what to do. Angela Maiers posted '[There is No Lesson Plan for Tragedy: Teachers You Know What to Do](#)' on her blog. It is a must-read. Here are some resources to aid you and parents in helping kids deal with the violence." Larry Ferlazzo offers [additional resources](#)....

A Media Specialist's Guide to the Internet, Dec. 16; Angela Meiers, Dec. 14; Larry Ferlazzo's Websites of the Day, Dec. 14



[Library Zeitgeist](#)

The Library of Congress was the most-searched library in the United States in 2012, according to Google's annual "Zeitgeist report" ([PDF file](#)), which tracks internet search trends. The report does not indicate how many actual searches were done or whether the searches included both website hits and catalog searches. The four next libraries, in descending order, were Chicago Public Library, Brooklyn Public Library, New York Public Library, and Hennepin County (Minn.) Library....

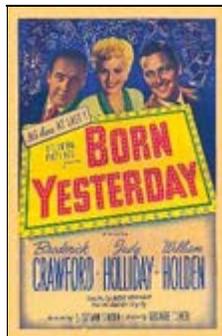
Minneapolis Star-Tribune, Dec. 15; Google Zeitgeist 2012

Most Searched Libraries	
1.	Library of Congress
2.	Chicago Public Library
3.	Brooklyn Public Library
4.	New York Public Library
5.	Hennepin County Library
6.	Boston Public Library
7.	Free Library of Philadelphia
8.	Houston Public Library
9.	Los Angeles Public Library
10.	San Diego Public Library

[LC adds 25 films to its National Registry](#)

The excitement of national football, the first black star of an American feature-length film, the visionary battle between man and machine, and an award-winning actress born yesterday are part of a kaleidoscope of cinematic moments captured on film and tapped for preservation. Librarian of Congress James H. Billington on December 19 named 25 motion pictures that have been selected for inclusion in LC's National Film Registry. These cinematic treasures represent important cultural, artistic, and historic achievements in filmmaking....

Library of Congress, Dec. 19



[Metadata explained using a Christmas metaphor](#)

Bonnie Swoger writes: "When I talk to most scientists and mention the word 'metadata' they look at me as if I've grown a second head. Despite the fact that these folks regularly use and create metadata (not to be confused with megadata or 'big data,' which is another subject), many have not heard of the term. The best way to understand metadata is to look at a few examples of metadata at work, using Santa Claus as the data creator."...

Scientific American: Information Culture, Dec. 17

My List ☆		
File Edit View Insert Format		
\$ % 123 - 10pt		
fx	A	B
67	Kate	Naughty
68	Emma	Nice
69	Jaxon	Nice
70	Gabe	Nice
71	Jayce	Naughty
72	Isabella	Naughty
73	Alyssa	Nice
74	Nathan	Nice
75	Addie	Nice

[GPO moves toward RDA adoption](#)

The US Government Printing Office has created a Resource Description and Access implementation team to ensure a smooth transition from AACR2 to RDA. GPO cataloging staff are continuing their training efforts, and are now working on sample record creation, the identification of local practices, and formal Program for Cooperative Cataloging review. Full implementation is expected in April 2013. The timeline is now available on the [RDA project page](#)....

FDLP Desktop, Dec. 18

[Normalizing RDA capitalization with OCLC Connexion macros](#)

One immediately noticeable difference in RDA records is capitalization that differs from the AACR2 standard. Depending on the cataloger, the same movie might have its title recorded as any of: Who's afraid of Virginia Woolf? Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? Who's Afraid of VIRGINIA WOOLF? Is this okay? If not, what can we do about it?...

Problem Cataloger, Dec. 14



[IFLA call for papers](#)

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions is seeking papers that will be presented at its [World Library and Information Congress](#) in Singapore, August 17–23, 2013. The content of the IFLA conference program is organized by different professional groups (sections, core programs, and special interest groups). Most of the deadlines for proposals are in January and February, depending on the group....

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions



[Citizen science in the library](#)

Allison Scripa writes: "Citizen science is a method of conducting scientific research that uses people without *formal* scientific education or training to gather the data needed for an experiment. How does this fit into libraries? Well, we're all about lifelong learning. Citizen science projects don't just help the scientists running them; they provide an opportunity for people participating in them to *learn* something new about their world. Here are two examples of successful citizen science projects."...

Letters to a Young Librarian, Dec. 13

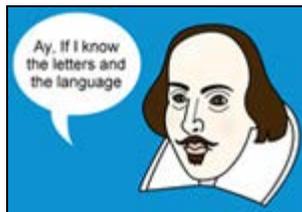


[SwipeSpeare, an interactive Shakespeare app](#)

Shakespeare fans who have an iPad or iPhone now have an intuitive interface that lets them swap Elizabethan English passages for Modern English versions of the text and vice versa.

[SwipeSpeare](#), from Golgotha Press, is free and comes preloaded with a swipearable copy of *Romeo and Juliet*, a Shakespeare biography, and a dictionary of some of the more difficult Shakespearean words (additional plays are purchasable). Once the play loads, readers can swipe a passage to view either a Modern English or Elizabethan English version....

Golgotha Press, Dec. 17



[Celebrating the season with a float](#)

Megan Smith writes: "What do a trailer, a blow-up Santa Claus, and a giant inflatable SpongeBob SquarePants have in common? They all played a festive role in the float created by the Cumberland County (N.C.) Library Hope Mills branch for the annual city Christmas parade.



Though the parade has been a beloved tradition for the town of Hope Mills, it is our library's first experience with this holiday celebration. This incredible outreach opportunity has offered a wonderful way for our team to actively share our programs and services with those in our community."...

ALSC Blog, Dec. 18

[Reno has an NUC-tree: The largest ever?](#)

The Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center at the University of Nevada, Reno has a giant and unconventional tree on display this holiday season, made up of *National Union Catalog, Pre-1956 Imprints* volumes. The tree is almost twice the size as the one it had last year, and according to research conducted by UNR librarians, the tree appears to be the largest book tree ever built, at nearly 14 feet tall. Watch a [time-lapse video](#) of its construction...



University of Nevada, Reno, Dec. 18; Flickr, Nov. 30; AL Focus, Dec. 19

[NYPL adds video games to its discussion groups](#)

Brian Crescente writes: "In his years at the New York Public Library, Senior Librarian Thomas Knowlton has led discussions about a confounding assortment of topics, from the influence of Ken Loach's *Kes* on the films of Krzysztof Kieslowski to the 'ecstatic truth' of Werner Herzog's movies. But earlier this year, he shifted his attention to video games. [The NYPL Arcade Game Club](#) launched in May with an inaugural discussion about developer Jenova Chen's game *Journey* and whether Chen's interest in the Theory of Flow impacted the game's design."...



Polygon, Dec. 17

[Automats featured in NYPL's Lunch Hour exhibition](#)

Glenn Collins writes: "It is a century since the first Automat opened in New York, and 21 years since the chain closed in Manhattan, but people still crave the recipes for its food served up from little glass doors at the drop of a few coins. Indeed, there is 'an Automat recipe cult,' said Laura Shapiro, cocurator with Rebecca Federman of the current '[Lunch Hour NYC](#)' exhibition at the New York Public Library on Fifth Avenue. The exhibit features the Horn & Hardart Automats, which began in Philadelphia and purveyed ready-made lunches to workers of all classes."...



New York Times: Diner's Journal, Dec. 17

[New Hans Christian Andersen tale discovered](#)

A fairy tale about a lonely candle that wants to be lighted had been languishing

in a box in Denmark's National Archives for many years. In October it was [discovered](#) by retired historian Esben Brage, who now believes it is one of the first fairy tales ever written by Hans Christian Andersen. Brage said on December 13 that he had unearthed the six-page manuscript of "Tallow Candle" at the bottom of a box while searching through the archives of the Plum family from Andersen's hometown, Odense. The tale is one from Andersen's youth, with the tone of the work reminiscent of his time at the Latin School in Slagelse and Elsinore from 1822 to 1826. [Read the story in English](#)....



New York Times: Arts Beat, Dec. 13; *Politiken* (Copenhagen): News in English, Dec. 12

[DPLA and Europeana launch joint exhibition](#)

To mark the beginning of a unique digital collaboration, the Digital Public Library of America and Europeana have launched "Leaving Europe: A New Life in America." This [all-new virtual exhibition](#) tells the story of European emigration to the United States during the 19th and 20th centuries. Jointly curated by the two digital libraries, the exhibition uses photographs, manuscripts, broadsheets, paintings, letters, audio, and government documents to chart people's journeys across the European continent and their settlement in the United States....



Digital Public Library of America, Dec. 18

[Dead Sea Scroll fragments are digitized](#)

Thousands of fragments of the Dead Sea Scrolls went online December 18 with the launch of a [new website](#) by Google and the Israel Antiquities Authority, part of a move to make the famed manuscripts easily available to scholars and the public. The website provides access to high-resolution images of the famous scrolls, which were written some 2,000 years ago and first discovered at Qumran, on the shore of the Dead Sea, in the 1940s. [Google is involved](#) in the project as part of a broader effort to preserve world cultural heritage online....



Times of Israel (Jerusalem), Dec. 18; Official Google Blog, Dec. 18

[Digital Images Collections Guide](#)

Scott Spicer writes: "Here is a curated bibliography of quality digital image collections spanning around 85 subjects, including some 950 digital collections, that have been culled primarily from the LibGuides Community, and several subject areas have been further refined by 20 subject liaison librarians at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. The goal of the site is to share this work with the visual resources community, hopefully making the resource stronger through participation for others to repurpose."...

ALA Connect, Dec. 18

[How museum and library image policies undermine education](#)

Beth Harris and Steven Zucker write: "Is the discipline of art history (together with museums and libraries) squandering the digital revolution? We have built only a fragmented system for distributing high-quality digital images—one that is failing our students, our discipline, and the public. If we want the best images available for our classes, we spend hours cobbling together a presentation from a frustrating array of sources, each with its own restrictions. No other discipline would accept this kind of ridiculous fragmentation."...



e-Literate, Nov. 26

[Practical first steps in digital preservation](#)

Helen K. Bailey writes: "Libraries everywhere are seeing a constant increase in e-journals, ebooks, databases, and other electronic resources. Many larger institutions have digital preservation repositories in which they deposit and manage much of this digital content, but smaller institutions may not have the resources or may be searching for an interim solution until a repository is in place. Here are some simple steps that a digital content manager can take in such situations."...

ALCTS Newsletter 23, no. 4 (Dec.)

[Top 10 traits of great library leaders](#)

Steve Matthews writes: "As we approach the end of 2012, I thought I'd get back to my theme for the year: Library Leadership. In order to be a great leader, a person must possess and demonstrate certain characteristics, or traits of leadership. Here are 10 that should be at the top of anyone's list who is striving to become a great library leader."...

21st Century Library Blog, Dec. 18

[Book Cart Drill Teams: A retrospective](#)

Rebecca Joines Schinsky writes: "These bits of awesome come to us by way of a librarian friend of mine who mentioned her book cart drill team in passing. It's a brave lady who will wear sweatpants with words on her bum. It's an awesome one who makes the word 'books.' Bonus points to the Round Rock (Tex.) Independent School District team (right) for the [Sir Mix-A-Lot remix](#) (5:37)."...



Book Riot, Dec. 16; YouTube, Apr. 19, 2010

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