

american libraries DIRECT

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | February 1, 2012

**Solutions
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NEW! Explore Emerald Emerging Market Case Studies.

A library of teaching cases spotlighting the world's emerging economies



american libraries **100**
BUYERS GUIDE

American Libraries Online

What comes after victory

Beverly Goldberg writes: "Congratulations, Libraryland! School library boosters hit the [25,000-signature threshold](#) January 31 on the [White House petition](#) urging that every child in America have access to an effective school library program. You've got the attention of the Executive Branch now, and the White House staff will review the petition, ensure that it is sent to the appropriate policy experts, and issue an official response. But the work is far from done."...

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 31; Public Information Office, Jan. 31



[Join your colleagues](#) in Anaheim, California, for the ALA Annual Conference, June 21–26. [Early bird registration](#) is now open.

O sister library, where art thou?

April Ritchie writes: "What if libraries, like sisters, could be there for one another? What if public libraries with more resources partnered with underfunded ones to help them reach their fullest potential? A new model for enhancing library services in these more vulnerable areas is emerging in Kentucky, a state with libraries at both ends of the economic spectrum."...

American Libraries feature



On My Mind: We need Copyright 2.0

Neal Starkey writes: "I applaud the hard work of everyone who has tackled the thorny issues confronting libraries in the increasingly hostile ebook environment in which we find ourselves. However, I believe we are missing an essential component in any solution: copyright law reform."...

American Libraries column, Jan./Feb.



NKU
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ONLINE

- Bachelor of Science in **LIBRARY INFORMATICS**
- Professional **CEU COURSES**

Technology in Practice: Providing the tools

Meredith Farkas writes: "Over the past few years, libraries have begun positioning themselves as the go-to place for digital-creation technologies, providing hardware and software that most people wouldn't



have at home. By providing these creative tools to their patrons, libraries fill a valuable niche in the community, a niche consistent with their historical commitment to bridging gaps in technology access.”...

American Libraries column, Jan./Feb.

Midwinter video roundup

Watch video interviews with the [Occupy Wall Street librarians](#) (23:21), [Jamal Joseph](#) (20:35), [Carl Harvey](#) on the White House petition (3:07), the [ALA Presidential Candidates Forum](#) (43:42), Carl Lennertz on [World Book Night](#) (5:57), [Francey Harris](#) of YALSA (1:43), three [Emerging Leaders](#) (2:29), and Shana McDanold and Andromeda Yelton (on the right, above) on the [Code Year Interest Group](#) (5:03)....

AL Focus, Jan. 23–31; ALA Membership Blog, Jan. 27



[Go back to the Top](#)

Make your mark and vote in the 2012 ALA Election For more info, click here.

ALA News

[Random House also agrees to meet with ALA](#)

ALA President Molly Raphael (in center, at right) writes: “As reported to ALA Council at the ALA Midwinter Meeting, I will be leading an ALA delegation next week to meet separately with Penguin, Macmillan, and Simon & Schuster. I am now pleased to announce that Random House has invited ALA leadership to meet with them as well. The four meetings involve senior executives at these publishing houses.”...

AL: E-Content, Jan. 26



[Register for National Library Legislative Day](#)

The 2012 National Library Legislative Day will be held April 23–24 at the Liaison Hotel in Washington, D.C. Online [registration](#) is now open, and an ALA group rate is available for a room at the hotel. Find out who your state coordinator is [here](#)....

District Dispatch, Jan. 31



[Civic reflection builds community connections](#)



[Find an online workshop](#) for you or your staff. Upcoming workshops include: “Integrating iPads and Tablet Computers into Library Services,” “Taking Embedded Librarianship to the Next Level,” and “Managing Electronic Resources in Public Libraries.” **NEW!** From ALA TechSource.

The Public Programs Office will present a day-and-a-half preconference during the ALA 2012 Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, June 21–22. Titled “Civic Reflection Builds Community Connections: A Program Model for Libraries,” the event will train participants in dialogue facilitation skills that have proven successful in strengthening partnerships, building effective teams across departments, and raising the profile of the library. Register [online](#)....
Public Programs Office, Jan. 31

[COA announces accreditation actions](#)

The ALA Committee on Accreditation announced that it has awarded continued accreditation status to programs at UCLA, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Kent State University, Rutgers, and St. John’s University. Conditional status was granted to Queens College, City University of New York....
Committee on Accreditation, Feb. 1

[Share your National Library Week ideas](#)

How do you plan on promoting your library this National Library Week? Share your ideas and you could win a set of National Library Week themed promotional materials. As the “You belong @ your library” theme suggests, promotional ideas should reflect a wide variety of library users and show that the library is a place for everyone. The [submission](#) deadline is February 15....
Campaign for America’s Libraries, Jan. 31



[ALA, AILA oppose restrictions on ethnic and cultural studies](#)

ALA Council has adopted a resolution that “condemns the restriction of access to educational materials associated with ethnic and cultural studies programs.” The resolution, adopted January 24 at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas, urges the Arizona legislature to repeal sections of a statute that removes ethnic studies from school curricula. The American Indian Library Association has also issued a statement ([PDF file](#))....
Public Information Office, Jan. 31; American Indian Library Association, Jan. 31

[New initiative: Días de Cine Reading Club](#)

The [Días de Cine Reading Club](#) is an initiative sponsored by the America Reads Spanish program and ALA to promote literature and the Spanish language in American libraries and universities. The program is free. To participate, libraries must register and send the form provided at the America Reads Spanish [website](#) to receive a password that will allow you to enjoy, legally and free of charge, public viewing of the movie of the week via online streaming in your library or university....
America Reads Spanish



[ALA resolution on restrictive access by publishers](#)

ALA Council has adopted a resolution that “opposes any discriminatory policies of publishers and distributors which adversely impact access to content by library users.” The resolution, adopted January 24 at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas, directs the Digital Content in



[Great Libraries of the World](#)



[Bolton Library](#), Cashel, Ireland. The library, housed in a former chapter house of St. John the Baptist Cathedral, contains a collection of antiquarian books, many of them once owned by Theophilus Bolton, Protestant Archbishop of Cashel from 1729 to 1744. It includes a 13th-century vellum manuscript and works by Dante Alighieri, Jonathan Swift, John Calvin, Desiderius Erasmus, and Niccolò Machiavelli.



[Chester Beatty Library](#), Dublin Castle,

Libraries Working Group to review the situation....

Public Information Office, Jan. 31

[ALA welcomes FCC changes in digital literacy training](#)

ALA welcomes the January 31 Federal Communications Commission order ([PDF file](#)) that will reform the Lifeline program. ALA has been monitoring this proceeding and notes that the FCC will be issuing a Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to address the need for digital literacy training in libraries and schools as part of Chairman Genachowski's ongoing broadband adoption initiatives....

Office for Information Technology Policy, Jan. 31

[All about the ALA Executive Board](#)

Bobbi Newman writes: "Several people contacted me and asked me to elaborate on the Executive Board process and experience. It seems odd to me that there isn't more information about the process, especially from past candidates. No one said I couldn't talk about it and since I have been very transparent over the years about my professional endeavors, I thought I would share what I know and reflect on the experience—and use this as an opportunity to encourage you to become (more) involved."...

Librarian by Day, Jan. 31

[40 students chosen for Student to Staff program](#)

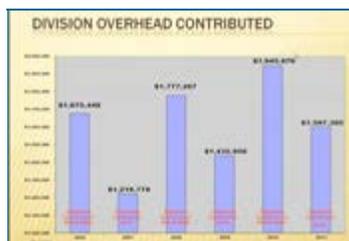
Forty ALA Student Chapter members were nominated by their schools and were accepted to assist ALA staff during the 2012 ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. In exchange for working four hours a day (or a total of 16 hours), these students participating in the [ALA Student to Staff Program](#) receive free conference registration, housing, and a per diem for meal expenses....

ALA Membership Blog, Jan. 31

[ALA financial learning webcasts](#)

The ALA Finance and Accounting and Governance offices, along with members of the Budget Analysis and Review Committee, have created a series of [webcasts](#) in the ALA Financial Learning Series. They offer a basic understanding of ALA's finances and how the budget affects all program areas and units of the Association....

ALA Finance and Accounting



[Hello, goodbye, see you next time](#)

Nicole Pagowsky writes: "After getting home from the Midwinter Meeting, I posted on Facebook that for anyone else having conference withdrawal, [#libchat](#) (a weekly, informal discussion on Wednesdays from 8 to 9:30 p.m. Eastern time for librarians and info professionals) was about to start on Twitter. The last day of the conference is always bittersweet. It's usually the day I have some of the best conversations because fewer people are around."...

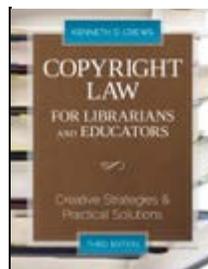
ALA Membership Blog, Jan. 26

[An essential guide to copyright law](#)

Drawing on cutting-edge case law in 18 discrete areas of copyright, including specialized and controversial music and sound-recording issues, [Copyright Law for Librarians and Educators: Creative Strategies and Practical Solutions](#) by Kenneth D. Crews has just been

Ireland. The library was established in 1950 to house the collections of American copper magnate Alfred Chester Beatty, who had amassed a remarkable collection of Asian art and books. The collection's treasures include 260 copies of the Quran by master calligraphers; biblical papyri from the 2nd to the 4th centuries that are the earliest known copies of the New Testament in Greek; the Coëtivy Book of Hours, an illuminated 15th-century French prayer book; early and fine books and bindings; the largest collection of jade books from the Imperial Court outside China; Japanese painted scrolls from the 17th and 18th centuries; and woodblock prints by [ukiyo-e](#) artists Hiroshige and Hokusai.

This AL Direct feature showcases 250 libraries around the world that are notable for their exquisite architecture, historic collections, and innovative services. If you find yourself on vacation near one of them, be sure to stop by for a visit. The entire list will be available in [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart, which is scheduled for publication in 2013 by ALA Editions.



released by ALA Editions. In this third edition, Crews has completely revised his classic text to remap the territory with fresh, timely insights....

ALA Editions, Jan. 27

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Sometimes you feel like print. Sometimes online.
Get both with the new Booklist.

Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Youth fiction

Whaley, John Corey. *Where Things Come Back*. May 2011. 240p. Grades 9–12. Atheneum, hardcover (978-1-4424-1333-7).

An answer to complaints about simplistic YA problem fiction, this debut novel, set in Lily, Arkansas, takes on the whole small town with alternating viewpoints, beginning with the first-person narrative of Cullen, 17, and moving on to a huge cast of friends, enemies, family members, lovers, and neighbors. In a parallel plotline, Benton, 18, fails as a missionary in Ethiopia (“passing out food, water, and Christ”) and, after returning to college in the US, commits suicide, setting off a chain of interconnected, unexpected events. What will hold readers most is the moving story of Cullen’s beloved younger brother, who suddenly goes missing....



The Booklist Printz interview

Here’s an early look at Ilene Cooper’s interview with John Corey Whaley, winner of both the 2012 Michael L. Printz and William C. Morris awards, announced at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas. The full interview will appear in the March 1 issue of *Booklist*. Ilene Cooper writes: “When I introduced myself to Whaley later that day, he had the look of someone who suspected that he might be in a dream. How was he doing a few days after all the excitement? We caught up with him to find out.”...



JobLIST
DIRECT

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

Career Leads from **JobLIST**

Library Manager.

Capella University, Minneapolis. We are looking for a Library Manager to lead our online library operations. This position provides strategic analysis and direction of library collections accessed by learners, provides documentation for accrediting bodies regarding library collections and services, and serves as a representative of the library to outside vendors and professional organizations. The qualified applicant will possess an MLS from an ALA-accredited institution, five-plus years of professional leadership with administrative and staff management responsibilities in an academic library, in addition to knowledge of information literacy initiatives. Travel may be required per business needs....

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

[Go back to the Top](#)

Division News

[Create a new atmosphere](#)

On February 23, PLA will host a live, hour-long webinar, "[Creating Dynamic Library Atmospheres: What We Can Learn from Theater, Retail, Museums, and the Container Store](#)," as part of the division's "Public Libraries at Work" monthly webinar series. The deadline to register is February 21....

PLA, Jan. 31

[Spring session of "Turning the Page 2.0"](#)



Registration has opened for the spring 2012 session (week of March 19–week of April 23) of "[Turning the Page 2.0](#)," a free, online advocacy training program for public libraries, developed and presented by PLA with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The session will begin with an optional, in-person kick-off on March 13 at the PLA 2012 Conference in Philadelphia....

PLA, Jan. 31

[Reference interview course registration closes February 2](#)

Registration closes February 2 for the next offering of "[The Reference Interview](#)"—an asynchronous online course offered by RUSA, February 6–March 16. This popular course is perfect for public librarians, academic librarians, and library support staff interested in learning reference basics or getting a refresher in reference interview skills....

RUSABlog, Feb. 1

[Power up your teen programs](#)

Learn new ways to bring more teens into the school and public library in "[Power Programming](#)," YALSA's popular online [CEU-approved](#) course that offers up-to-date ideas for programming, from simple, self-running contests to reading celebrations. The self-paced course is taught by Amy Alessio, teen coordinator at the Schaumburg Township (Ill.) District Library. It will take place February 5 to March 6....

YALSA, Jan. 31

[Integrate technology into your library](#)

Technology is part of the everyday life experience for most teens—and by integrating it with standard teen services, librarians can better serve and support teens' learning needs. Find out how in "[Connect. Create. Collaborate: Support Teen Needs with Technology](#)," a new YALSA online [CEU-approved](#) course offered February 6 to March 19....

YALSA, Jan. 31

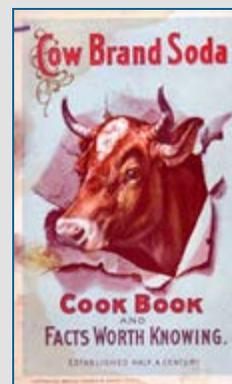
[Release your inner leader](#)

AASL will present the third of its *Knowledge Quest* webinar series on February 13. Presented by Carolyn Jo Starkey (right), "Releasing Your Inner Leader: Spinning 21st Century Evaluations and Professional Development into Stronger School Relationships," will examine how



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



Duke University's [Emergence of Advertising in America: 1850–1920](#)

contains more than 9,000 images that illustrate the rise of consumer culture and the birth of a professionalized advertising industry in the United States. Duke Library's earlier [Ad*Access](#) project similarly contains thousands of print advertisements from mainly US magazines and newspapers. Likewise, private collector Jay Paull, 42, began collecting vintage print ads as a child and has since amassed more than 10,000 American ads dating from the 1830s to the 1920s. Paull recently established a [digital repository](#) showcasing a diverse historical record of products, services,



collaborative cultures are transforming professional development in new and inspiring ways. Register [here](#)....
AASL, Jan. 31

[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[Kaufman named Academic/Research Librarian of the Year](#)

Paula T. Kaufman (right), university librarian and professor of library administration at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, is ACRL's 2012 Academic/Research Librarian of the Year. The award, sponsored by YBP Library Services, recognizes an outstanding member of the library profession who has made a significant national or international contribution to academic or research librarianship and library development. She will receive the \$5,000 award at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim....

ACRL, Jan. 27



[2012 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award winners](#)

ACRL has named the three winners of its 2012 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award: Champlain College Library (right) in Burlington, Vermont; Grand Valley State University Libraries in Allendale, Michigan; and Seattle Central Community College Library. The award recognizes the staff of a college, university, and community college library for programs that deliver exemplary services and resources to further the educational mission of the institution....

ACRL, Jan. 26



[Youth Media Awards winners post YouTube videos](#)

Several of this year's ALA Youth Media Awards winners and honorees have expressed their appreciation by posting videos to the [YMA YouTube channel](#). Watch videos from such award winners as Duncan Tonatiuh, Guadalupe Garcia McCall, Josh Schneider, and Steve Sheinkin (right)....

Public Information Office, Jan. 31



[No morning TV for Newbery/Caldecott winners](#)

A longstanding tradition was broken in 2011. The winners of the Newbery and Caldecott Awards were not invited to appear on the *Today Show* the day after the announcements. They were snubbed again in 2012, despite ALA's [efforts](#) to reach out to the shows. The

educational institutions, literature, art, communications, and various other aspects of American life.

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

Public Perception How the World Sees Us

"A library is not just a building full of books. It is a garden to cultivate individuals."

—Secretary General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon, at a January 30 [ceremony establishing a school library](#) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, UN News Centre, Jan. 31.

@ [More quotes...](#)

ENJOY OUR LATEST CONTENT

[Digital Learning Day: Preparing Students for the 21st Century](#)



[Cleopatra: She Ruled the Men Who Ruled the World](#)

winners were not overlooked by NPR, however, which featured an [interview](#) with Caldecott medalist Chris Raschka on *All Things Considered* and Newbery medalist Jack Gantos, who [appeared](#) on *Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me!* on January 28....

Early Word: The Publisher | Librarian Connection, Jan. 29; *Publishers Weekly*, Jan. 24; NPR: *All Things Considered*, Jan. 23; NPR: *Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me*, Jan. 28

[2012 ALSC Distinguished Service Award](#)

Linda A. Perkins is the 2012 recipient of the ALSC Distinguished Service Award that honors an individual who has made significant contributions to library service to children and to ALSC. She was cited for her role as a champion of the Pura Belpré Award during her three terms on the ALSC board of directors....

ALSC, Jan. 31

[MAE Award for Best Literature Program for Teens](#)

YALSA has awarded Allison Cabaj (right), media specialist at Riverside Brookfield (Ill.) High School, the 2012 MAE Award for Best Literature Program for Teens. The MAE Award provides \$500 to the recipient and \$500 to the recipient's library and is sponsored by the Margaret A. Edwards Trust. Cabaj built a blog and created a contest where the whole school could come together to talk about specific award-winning books....

YALSA, Jan. 26



[2012 Best Fiction for Young Adults](#)

YALSA has announced its 2012 list of [Best Fiction for Young Adults](#). This year's list of 112 books was drawn from 211 official nominations and comprises a wide range of genres and styles, including contemporary realistic fiction, fantasy, horror, historical fiction, and novels in verse....

YALSA, Jan. 26

[2012 Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults](#)

YALSA has announced its 2012 list of [Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults](#), drawn from 219 official nominations. This year's list of 99 titles is divided into four topics: adventure seekers, forbidden romance, get your geek on, and sticks and stones....

YALSA, Jan. 27

[2012 Quick Picks for Reluctant YA Readers](#)

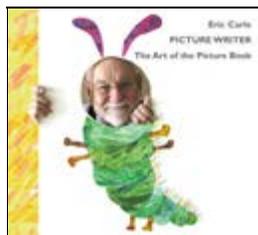
YALSA announced its [2012 Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers](#) booklist at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas. The Quick Picks list suggests books that teens, ages 12-18, will pick up on their own and read for pleasure; it is geared to the teenager who, for whatever reason, does not like to read....

YALSA, Jan. 27

[2012 Notable Children's Videos](#)

ALSC has selected its 2012 list of Notable Children's Videos. The list includes videos for children 14 years of age and younger that exhibit especially commendable quality, show respect for children's intelligence and imagination, and reflect and encourage the interests of children in exemplary ways....

ALSC, Jan. 30



[Multiplicity--Exhibit Challenges Viewers by Presenting Multiple Angles, Perspectives](#)

[History of the Youth Media Awards: Part 6, Young Adult Readers](#)

[Childhood Obesity--Tips on How to Connect with Your Kids, Keep Weight Under Control](#)

[How to Get a Great Job: Where to Look Off-line](#)

[Paolo Bacigalupi: 'Libraries are a core part of the democratization process.'](#)

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Calendar

Feb. 4:
[Take Your Child to the Library Day.](#)

Feb. 28:
[Big Talk from Small Libraries](#), online conference.

Mar. 2:
[Read Across America Day.](#)

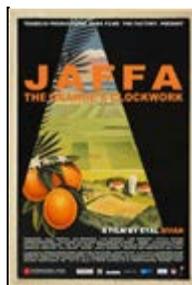
Mar. 19-21:
[Publishing Business Conference & Expo](#), New York Marriott Marquis.

Apr. 18:
[Ninth Annual Copyright Conference](#), Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana. "©opyright in ©asablanca: Round Up

[2012 Notable Videos for Adults](#)

The ALA Video Round Table has selected its 2012 Notable Videos for Adults, a list of 15 outstanding programs released on video within the past two years and suitable for all libraries serving adults. Its purpose is to call attention to recent video releases that make a significant contribution to the world of video recordings....

Video Round Table, Jan. 30



[Apply for ALA President's Award for Advocacy](#)

[Applications](#) for the ALA President's Award for Advocacy, sponsored by ALTAFF, are due March 15. The award of \$1,000 honors and recognizes statewide advocacy for libraries, and is to be used for the development of a program or programs for Friends and trustees at a state library association conference....

ALTAFF, Jan. 31

[Diversity Research Grant proposals](#)

The ALA Office for Diversity is seeking proposals for its Diversity Research Grant program. Applications may address any diversity topic—including the recruitment and promotion of diverse individuals within the profession or the provision of library services to diverse populations—that addresses critical gaps in the knowledge of diversity issues within library and information science. The [application](#) deadline is April 30....

Office for Diversity, Jan. 27

[Grants for Smart Investing @ your library](#)

The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) Investor Education Foundation and ALA have announced \$1.2 million in grants to 16 recipients as part of the Smart Investing @ your library initiative. The program, now in its fifth year, funds library efforts to provide patrons with effective, unbiased educational resources about personal finance and investing. Recipients will use the funds to implement programs that will increase patrons' access to and understanding of financial information....

RUSA, Jan. 25



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

Each year, the National Book Foundation awards a number of prizes of up to \$2,500 each to individuals and institutions—or partnerships between the two—that have developed innovative means of creating and sustaining a lifelong love of reading. Important criteria are creativity, risk-taking, and vision, as well as a novel way of presenting books and literature. Applications must be postmarked by February 21....

National Book Foundation



[Upcoming grants by deadline](#)

The Public Programs Office's Programming Librarian is offering a list of grants arranged by deadline (and by [date added](#)). Upcoming grants are being offered by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, the Computer Science Collaboration Project, MetLife Foundation, and the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation....

Programming Librarian website

the Usual Suspects!"

[Apr. 18–20: Fifteenth Distance Library Services Conference](#)

Peabody Hotel, Memphis, Tennessee.

[Apr. 23–24: National Library Legislative Day](#)

Liaison Hotel, Washington, D.C.

[May 2–4: Ohio Valley Group of Technical Services Librarians](#)

conference, University of Southern Indiana, Evansville. "Catching the Next Wave of Technical Services."

[May 3: New England Library Association, New England Technical Services Librarians](#)

Section, Annual Spring Conference, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts. "iLibrary: Digital Futures for Libraries."

[May 18: Association of College and Research Libraries, New England Chapter](#)

Annual Conference, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts.

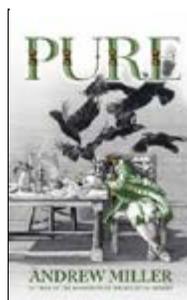
[June 2–10: Crimea 2012](#)

international conference, Sudak, Crimea, Ukraine. "Libraries and Information Resources in the Modern World of Science, Culture,

[2011 Costa Book of the Year](#)

On January 24, Andrew Miller won the £30,000 (\$47,058 US) Costa Book of the Year Award for his novel *Pure*, set in a Parisian cemetery in the days before the French Revolution. It tells the story of a young engineer sent to Paris on the orders of the king to demolish an ancient cemetery that is overflowing with the dead. The award is given to books of high literary merit that convey the enjoyment of reading to the widest possible audience....

BBC News, Jan. 24



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Seen Online

[Twitter censorship move sparks controversy](#)

David Kravets writes: "Internet [scorn](#) for Twitter's January 26 announcement that it would censor tweets was swift and unforgiving. But even free-speech and other experts were divided on the service's move that it might censor tweets if required by law in 'countries that have different ideas about the [contours](#) of freedom of expression.'"...

Wired: Threat Level, Jan. 27; *Washington Post*, Jan. 27; Twitter Blog, Jan. 26

@Username withheld

This account has been withheld in: Country. [Learn more](#)

[Senators, witnesses slam amendment to video privacy law](#)

Changing the Video Privacy Protection Act to allow companies to obtain blanket consent to share customers' viewing choices would gut one of the government's most effective privacy laws, according to witnesses and lawmakers at a January 31 hearing by the Senate Judiciary subcommittee on Privacy, Technology, and the Law. Read the [statement](#) by Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.)....

The Hill, Jan. 31

[Privacy, technology, and law](#)

Barry Friedman writes: "Every day, those of us who live in the digital world give little bits of ourselves away. On Facebook and LinkedIn. To servers that store our email, Google searches, online banking, and shopping records. Does the fact that so many of us live our lives online mean we have given the government wide-open access to all that information?"...

New York Times Sunday Review, Jan. 28

[Libraries, sexual content, and the internet](#)

ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom Director Barbara Jones writes: "Recent sensational media reports about 'porn in libraries' do not reflect the reality of library services today or promote meaningful dialogue in our communities. The librarian's job is to balance the community's First Amendment rights to information with the desire to provide a welcoming and information-rich space for all. And libraries have the tools to create this balance."...

Huffington Post, Jan. 25

[7-year-old boy leads charge for a new library](#)

A 7-year-old in Wisconsin says his village needs a new library, and he is sacrificing his allowance

Education, and Business."

June 5-7:

[KohaCon 12](#), Edinburgh, Scotland.

June 13-15:

[Digital Directions Conference](#), Boston, Massachusetts. "New Foundations: Creation, Curation, Use."

June 21-23:

[Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction Conference for Law School Computing](#), Thomas Jefferson School of Law, San Diego. "Some Assembly Required."

July 12-14:

[Wikimania](#), International Wikimedia Conference, Washington, D.C.

Oct. 30-31:

[Internet Librarian International Conference](#), Olympia Conference Centre, London, UK. "Re-imagine, Renew, Reboot: Innovating for Success."

@ [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.

to help. Every week Orfordville's Benjamin Jackson sets aside \$2 in an envelope, delivering his donations to the library where fundraising for a bigger building has gone on for years. Orfordville's small library is out of shelf space. Staffers say when they get a new book, they have to take another off the shelf and set it aside for a spring book sale. Watch the [video](#) (2:16)....
WMTV, Madison, Wis., Jan. 27



[1st-graders help save librarian](#)

A group of 1st-grade students at Piper Elementary School in Kansas City, Kansas, were listening to stories in the library January 10 when librarian Linda Hosch (right) collapsed and stopped breathing. A few of the students went to see if they could help her, while a few others rushed to the office to get help. Staff members came to the library and began to administer CPR until firefighters arrived to take over. She is now recovering at home. The school held an assembly January 27 to [honor](#) the 1st-grade class....



KMBC-TV, Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 25; WDAF-TV, Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 28

[Art project helps NYPL introduce 3D stereograph collection](#)

The New York Public Library has released a new website called [The Stereogramimator](#), which allows patrons to create their own animated files or 3D images from the library's [collection of stereographs](#), a popular 19th-century photo format. The web project gives this important historic medium new life and also highlights the work of NYPL patron Joshua Heineman, who started creating his own moving images from library stereograms as an art project for his blog....

Huffington Post, Jan. 26

[National Library books inspire new poetry collection in Wales](#)

Some of Wales's most cherished national treasures have become the inspiration for a new collection of poetry featuring the nation's most esteemed writers. The book will be the world's first anthology of "sestudes"—a new literary form of 62 words devised especially for the projects from which the book has arisen. A spokesman for the 26 Treasures project said, "The aim of the project was to tell the stories behind the objects and inspire visitors to the library (or viewers of the collections online) to see the treasures in a new light."...

Cardiff (Wales) *Western Mail*, Jan. 26



[Videogamers embark on nonkilling spree](#)

Conor Dougherty writes: "Videogames have long been assailed for their violent themes and gruesome imagery. But a small slice of players has embraced a new strategy: not killing. They are imparting real-world morals on their virtual-world characters and completing entire games on a 'pacifist run'—the term for beating a blood-and-guts adventure without drawing any blood."



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



Beverly Goldberg,
Senior Editor:
bgoldberg@ala.org



Greg Landgraf,
Associate Editor:
glandgraf@ala.org



Sanhita SinhaRoy,
Associate Editor:
ssinharoy@ala.org



Laurie D. Borman,
Editor and Publisher,
American Libraries:
lborman@ala.org

Jennifer Henderson,
Contributing Researcher

To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:



Doug Lewis:
dglewis@mindspring.com



Katie Bane:
kbane@ala.org

Send feedback:
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americanlibrariesmagazine.org/aldirect

Watch the [video](#) (3:01)....

Wall Street Journal, Jan. 31

[Digital Learning Day resources from the New York Times](#)

Katherine Schulten writes: "For February 1, the inaugural [Digital Learning Day](#), a 'nationwide celebration of innovative teaching and learning through digital media and technology,' we've combed the *Times's* archives to find articles from 1970 to 2002 on the impact of the digital revolution on education. Here's just a quick glance at the quotes we've pulled—on the 'digital divide,' the educational value of the internet, whether machines can replace teachers, if computers are changing the way we think, and how teens are making the internet their own."...

New York Times, Jan. 30



[Librarian in Black gets invite to the State of the Union](#)

Sarah Houghton (right), acting director of the San Rafael (Calif.) Public Library and author of the [Librarian in Black](#) blog, said she didn't expect to be among the 50-plus Twitter users selected for the 2012 State of the Union Tweetup when she applied on a whim. The Tweetup group got to tour the White House, meet with the US Chief Technology Officer, and live tweet the president's State of the Union address....

San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News, Jan. 27



[Folklorist's global jukebox goes digital](#)

Folklorist and ethnomusicologist Alan Lomax was a prodigious collector of traditional music from all over the world. Long before the internet existed, he envisioned a "global jukebox" to disseminate and analyze the material he had gathered during decades of fieldwork. A decade after his death, technology has finally caught up to Lomax's imagination. His vast [archive](#)—some 5,000 hours of sound recordings, 400,000 feet of film, 3,000 videotapes, 5,000 photographs, and piles of manuscripts—is being digitized so that the collection can be accessed online....

New York Times, Jan. 30



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[2012 ALA Midwinter tech wrap-up](#)

Daniel A. Freeman writes: "The 2012 ALA TechSource Midwinter Tech Wrap-up webinar was a huge success. We had great presentations from our panel, and excellent participation from our audience. If you missed the event, or want to experience it again, you can view the video archive of the event [here](#)."...

ALA TechSource blog, Jan. 31

[Why Windows 8 tablets will beat Android](#)

Jason Kennedy writes: "When you look at

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the tablet landscape, it doesn't look like a very even battle going on. On one side you've got Apple, the Goliath, destroying the competition with its iPad. On the other side of the field you've got Android, slumping under Apple's onslaught, suffering from low sales due to a number of factors. Into this completely one-sided battle a new contender is about to be unveiled: [Windows 8.](#)"...



ExtremeTech, Feb. 1; Microsoft News, Jan. 17

[Is 3D printing the new virtual reality?](#)

Maggie Koerth-Baker writes: "In *Technology Review* January 25, Christopher Mims made an [interesting argument](#) against getting too excited about 3D printing technology. His basic point: This stuff is neat, but it is still a long, long way from revolutionizing the world. Meanwhile, Tim Maly has posted a [response](#) to Mims's piece."...

Boing Boing, Jan. 31; *Technology Review*, Jan. 25, 27



[In defense of video games](#)

Alan Henry writes: "Many of us at Lifehacker are big fans of video games. Our esteemed editor-in-chief, however, is skeptical that gaming holds anything of value beyond simple entertainment and believes that games are a dangerous time sink. But in this post, I argue that aside from being a great form of entertainment, video games can also relieve anxiety, teach new skills, and help you stay motivated. And I've got science to back me up."...

Lifehacker, Feb. 1



[Mozilla preps Firefox 10, tries to keep up with Chrome](#)

The latest stable release of the Firefox web browser is here. Firefox 10 [emerged](#) January 31 from beta with a few new features, most of which are geared toward developers. As is often the case, the new version pushes forward with a few of the latest features in emerging web standards like CSS3, HTML5, and related technologies. In Firefox 10, it's more about the under-the-hood stuff than the on-the-surface user experience....

ReadWriteWeb, Jan. 30; Lifehacker, Jan. 31

[Need money? Try 'crowdfunding' your next project](#)

David Pogue writes: "I recently started hearing people rave about [Kickstarter.com](#). I was mystified by its success. Kickstarter is a 'crowdfunding' site. It's a place for creative people to get enough start-up money to get their projects off the ground. Suppose you're the one who needs money. You describe your project with a video, a description, and a target dollar amount. Listing your project is free."...

New York Times, Jan. 25

[Go back to the Top](#)

E-Content

[Should OverDrive sell itself to public libraries?](#)

David Rothman writes: "OverDrive—the leading supplier of popular ebooks for America's public libraries—should sell itself to its library customers or at least think about it if they are willing and able to buy. Other essays have urged the Harvard-hosted Digital Public Library of America initiative to give public libraries an OverDrive replacement. The DPLA has many good points, but maybe the real solution is for public libraries (or a benefactor) to buy and improve the real OverDrive. And now here are the reasons why this plan might make sense."...

LibraryCity, Jan. 30

[OverDrive brings library ebooks to the BlackBerry PlayBook](#)

Nate Hoffelder writes: "Everyone might expect the BlackBerry PlayBook to be pulled, but it looks as though OverDrive doesn't. The company just released a new version of its Media Console [app](#). The OMC app also supports side-loaded Epubs, so you can use this app to read DRM-free ebooks."...

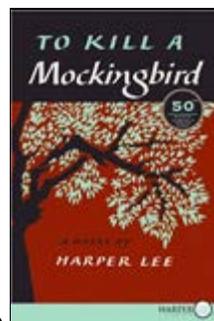
eBookNewser, Jan. 31



[A crowdfunding approach to setting ebooks free](#)

Laura Hazard Owen writes: "What do *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *A Wrinkle in Time*, and the *Little House on the Prairie* series have in common, besides being beloved? None of them are available legally as ebooks. A new site aims to make these and other ebooks available to the public (and in libraries), as DRM-free Creative Commons works, via crowdfunding. The newly launched [Unglue.it](#) is a place for individuals and institutions to join together to liberate digital content by paying rights holders to relicense their works under Creative Commons licenses. The company behind the site is Gluejar, led by Eric Hellman."...

paidContent, Jan. 30



[Active fiction lets readers change the plot](#)

Misty Harris writes: "What if Romeo and Juliet lived happily ever after, or Van Helsing decided Dracula wasn't worth the trouble? In a high-tech twist on Choose Your Own Adventure, 'active fiction' imbues readers with precisely that kind of power. Launched in January in Amazon's Kindle Store, [Coliloquy](#) ebooks are peppered with 'choice points' that allow readers to take the story in the direction most appealing to them."...

Canada.com, Jan. 23



[The self-publishing bubble](#)

Ewan Morrison writes: "All of this ebook talk is becoming a business in itself. Money is being made out of thin air in this strange new speculative metapractice: There are seminars, conferences, and courses springing up everywhere, even at the Society of Authors (a writers' union which, until recently, was largely against epublication). Television and radio programs are being made about self-publishing. But there's another name for what happens when people start to make money out of speculation and hype: It's called a bubble."...

The Guardian (UK), Jan. 30

[School librarians happy and worried about e-readers](#)

Illegally downloading ebooks is no different than going into a bookstore and stealing books from shelves, and it is something that needs to be discussed with kids in schools. On the matter of matching a kid's developmental stage with reading material, here's a solution: Have a central download point in the library beside the librarian's desk, where kids can connect their e-readers to the school's electronic library to download their ebooks. That way librarians can talk to a kid before the download is made....

eBookAnoid, Jan. 30

[A vending machine for iPad checkout](#)

David Rapp writes: "The [MediaSurfer](#) kiosk system, launched at ALA Midwinter by [Tech Logic](#), attracted many interested observers (and was even referred to in passing during the Top Technology Trends panel on January 22). The system, a sort of vending machine for iPads, is a self-service option that lets users check out their own iPad with a swipe of a library card (and, if the library chooses, a credit card swipe for security)."...

Library Journal, Jan. 26



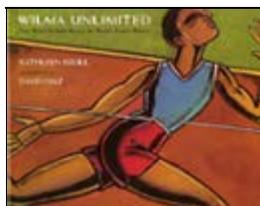
[Go back to the Top](#)

Books & Reading

[Celebrate Black History Month with books](#)

Jennifer Schultz writes: "You're likely to have an increase in patrons looking for books pertaining to African-American history in the upcoming days and weeks due to Black History Month. Since there are many superb titles that feature the history of African Americans, let's chat specifically about picture books for the purposes of this discussion." The *Washington Post* has a few more children's book [suggestions](#). Scholastic is offering a [free set of teacher resources](#), from the stories of the Underground Railroad and Ruby Bridges to the books that inspire today's African-American leaders...

ALSC Blog, Jan. 31; *Washington Post*, Jan. 31; Scholastic



[Elsevier boycott gathers steam](#)

Global publishing company Elsevier is facing a revolt. Award-winning mathematician Timothy Gowers has organized a boycott of the company because, he says, its pricing and policies restrict access to works that should be more easily available. As of January 31, more than 2,400 scientists had signed up on the boycott's website [The Cost of Knowledge](#), pledging not to publish, referee, or do editorial work for any Elsevier journal. The protest could soon [spread](#) beyond math and the hard sciences. Tim Worstall [writes](#): "Even though academics must publish in order to get/keep their jobs and get promoted . . . it is possible to spark off a (nascent, to be sure) revolt if your business model is thought to be *too* unfair."...

Chronicle of Higher Education: Wired Campus, Jan. 30; *Crooked Timber*, Jan. 26; *Forbes*, Jan. 28



[Go back to the Top](#)

Actions & Answers

[LC's Junior Fellows Summer Intern program](#)

This summer the Library of Congress once again is offering special 10-week paid internships to college students. For a stipend of \$3,000, the 2012 class of Junior Fellows Summer Interns will work full-time from May 29 through August 3 with LC specialists and curators to inventory, describe, and explore collection holdings. [Applications](#) will be accepted through February 27....

Library of Congress, Jan. 30

[Livability's top 10 libraries for children](#)

The Livability editors write: "We sought out institutions in our 500 cities that have gained recent attention for excellent children's programs, library activities for kids, and community outreach. We looked for libraries that have visually appealing spaces for children, a full range of programs, large collections, integration of new technologies, and proven success in getting kids to engage. Read on for our ultimate picks."...

Livability, Jan. 28



[Is Google evil? The jury is out](#)

Ira Winkler writes: "Much outrage has been expressed about Google's [new privacy policy](#). People are acting as if they are shocked that Google would consolidate the personal information it gathers from its customers through all of its varied services. What is shocking to me is that none of these people, including members of Congress, seemed to see it coming."...

Computerworld, Jan. 24, Feb. 1

[Early sound recordings given a new voice](#)

Annie Dobberteen writes: "Over the past two years, the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the Library of Congress have partnered with the National Museum of American History to coax sound recordings dating to the 1880s into telling (and singing) their stories. The recovered recordings are the Volta Laboratory Associates' early experiments at recording live sound. In some ways, the inventors anticipated the modern music industry." Hear the recordings [here](#)....

O Say Can You See?, Jan. 26



[Restored Edison records revive giants of 19th-century Germany](#)

Tucked away for decades in a cabinet in Thomas Edison's laboratory, just behind the cot in which the great inventor napped, a trove of wax cylinder phonograph records has been brought back to life after more than a century of silence. The cylinders, from 1889 and 1890, include the only known recording of the voice of the powerful chancellor Otto von Bismarck. Other records found in the collection hold musical treasures—including what is thought to be the first recording of a work by Chopin....

New York Times, Jan. 30



[Adding descriptions to digital photos](#)

Mike Ashenfelder writes: "Last October I [wrote](#) about the importance and the difficulty of embedding descriptions into digital photos. As a

test, I ended the article by asking readers to download a photo into which I embedded a quote from Benjamin Franklin. I also asked readers to let me know if they could see the quote and, if so, to name the program they used to display the quote. Here are some results and conclusions from that test.”...

The Signal: Digital Preservation, Oct. 28, Jan. 25

[50 fun and useful resources for nonprofits](#)

Heather Mansfield writes: “The number of low-cost or free, web-based resources and tools available to nonprofits today is astounding. Many nonprofit professionals are overwhelmed by all the choices—and as the mobile web and related start-ups continue to grow, prepare to be mind-boggled by all the new technology options available to your nonprofit in coming years.”...

Nonprofit Tech 2.0 Blog, Jan. 30



[The Great Librarian Write-out winner](#)

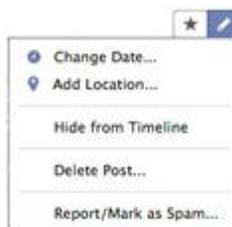
PC Sweeney writes: “After a long year of spectacular writing in articles submitted from around the country, we can announce the winner of the Great Librarian Write-out: Vikram Kanth, for his article, ‘Our Local Libraries Are a Place to Inspire Dreams,’ *San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News*, April 18, 2011. The contest was a #makeithappen and #partyhard production from the ALA Think Tank.”...

PC Sweeney’s Blog, Jan. 25

[Facebook Timeline will be mandatory soon](#)

Jason Boog writes: “Facebook [announced](#) January 24 that the Facebook Timeline feature will be mandatory for all accounts soon, inspiring excitement, concern, and a Jeffrey Koterba [cartoon](#). After editing our own Timeline page last year, we’ve included six steps that writers and publishers can follow to make sure they have a satisfying Timeline page before the program launches.” And here is a [list](#) of 28 Facebook Timeline resources....

GalleyCat, Jan. 27; Mashable, Jan. 25



[Teaching web-scale discovery](#)

Pete Coco writes: “With the continued improvements being made to web-scale discovery tools like ProQuest’s Summon and EBSCO’s Discovery Service, access to library resources is reaching a singularity of sorts: frictionless searching. That’s the good news, but I’ve seen more undergraduate students struggle to get what they need from web-scale discovery than I’ve seen benefit from its obvious conveniences.”...

ACRLog, Jan. 27

[Everything you thought you knew about learning is wrong](#)

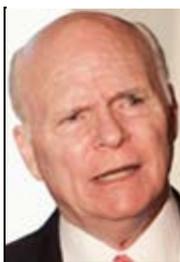
Garth Sundem writes: “Taking notes during class? Topic-focused study? A consistent learning environment? All are exactly opposite of the best strategies for learning. I recently had the good fortune to interview Robert Bjork, director of the UCLA Learning and Forgetting Lab, a distinguished professor of psychology and an expert on packing things into your brain in a way that keeps them from leaking out. It turns out that everything I thought I knew about learning is wrong.”...

Wired: Geek Dad, Jan. 29

[George Mason University acquires](#)

[C-SPAN's *Booknotes* collection](#)

George Mason University Libraries' Special Collections and Archives has acquired the entire collection of 800 nonfiction books and one novel discussed on C-SPAN's long-running *Booknotes* television series hosted by Brian Lamb (right). The hourlong show featured one-on-one interviews with nonfiction authors to discuss their latest writings. Authors were also asked about their research, writing process, and their own lives and influences....



George Mason University News, Sept. 13

[European papermaking techniques, 1300–1800](#)

Timothy Barrett writes: "The following essay describes the materials and techniques used to make paper by hand in Europe between 1300 and 1800. This period represents the rise and the slow but certain decline of hand papermaking as a major industry. What follows is a guess, based on limited research, about what may have been the routine in a mill producing high-quality papers somewhere in Europe."...



Paper Through Time, University of Iowa Libraries

[Book-related short up for an Oscar](#)

Inspired by Hurricane Katrina, Buster Keaton, *The Wizard of Oz*, and a love for books, *The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore* is a poignant, humorous [allegory](#) (15:07) about the curative powers of story. Nominated for an Academy Award in 2012 in the category of Best Short Film, Animated, it tells the story of Morris Lessmore, who discovers a library full of living, flying books after his city is destroyed by a hurricane. The film is dedicated to the memory of Bill Morris (former HarperCollins library promotion director) and Coleen Salley (New Orleans storyteller and author)....



Vimeo, Jan. 20

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | February 8, 2012

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Ebook talks: The details

ALA President Molly Raphael (right) writes: "As recently [reported](#), I led an ALA delegation to New York last week to meet separately with Penguin, Macmillan, Random House, Simon & Schuster, and Perseus. We had frank discussions related to library ebook lending, and in every meeting we reaffirmed our mutual desire to bring authors and readers together. We didn't leave New York with complete and perfect solutions; that wouldn't have been a realistic expectation. But I am happy with the progress that we made on multiple fronts."...

AL: E-Content, Feb. 2, 8



Preserving black academic library history

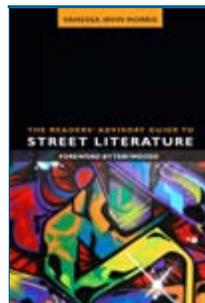
Shanesha R. F. Brooks-Tatum writes: "The success stories of more than 100 libraries participating in the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Library Alliance—involving institutions in 20 states, the District of Columbia, and the US Virgin Islands—are being captured through the Atlanta-based organization's 'Preserving Our History' project. So far, the project has documented nine success stories. Here are two of those stories: that of the University of the Virgin Islands and the Atlanta University Center."...

American Libraries feature



Librarian's Library: Great lists of great reads

Karen Muller writes: "While awards help us define the criteria for 'good' books, the lists of winners and notables are just a few of the readers' advisory tools available to help us learn about books and other library media so we can guide readers of all ages to the most appropriate resources, whether award-winning or not. Among our ever-expanding choices are



[Dan Rather](#), award-winning journalist who anchored *CBS Evening News* for many decades, will be one of the featured speakers at [ALA Annual Conference](#), June 21–26.

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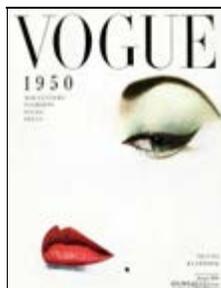
the extremely popular genres of graphic novels, manga, and street literature—all of which may be outside your comfort zone but are nevertheless worth learning about.”...

American Libraries column, Jan./Feb.

[Voguing online](#)

ProQuest is offering a free trial period to its full *Vogue* Archive (1892–2012) through February 16. Try it out through *American Libraries* [here](#). Ann Arbor–based electronic publisher ProQuest held a special event in Dallas January 22 to introduce its customers to this archival set of *Vogue* magazine consisting of more than 400,000 pristine, full-color pages that includes all covers, images, ads, and fold-outs....

AL: Inside Scoop, Feb. 2



[Currents](#)

Joshua Youngblood (right) recently became the research and outreach services librarian at the University of Arkansas Library in Fayetteville. Effective in June, **Sherrie Bergman** will retire as director of Bowdoin College's Hawthorne-Longfellow Library in Brunswick, Maine. **Kathleen B. Hegarty**, 81, died after a short illness on January 28. She served at the Boston Public Library for 46 years as coordinator of adult services, staff officer for programs and public relations, and staff officer for special programs and services....

American Libraries column



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ALA News

[Groups ask Congress to halt work on SOPA, PIPA](#)

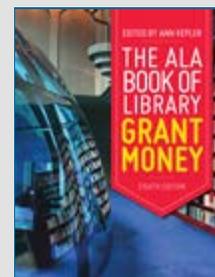
Approximately 70 grassroots groups (including ALA), venture capitalists, entrepreneurs, human rights groups, communities of color, and internet companies sent Congress a [letter](#) February 6 saying it should stop its work on the Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA) and Protect Intellectual Property Act (PIPA). The letter states, “Now is the time for Congress to take a breath, step back, and approach the issues from a fresh perspective.”...

Public Knowledge, Feb. 6

[Library Boing Boing is up and running](#)

PC Sweeney writes: “ALA Happy Mutants rejoice! Library Boing Boing is here with its [inaugural post](#) about World Book Night. Basically, ALA's amazing and wonderful Jenny Levine put together an opportunity to post to Boing Boing using the name [LibraryLab](#). The content will be based around libraries and exposing all of the amazing things that libraries do for people in a nonlibrary-based forum.”...

PC Sweeney's Blog, Feb. 6; Boing Boing, Feb. 6



Completely overhauled since its last edition, the 8th edition of [The ALA Book of Library Grant Money](#) remains the gold standard for locating sources of funding for libraries and schools. **NEW!** From ALA Editions.

[The Golan v. Holder copyright decision](#)

A summary of the recent *Golan v. Holder* decision by the US Supreme Court was written up ([PDF file](#)) for the Library Copyright Alliance by attorney and intellectual property expert Jonathan Band. On January 13, the Supreme Court by a 6–2 vote affirmed the Tenth Circuit decision in *Golan v. Holder*, which restored copyright in foreign works that had entered into the public domain under certain circumstances. ALA, ACRL, and the Association of Research Libraries in June had joined an amicus brief ([PDF file](#)) written by the Electronic Frontier Foundation in support of reversal....

INFOdocket, Feb. 7

[Flake, Myracle, Otsuka join JCLC](#)

Award-winning and bestselling authors Sharon Flake (right), Lauren Myracle, and Julie Otsuka will join the Joint Conference of Librarians of Color for two special author luncheons, September 19–23, in Kansas City, Missouri. The conference is for everyone and brings together a diverse group of librarians, library staff, library supporters, and community participants to explore issues of diversity in libraries....

Office for Diversity, Feb. 7



[Civility and bias in the workplace](#)

Two new training resources addressing civility and bias in the workplace are now available from the ALA Office for Diversity. These training cards feature strategies for increasing civility and combating bias to help foster diversity in the profession. Each card helps define the topic, its effect on the workplace, and strategies for addressing the issue. The cards are designed to be used as conversation starters, for one-on-one coaching, or in professional development programs....

Office for Diversity, Feb. 7

[How to follow an ALA Connect group](#)

Jenny Levine writes: "If you're a member of an ALA working group or a community on Connect, you can already set up your subscriptions to receive email notifications whenever new content is posted to your group. But what do you do if you want to get email notifications from a group you're *not* a member of? Now it's easier than ever to do that thanks to the 'follow a group' feature."...

ALA Connect, Feb. 6

["100 Days for Haiti" raises \\$14,000](#)

Generous library supporters contributed \$6,999.95 to the ALA [Haiti Library Relief Fund](#) in a 100-day campaign from October through January in support of the Petit-Goâve Public Library, destroyed in the earthquake of January 12, 2010. Deborah Lazar, librarian at New Trier High School in Northfield, Illinois, had offered to match ALA's fundraising up to \$5,000 during this period, but when she heard how successful it was, she agreed to increase her match, dollar for dollar—including an extra 10 cents to make it come out to an even \$14,000....

AL: Global Reach, Feb. 7



Great Libraries of the World



[Marsh's Library](#),

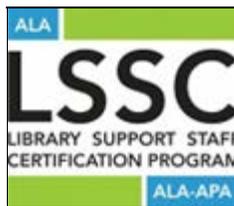
Dublin, Ireland. Built for Dublin Archbishop Narcissus Marsh in 1701, this was the first public library in the country. Designed by [William Robinson](#), the library is one of the few 18th-century buildings in the city still used for its original purpose. Many of its collections are kept on the shelves allocated to them by Marsh and [Élie Bouhèreau](#), the first librarian, when the library opened. The interior has beautiful dark oak bookcases, each with carved and lettered gables topped by a miter, and three elegant wired alcoves where readers were locked in with rare books.

[Connect with your Kids is now in Spanish](#)

The Connect with Your Kids @ your library Family Activity Guide is now available [in Spanish](#). This guide for parents provides tips for using library resources to create quality family time. Suggested activities, such as learning to manage money, exploring different cultures and living green, are grouped by themes: learn, explore, connect, play, and create. Both the English and Spanish family activity guides are hosted online on ALA's public awareness website... Campaign for America's Libraries, Feb. 7

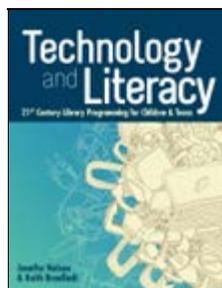
[Texas A&M, Pasadena City College get LSSC perks](#)

[Texas A&M University](#) announced that it will award up to a 4% salary increase to any library support staff members who complete the ALA-APA Library Support Staff Certification (LSSC) program. Employees must show the relevancy of LSSC to their job and receive advance approval. Graduates of the [Pasadena \(Calif.\) City College](#) Library Technology Certificate Program can now receive LSSC certificates without having to complete additional courses or portfolios... ALA-Allied Professional Association, Feb. 7



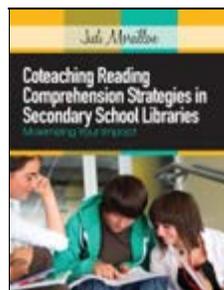
[Free tools for public library programming](#)

In [Technology and Literacy: 21st-Century Library Programming for Children and Teens](#), published by ALA Editions, Jennifer Nelson and Keith Braafladt foster a different kind of thinking about what literacy in the 21st century really entails. One of the simplest and most powerful tools for technology-based public library programming is called [Scratch](#). It's a free, easy-to-use programming language that can be used to create everything from 3D animation and graphics to music-enhanced presentations and games..."... ALA Editions, Feb. 3



[Reading comprehension in secondary schools](#)

A companion volume to [Collaborative Strategies for Teaching Reading Comprehension: Maximizing Your Impact](#), which covered lower grades, [Coteaching Reading Comprehension Strategies in Secondary School Libraries: Maximizing Your Impact](#), completes the educational arc by focusing on adolescent readers in Grades 6-12. Published by ALA Editions, Judi Moreillon's timely resource encourages classroom teacher-school librarian partnerships... ALA Editions, Feb. 6



[National Library of Ireland](#), Dublin.

Designed by [Thomas Deane](#), the library opened in 1890 to house the collections of the Royal Dublin Society. The first-floor reading room (where James Joyce located the literary debate in *Ulysses*) features a magnificent dome reminiscent of the British Museum.

This AL Direct feature showcases 250 libraries around the world that are notable for their exquisite architecture, historic collections, and innovative services. If you find yourself on vacation near one of them, be sure to stop by for a visit. The entire list will be available in [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart, which is scheduled for publication in 2013 by ALA Editions.

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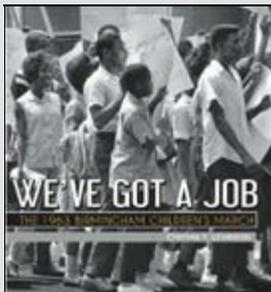
[Go back to the Top](#)

Sometimes you feel like print. Sometimes online.
Get both with the new **Booklist**.

Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: History for youth

Levinson, Cynthia Y. *We've Got a Job: The 1963 Birmingham Children's March*. Feb. 2012. 176p. Grades 6–12. Peachtree, hardcover (978-1-56145-627-7).



Even with the many fine books out there about the role of young people in the civil rights era, this highly readable photo essay will hold YA readers with its focus on four young people who participated in the Birmingham Children's March, setting their stories against the big picture of the fight against segregation and the roles of adults. At nine, Audrey Hendricks was the youngest of almost 4,000 black children who marched, protested, and sang their way to jail, and she had the support of her church, teachers, and middle-class parents. Washington Booker lived in poverty in the projects; for him the police were the ultimate terror....

Top 10 Black History books for youth, 2012



Ann Kelley writes: "Whether through syncopated language, deeply personal poems, or an era-defining photograph, these top black-history titles—all of which received starred reviews in the past year—offer unique ways of presenting the African-American experience, then and now."...

Show Booklist the love

This Valentine's Day the Booklist editors would love to see and hear why you think their magazine is tops. Take a photo of yourself reading our publication in print or online (in a favorite spot or with a beloved friend) and post it to our [Facebook wall](#) with a few words about why you fancy *Booklist*. One winner will be chosen and will receive a free subscription (or renewal) to *Booklist*. The contest runs through February 14....



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

[Go back to the Top](#)

Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Librarian.

University of California, Davis. The University of California, Davis Library seeks an energetic, proactive, innovative, collaborative, and user-oriented public services librarian to work closely with faculty and students in a highly interdisciplinary scientific research community. The Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Librarian delivers client-focused, innovative services that support the information needs of faculty, staff, and students in a strongly interdisciplinary science-intensive academic research campus. Working collaboratively with University of California librarians, UC Davis faculty, staff, and students, curate collections and contribute to the high quality service, instruction, and outreach efforts of the UC Davis University Library staffs....



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**Digital Library
of the Week**

Division News

[School librarians await response from White House](#)

A petition in support of school library programs created by Carl Harvey, Indiana school librarian and the president of AASL, has raised the 25,000 signatures needed to put the petition in the hands of President Obama and his administration. "The petition was a way to build awareness of the importance of including school libraries in the reauthorization of ESEA," said Harvey....

AASL, Feb. 7

[Tickets available to the 2012 Arbuthnot Lecture](#)

ALSC and the Miami University School of Education, Health, and Society have announced that tickets for the 2012 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture featuring author Peter Sis (right) are now available. The lecture, titled "Reading in the Dark," will be held at 7 p.m. on April 4 in Hall Auditorium, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. Required tickets are free and must be [obtained](#) through Miami University....



ALSC, Feb. 8

[Video contest asks students why they belong in the library](#)

AASL, in collaboration with SchoolTube, has announced the launch of the School Library Month 2012 student video contest, "You Belong @ Your School Library." Video [submissions](#) will be accepted through March 29 that illustrate why the school library is (either physically or virtually) the place to be....



AASL, Feb. 7

[Next Chapter Book Club webinar](#)

The Next Chapter Book Club (NCBC) is a community-based literacy and social program for adolescents and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. NCBCs include five to eight people with a wide range of reading skills who gather weekly in bookstores, cafés, and libraries. ASCLA is offering a webinar describing this approach on February 16. [Registration](#) ends on February 14....

ASCLA Blog, Feb. 8

[Online branch planning](#)

Are you considering opening an online library branch or do you need guidance for your existing online branch? ASCLA will offer a new webinar, "Strategic Planning for Your Online Library Branch," to cover this topic on February 21. [Registration](#) closes on February 14....

ASCLA Blog, Feb. 8

[ALCTS seeks journal editor](#)

ALCTS seeks to appoint a dynamic and forward-thinking professional as editor for its journal, *Library Resources and Technical Services (LRTS)*. The editor will serve a four-year term, beginning July 1. Send nominations and applications to Search Committee Chair [Tim Strawn](#) through March 16....



Mississippi was a focal point in the struggle for civil rights in America, and Hattiesburg, home of the University of Southern Mississippi, had the largest and most successful Freedom Summer project in 1964. The civil rights materials collected at the university's [Civil Rights in Mississippi Digital Archive](#) document a local history with national significance. The collection includes a selection of digitized photographs, letters, diaries, and other documents. Oral history transcripts are also available, as well as finding aids for manuscript collections.

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

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"A library is a good place to go when you feel unhappy, for there, in a book, you may find encouragement and comfort. A library is a good place to go

ALCTS, Feb. 2

[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[If libraries are more than just books, where are the technology awards?](#)

Andy Woodworth writes: "I don't have any qualms about recognizing authors and illustrators for their fine efforts. However, if a case is being made that libraries are more than just books and ALA hands out awards mainly to people who create books, there is some sort of dissonance afoot. I concede that there are probably some technology awards hidden in the [Awards and Grants page](#) that I didn't discover. But those professional awards don't share the same stature as Newbery or Caldecott or Printz accolades."...

Agnostic, Maybe, Feb. 6

[PLA award winners](#)

PLA has announced 13 award winners for 2012, honoring the best in public library service, innovation, and outreach. PLA President Marcia Warner will recognize all of the award winners as part of the PLA President's Program and Awards Presentation on June 24 at the 2012 ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California....

PLA, Feb. 7

[2012 Miriam Dudley Instruction Librarian Award](#)

The ACRL Instruction Section has awarded Barbara J. Mann (right), assistant director for public services at the University of Maryland University College, its 2012 Miriam Dudley Instruction Librarian Award. The honor recognizes a librarian who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of instruction in a college or research library environment....

ACRL, Feb. 3



[2012 EBSS Distinguished Librarian](#)

The ACRL Education and Behavioral Sciences Section has awarded Scott Walter (right), associate university librarian for services at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, its 2012 Distinguished Education and Behavioral Sciences Librarian Award. The award honors a distinguished academic librarian who has made an outstanding contribution as an education and/or behavioral sciences librarian....

ACRL, Feb. 3



[2012 Marta Lange/ CQ Press Award](#)

The ACRL Law and Political Science Section has awarded John Eaton (right), law librarian at the E. K. Williams Law Library of the University of Manitoba, its Marta Lange/ CQ Press Award. The award honors an academic or law librarian who has made distinguished contributions to bibliography and information service in law or political science....

ACRL, Feb. 3



when you feel bewildered or undecided, for there, in a book, you may have your question answered. Books are good company, in sad times and happy times, for books are people—people who have managed to stay alive by hiding between the covers of a book."

—American writer E. B. White, in a [letter to the children](#) of Troy, Michigan, on the benefits of a library, Apr. 14, 1971.

@ [More quotes...](#)

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[What's Lurking in Your Lipstick, Shaving Cream and Shampoo? What You Don't Know Could Hurt You](#)



[Celebrating Black History Month: John H. Johnson, Trailblazing Publisher](#)

[When Dinosaurs Ruled the World: A T-rex Named Sue](#)

[Win a Copy of 'Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet, Slave.' 2011 Caldecott Honor Book](#)

[Take Me to Your Reader: Bill Gates, Philanthropist and Founder of Microsoft](#)

[New Version of 'Porgy and Bess' Has Supporters, but There Are Detractors](#)

[Libraries Play a Key Role in Digital Literacy](#)

[Ann Weisgarber: 'We need to keep our libraries open.'](#)

[2012 Routledge Distance Learning Award](#)

The ACRL Distance Learning Section has awarded Johanna Ruth Tuñón (right), director of distance and instructional library services at Nova Southeastern University, the 2012 the Routledge Distance Learning Librarianship Conference Sponsorship Award. The award honors an ACRL member contributing to the success of distance learning librarianship or related library service in higher education....

ACRL, Feb. 6



[National Friends of Libraries Week awards](#)

The Friends of the Ennis (Tex.) Public Library (right) and the Friends of the Poughkeepsie (N.Y.) Public Library District were recognized for winning the 2011 National Friends of Libraries Week Awards by ALTAFF during its Gala Author Tea in Dallas. Each group received \$250 and a certificate....

ALTAFF, Feb. 7



[Sacramento wins 2012 National Library Week grant](#)

The Sacramento (Calif.) Public Library is the winner of the 2012 Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week Grant. The \$3,000 grant is awarded annually for the best public awareness campaign in support of National Library Week. This year, libraries were asked to develop a proposal using the 2012 National Library Week theme, "You belong @ your library."...

Public Information Office, Feb. 7

[Four winners of YALSA's first Writing Award](#)

YALSA has named four members as winners of its first writing award in four categories: Sarah Ludwig (*Young Adult Library Services*), Casey H. Rawson (*The Journal of Research on Libraries and Young Adults*), Linda Braun (YALSA Blog), and Maria Kramer (The Hub). The winners for the journals will each receive \$500, due to the more extensive nature of their work. The winners for the blog posts will each receive \$200....

YALSA, Feb. 7

[2012 De Gruyter European Librarianship Study Grant](#)

Liladhar R. Pendse (right), librarian for Slavic and Eastern European and Eurasian studies at Princeton University, has received the 2012 ACRL Western European Studies Section's De Gruyter European Librarianship Study Grant. The grant provides \$3,000 in support of a trip to Europe to enable Pendse to write a comprehensive bibliography and subject analysis of Indo-Portuguese periodicals held by the National Library of Portugal and other libraries in Lisbon....

ACRL, Feb. 6



[2012 Loleta D. Fyan Grant](#)

Carmen Patlan, Waukegan (Ill.) Public Library, has been awarded the 2012 Loleta D. Fyan Grant of \$5,000 for her proposal titled "Promotoras Ambassador Program." The program will establish a team of ambassadors to reach out to underserved Latino residents and will highlight the library's role as a place to access computers and other valuable free-of-charge services....

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Calendar

Feb. 10–12:
[California International Antiquarian Book Fair](#), Pasadena Convention Center.

Feb. 15–19:
[Music Library Association](#), Annual Meeting, Dallas.

Feb. 19:
[Polish American Librarians Association](#), Annual Meeting, Polish Museum of America, Chicago.

Feb. 23:
[Board Books in Libraries: Helping Librarians and Caregivers Develop Emergent Readers](#), University of Wisconsin-Madison, free webinar. Contact [Anna Palmer](#) to register.

Mar. 9:
[Contemporary Trends and Debates in E-Journal Licensing](#), University of Wisconsin-Madison, free webinar. Contact [Anna Palmer](#) to register.

Office for Research and Statistics. Feb. 7

[Memphis wins 2012 Light the Way grant](#)

The Memphis Public Library and Information Center has received the 2012 Light the Way: Library Outreach to the Underserved Grant, administered by ALSC and its Library Service to Special Population Children and Their Caregivers Committee. As the winner of the grant, the library will receive \$3,000 for its "Read With Me, Sign With Me" project....

ALSC, Feb. 7

[New Virginia Mathews Memorial Scholarship](#)

The American Indian Library Association has named its library school scholarship the Virginia Mathews Memorial Scholarship to honor the memory of one of the original founders of AILA. Virginia Mathews (right), member of ALA for 50 years and recipient of its Honorary Membership in 1994, died on May 7, 2011. She was the first American Indian to run for the ALA presidency and was a proud member of the Osage Nation. The scholarship will provide tuition to an American Indian individual in an ALA-accredited MLIS program....

Office for Diversity, Feb. 7



[Women's Caucus for Art: Lifetime Achievement Award](#)

Ferris Olin (right), Rutgers University professor, educator, women's studies scholar, and librarian, is one of five women who will receive the 2012 Women's Caucus for Art Lifetime Achievement Award in Los Angeles February 25. Olin was cited for playing a crucial role in ensuring that the aesthetic and intellectual impact of women and diverse communities is recognized and documented in the cultural record....

Women's Caucus for Art



[2012 Tufts Poetry Awards](#)

Timothy Donnelly has won the \$100,000 [Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award](#) for his book *The Cloud Corporation* (Wave, Picador). The award, given annually to a midcareer poet, is one of the largest monetary poetry prizes in the United States. Katherine Larson has won the \$10,000 [Kate Tufts Discovery Award](#) for her book of poetry, *Radial Symmetry* (Yale University Press). The award is given annually for a first book by a poet of genuine promise. Both awards are based at Claremont Graduate University....

Claremont Graduate University, Feb. 1



[Go back to the Top](#)

Seen Online

[Free speech off-campus](#)

Frank D. LoMonte writes: "If the justices of the Minnesota Supreme Court lose sight of larger constitutional issues, the outcome in the *Tatro v. University of Minnesota* case could give colleges virtually

Apr. 2–3:

[Coalition for Networked Information](#), Spring Membership Meeting, Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel, Baltimore.

Apr. 4:

[Learning from H1N1: Public Libraries and Public Health](#), University of Wisconsin-Madison, free webinar. Contact [Anna Palmer](#) to register.

Apr. 12–13:

[Virginia Hamilton Conference on Multicultural Literature for Youth](#), Kent State University, Ohio. "Celebrating Diversity: Sharing Our Stories."

May 3–4:

[Intelligent Information Symposium](#), Sofitel Sydney Wentworth, Australia.

May 3–5:

[LOEX](#), Annual Conference, Renaissance Hotel, Columbus, Ohio.

May 15–18:

[European Library Automation Group](#), conference, University of the Balearic Islands, Palma de Mallorca, Spain. "Libraries Everywhere."

May 18–19:

[International Conference on Information and Religion](#), Kent State University, Ohio. "Preservation and Access: Facilitating Research in

limitless authority to silence speech critical of their programs, no matter where it is uttered. The case began in 2010 when Amanda Tatro was called before the student-conduct board at the University of Minnesota over a series of postings on her personal Facebook page.”...

Chronicle of Higher Education, Feb. 5

[A new question of internet freedom](#)

European activists who participated in recent American internet protests learned there was political power to be harnessed on the web. In the US protests opposing SOPA, websites went dark January 18. European activists are hoping to use similar pressure to stop the international Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA) ([PDF file](#)), meant to clamp down on illegal commerce in copyrighted and trademarked goods. In another development, Ars Technica’s Nate Anderson [looks](#) at the “new, totally secret intellectual property chapter for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), a regional trade agreement.”...

New York Times, Feb. 5; *Ars Technica*, Feb. 2

[Tucson ethnic studies reinstatement sought](#)

Families in a 38-year-old segregation lawsuit against Tucson Unified School District are asking a federal judge to reinstate the school district’s recently suspended Mexican-American studies classes, arguing they are critical to ending discrimination for students. Attorneys with the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund alleged the district has, by suspending the classes, reneged on a desegregation plan that district leaders and families spent nearly four decades developing under a federal judge’s oversight....

Phoenix Arizona Republic, Feb. 7

[Internet access, libraries, and porn](#)

The Seattle Public Library is holding fast to unrestricted online access to adults despite [complaints](#) about men watching pornography in very public settings. An SPL official said the library wants to [work with](#) complainants to mitigate “inadvertent viewing.” At the Malibu branch of the County of Los Angeles Public Library, a resident saw another patron watching [explicit content](#) on a library computer and was told nothing could be done about it. The North Central Regional Library in Wenatchee, Washington, is still [defending itself](#) in a years-old lawsuit brought by the ACLU that [says](#) it censors legitimate access for research, art, and political activism....

MSNBC, Feb. 3; *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, Jan. 31, Feb. 2; *Malibu (Calif.) Times*, Feb. 1; KING-TV, Seattle, Feb. 2; ACLU, Oct. 24, 2011

[Public libraries add language-learning software](#)

Sarah Rich writes: “As libraries have dealt with draconian budget cuts the past few years, they have managed to add more and more services—such as language-learning software. The Wayne County (Mich.) Public Library is one example of this emerging trend. For the past 18 months, the library has made interactive foreign-language software available at its facility as well as remotely to users with a library account.”...

Government Technology, Feb. 6



[Hyping classroom technology only helps tech firms](#)

Michael Hiltzik writes: “Something sounded familiar when I heard US Education Secretary Arne Duncan and FCC Chairman Julius

Information and Religion.”

June 10–14:

[Association for Computing Machinery / Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Joint Conference on Digital Libraries](#).

George Washington University, Washington, D.C. “#preserving #linking #using #sharing.”

July 10–13:

[International Conference on Trends in Knowledge and Information Dynamics](#).

Documentation Research and Training Centre, Indian Statistical Institute, Bangalore.

Sep. 30–

Oct. 4: [National Media Market](#), Annual Conference, Embassy Suites, Las Vegas.

Nov. 7–8:

[Berlin 10 Open Access Conference](#), Wallenberg Research Centre, Stellenbosch, South Africa.

Nov. 11–15:

[International Association of School Librarianship](#), Annual Conference, Doha, Qatar. “The Shifting Sands of School Librarianship.”

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries

Genachowski make a huge pitch for infusing digital technology into America's classrooms. Every schoolchild should have a laptop, they said, because in the near future, textbooks will be a thing of the past. Where had I heard that before? The year was 1913 and the speaker, Thomas Edison, was referring to the prospect of replacing book learning with instruction via the moving image."...

Los Angeles Times, Feb. 4

[Nebraska students build milk-jug igloo in library](#)

Paxton (Nebr.) Public School students found a unique way to learn about recycling and Inuit culture. School librarian Jody Storer came up with the idea of building an igloo out of recycled milk jugs as a place to hold storytime. 700 milk jugs and 10 man-hours later, a 6-by-10-foot igloo arose in the library....

KNOP-TV, North Platte, Nebr., Feb. 4



[Library commission blindsided by storybook reader's dismissal](#)

Boulder (Colo.) Library Commission members said they were blindsided by the recent decision to dismiss longtime storybook reader Judy Volc, and they urged the library director to reconsider. Volc has been reading to children in Boulder for almost 50 years, most recently as a volunteer after her position as children's librarian was cut in 2003. She also used to teach children's literature at the University of Colorado....

Boulder (Colo.) Daily Camera, Feb. 1

[Arabian horse library opens](#)

A library at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, that showcases one of the largest Arabian horse collections in the world recently opened its doors to the public. The W. K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Library was built to collect and preserve materials about the breed.



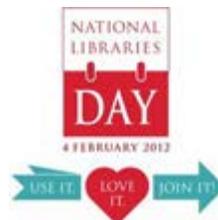
The library provides a permanent [home](#) for the Arabian horse collection, which has been moved from place to place over the years with no dedicated space large enough to hold the entire collection....

Diamond Bar (Calif.) Patch, Feb. 4; Cal Poly Pomona PolyCentric, Feb. 1

[Libraries aren't like supermarkets](#)

British crime author Ann Cleeves penned this tribute to libraries for the UK's National Libraries Day, February 4: "Our librarian was Mrs. Macgregor. All those years ago, and I still remember her name, although those of my teachers are long forgotten. Mrs. Macgregor turned me into a crime writer. She introduced me to mysteries with chases and pace and surprise endings. She remembered which titles I'd read and saved copies of those I hadn't under the counter, producing them, like a magician's rabbit from a hat, as I walked through the door."...

Yorkshire Post (UK), Feb. 7



[Library poem by UK children's laureate](#)

Libraries are being closed all over the United Kingdom, so English writer, playwright, and Children's Laureate Julia Donaldson (right) wrote a special poem for National Libraries Day, February 4, that begins: "Everyone is

Direct



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



George M. Eberhart,
Editor:

geberhart@ala.org



Beverly Goldberg,
Senior Editor:

bgoldberg@ala.org



Greg Landgraf,
Associate Editor:

glandgraf@ala.org



Sanhita SinhaRoy,
Associate Editor:

ssinharoy@ala.org



Laurie D. Borman,
Editor and Publisher,
American Libraries:

lborman@ala.org

Jennifer Henderson,
Contributing Researcher

To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:



Doug Lewis:

dglewis@mindspring.com



welcome to walk through the door. / It really doesn't matter if you're rich or poor."...

The Guardian (UK), Feb. 3



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Computer system simplifies carrel assignments](#)

Until recently, assigning carrels was an arduous, paper-based process, one that left students submitting preferences and hoping for the best. Convinced there could be an easier way, Ann-Marie Costa—who doles out carrel assignments at Harvard's Widener Library—oversaw the creation of an online application that makes picking the perfect nook as simple as selecting a seat on a flight through an airline website....

Harvard Gazette, Feb. 2



[How to buy a wireless router](#)

Samara Lynn writes: "Wireless routers are the starring players in a home or small business network, yet they often cause great frustration for home users, business users, and anyone who is not a wireless networking guru. The enigma of wireless networking isn't helped by router makers who, in a frenzy to differentiate and sell their products, tout unrealistic bandwidth speeds, load on extra bells and whistles, and sometimes create products that are difficult for the average user to set up, manage, and optimize."...

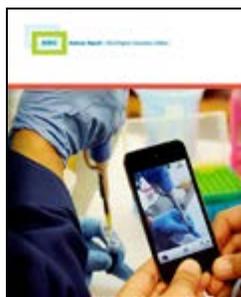
PC Magazine, Feb. 2



[Six technologies that will shape higher education](#)

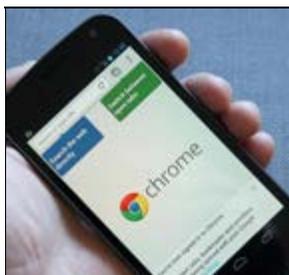
Game-based learning, learning analytics, and the "internet of things" are three of six technologies that will have a profound impact on higher education in the next one to five years, according to the *NMC Horizon Report: 2012 Higher Education* ([PDF file](#)) released by the New Media Consortium and the Educause Learning Initiative....

Campus Technology, Feb. 6



[Three years later, Chrome arrives on Android](#)

Stephen Shankland writes: "On February 7, Google released a beta version of its Chrome browser for Android, a momentous step that marries two of Google's most important programming projects. The new browser, unlike the stock Android browser, is available in the Android Market so that people don't have to wait for handset makers to offer it through an operating system



Katie Bane:
kbane@ala.org

Send feedback:
aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:
americanlibrariesmagazine.org/aldirect

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upgrade." [Engadget says](#) that pages, even loaded desktop ones, pull up pretty quickly. The only significant hiccup was a delay in rendering parts of more complex sites when scrolling to new portions....

CNET News, Feb. 7; Engadget, Feb. 7

[Search engine finds answers within itself](#)

Less than three years ago, 52-year-old scientist, software designer, and entrepreneur Stephen Wolfram created a new kind of search engine, called Wolfram Alpha. Unlike Google or Microsoft's Bing, Wolfram Alpha does not forage the web; it culls its own painstakingly curated database to find answers. As of late it has delivered many answers for Siri, the question-answering personal assistant in the Apple iPhone 4S. The new version, called Wolfram Alpha Pro, arrived February 8 and can handle data and images....

New York Times, Feb. 6

[Why your MP3s sound bad](#)

Jamie Lendino writes: "More data translates to better-sounding audio files—but those files are largely unavailable to most consumers. Granted, to the casual listener, Amazon MP3 and Apple iTunes Store sound pretty good, as they are encoded as 256Kbps MP3 and AAC files for the most part. 256Kbps is also iTunes's default encoding rate for when you rip audio CDs (although you can change it), and it's the size iCloud uses to deliver tracks to other PCs or mobile devices on your network. The thing is, 256Kbps still isn't enough."...

PC Magazine, Feb. 1

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E-Content

[Preservation status of e-resources](#)

Oya Y. Rieger (right) and Robert Wolven write: "Academic libraries are increasingly dependent on commercially produced, born-digital content that is purchased or licensed. The purpose of this presentation is to share the findings of a 2CUL study that assesses the role of LOCKSS and PORTICO in preserving each institution's e-journal collections. The 2CUL initiative is a collaboration between Columbia and Cornell university libraries to join forces in providing content, expertise, and services that are impossible to accomplish acting alone." Watch the [video](#) (58:57)....

Coalition for Networked Information, Feb. 6; YouTube, Jan. 31



[Random House makes ebook history](#)

Dennis Johnson writes: "On February 2, the biggest of the Big Six, Random House, threw caution to the winds and announced it had [struck a deal](#) with libraries: It would raise the price of its ebooks to library wholesalers, but once a library had bought the book, that was it. They could loan it out as many times as they wanted and never have to pay for it again. Of course, what hasn't been said is how much more Random House is going to charge for those books."...

Melville House Books, Feb. 3; *AL: E-Content*, Feb. 3



[Ebooks and blind or print-disabled readers](#)

Amy Mason (right) writes: "The landscape of

ebook reading technology is littered with hundreds of combinations of file formats, devices, and platforms. These competing platforms and devices include varying levels of accessibility and different methods of access. In this article we look at several of the major ebook platforms, their accessibility features, major drawbacks, and other pertinent information, so that users can make informed choices about which platforms and file types are likely to be of most use to them."...

Braille Monitor, Jan.



[Temple University swaps textbooks for digital alternatives](#)

When students groan about buying traditional textbooks, their grievances follow a familiar refrain: They're expensive and usually boring. So this fall, a team of Temple University professors abandoned old-fashioned texts for low-cost alternatives that they built from scratch. The [pilot project](#), designed by AUL for Research and Instructional Services Steven J. Bell, gave 11 faculty members \$1,000 each to create a digital alternative to a traditional textbook. To enliven students' reading, the instructors pulled together primary-source documents and material culled from library archives....

Chronicle of Higher Education: Wired Campus, Feb. 7; Temple University, Jan. 27



[E-content and mobile logins](#)

Michelle Kraft writes: "Many e-content vendors like Elsevier and McGraw Hill direct smartphone users immediately to their mobile sites. While this is nice, their mobile sites require users to sign in using the personal login they created. So a library user would have to have a personal login for each database. If someone is accessing our resources off-campus, these personal logins are needed in addition to our proxy login that users already need to access library resources from home. Why have vendors created this artificial barrier?"...

The Krafty Librarian, Feb. 7

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Books & Reading

[Some points about the Elsevier response](#)

Wayne Bivens-Tatum writes: "Elsevier has [briefly responded](#) to the steadily growing [petition](#) by researchers to refuse to publish, referee, or do editorial work for Elsevier journals until they change how they operate. 4,480 researchers have signed the petition so far. I don't want to address the entire post, but a couple of points especially stand out." Kent Anderson also [wonders](#) whether the boycott makes sense in the first place...

Academic Librarian, Feb. 3; *Library Connect*, Feb. 2; *Scholarly Kitchen*, Feb. 2

[10 things you might not know about Charles Dickens](#)

Melody Lau writes: "February 7 marks the



200th anniversary of Charles Dickens's birth, and in honor of the celebrated author, we dug up some facts about him that you might not know." For example, he had a thing for nicknames, he was obsessive-compulsive, and he was epileptic. People [all over the world](#) are celebrating the 200th anniversary of Charles Dickens's birth....
National Post (Canada), Feb. 7; Agence France Presse, Feb. 7

[3D technology helps autistic children learn to read](#)

A menagerie of virtual 3D animals that swim, eat bugs, and fly is helping autistic children develop crucial reading skills at Audubon Park Elementary in Orlando, Florida. Teachers at the nearby Baldwin Park public school say [Letters Alive](#), software that combines interactive 3D technology with sounds, words, and realistic animal actions, is helping the school's 50 autistic children overcome the challenges they encounter when learning to read....
eSchool News, Feb. 7



[Former NBA star Abdul-Jabbar selected as cultural ambassador](#)

On January 18, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton met with Hall-of-Famer Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, the NBA's all-time leading scorer and a *New York Times* bestselling author, to discuss his new role as a global cultural ambassador. In his new role, Abdul-Jabbar will lead conversations with young people on the importance of education, social and racial tolerance, cultural understanding, and using sports as a means of empowerment....
US Department of State press release, Jan. 18



[Children's picture books don't show nature](#)

A group of [researchers](#) led by University of Nebraska-Lincoln sociologist J. Allen Williams Jr. studied the winners of ALA's prestigious Caldecott Medal between 1938 (the year the prize was first awarded) through 2008. They looked at more than 8,000 images in the 296 volumes, and found decreasing depictions of nature and animals. The results are sobering....

Care2 Causes, Feb. 4; *Sociological Inquiry* 82, no. 1 (Feb.): 145-159

[A wild and crazy librarian](#)

Mary Kelly writes: "What happens in Vegas... Now this one sounds fun! This time our featured librarian is not shy and virginal but actually cuts loose. Better yet, this time she is a library consultant and advocating a bookstore model for libraries (gasp). She does sound wild. Who knows? Maybe one too many cocktails at a library conference led to some poor decisions. This book is a keeper and I think ALA needs to consider Las Vegas for a conference venue very soon." (ALA will be there for the [2014 Annual Conference](#).)...
Awful Library Books, Feb. 3



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Actions & Answers

[Code of Best Practices in Fair Use](#)

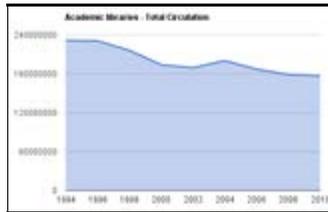
This [webcast](#) (1:00:32) introduced the Code of Best Practices in Fair Use for Academic and Research Libraries on the day of the code's release, January 26. The code facilitators—Patricia Aufderheide of the Center for Social Media at American University, Brandon Butler of the Association of Research Libraries, and Peter Jaszi of the American University Law School—delivered a brief presentation on the contents of the code, followed by a question-and-answer session. To read the code and view related resources, visit the [ARL website](#)....

YouTube, Jan. 30



[The end of academic library circulation?](#)

Will Kurt writes: "Unless current patterns change, by 2020 university libraries will no longer have circulation desks. This claim may seem hyperbolic if you've been observing your library. Here is a chart (right)



that shows total circulation for academic libraries, and while there's a decline it certainly doesn't look like it will hit zero anytime soon, definitely not in just eight years. But there is a problem with this data and this perspective on library statistics. When we talk about 'total circulation,' we're talking about a property of the library, but we're not really thinking about users."...

ACRL Tech Connect, Feb. 1

[10 ways to bring a conference back to work](#)

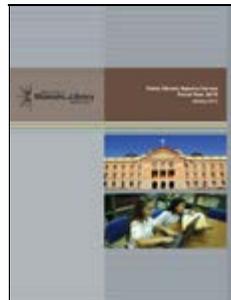
Connie Malamed writes: "If you are one of the fortunate people from your organization to attend a professional conference, how can you bring it back to the workplace so everyone can benefit? Sharing what you've learned will not only benefit others in your workplace, it may help you take better notes and stay more organized during the conference. If you're ready to hone your leadership skills, here are 10 ideas for how you can bring the conference back to work."...

The Learning Circuits Blog, Feb. 5

[IMLS report on state library agencies](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has released its report ([PDF file](#)) on the State Library Survey for fiscal year 2010. The data collected in this annual survey show that state library agencies' revenues fell by 24.1% in the previous decade and that reduction in staff has been one of the largest impacts of this shortfall. The agencies continue to provide essential services to libraries....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Feb. 6



[Three tips for better customer service during tax season](#)

Mary Kelly writes: "I love tax time at the library. Without fail, I can usually convert a nonlibrary user to library supporter, while helping hand out tax forms. Here are three simple strategies to get more out of tax season so you make the library look good and help patrons."...

The Practical Librarian, Feb. 4

Maximize your broadband and minimize your costs

Charles R. McClure writes: "Despite the difficulties in providing high-quality rural broadband and information technology services, individuals can make a huge difference in minimizing the effect of the digital divide. We interviewed Sherry Millington, technical services coordinator at the Suwannee River Regional Library in north central Florida. Here is how her library system maximizes broadband impact and minimizes costs."...

Libraries Connect Communities, Feb. 6

Birmingham Botanical Gardens Library: A hidden treasure

Cathy Adams writes: "There's more to the Birmingham (Ala.) Botanical Gardens than 45 acres of cultivated plants. As part of its mission to educate about plants, gardens, and the environment, the BBG boasts the largest public horticultural library in the United States. Librarian Hope Long calls her territory 'a hidden treasure.' The library has been enhanced in recent years with the addition of an Archives and Rare Books Room developed by Archivist Jason Kirby (right)."...



Weld for Birmingham, Feb. 6

Intellectual freedom papers needed for IFLA in Helsinki

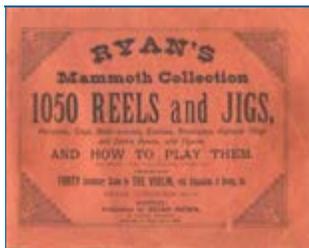
The IFLA Committee on Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression seeks papers that analyze trends, cases, and current concerns about privacy and intellectual freedom in cyberspace for its World Library and Information Congress in Helsinki, Finland, August 11–17. Proposals are due to [Päivikki Karhula](#) by March 15....



IFLA Committee on Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression

A century of music at NYPL

George Boziwick writes: "As the centennial year of the New York Public Library's Stephen A. Schwarzman Building comes to a close and the next 100 years begin, it's a good opportunity to journey through the history, collections, and people behind the scenes of one of the world's premiere music collections.



The music holdings were brought together as part of the merger in 1895 of the library of John Jacob Astor and the Lenox Library, with support from the Tilden Foundation to form the research collections of the New York Public Library."...

New York Public Library blogs, Feb. 3

Games: A heretical/holistic point of view

Diane Rasmussen Neal writes: "I am a hardcore gamer. And a director-at-large of the American Society for Information Science and Technology. And a librarian. And a nerd. And many other things. But there is one thing I am not: somebody who fits in the boxes. One thing I have noticed is that gaming provides a perfect example of the divide between library practice and information science research."...

tl;dr, Feb. 2

Many deleted Facebook photos are still online

Jacqui Cheng writes: "Facebook is still working on deleting photos from its servers in a timely manner nearly three years after Ars Technica first [brought attention](#) to the topic. The company admitted

February 3 that its older systems for storing uploaded content 'did not always delete images from content delivery networks' quickly enough, but said it is currently finishing up a newer, faster system. In the meantime, photos that users thought they deleted from the social network months or even *years* ago remain accessible via direct link."...

Ars Technica, Feb. 6

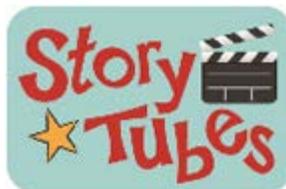
[FEMA grant helps restore Katrina-damaged archives](#)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency announced February 3 approximately \$1.7 million in public-assistance funding to restore New Orleans Notarial Archives' book volumes and historical records damaged during Hurricane Katrina in 2005. The FEMA grant will mainly fund in-house stabilization efforts to restore the damaged archives....

US Federal Emergency Management Agency, Feb. 3

[StoryTubes 2012 contest](#)

StoryTubes is an online contest sponsored by schools and public libraries. English-speaking kids anywhere are invited to submit by February 20 a YouTube or TeacherTube video of two minutes or less that describes their favorite book. Public library partners structure the contests, provide the staff time to review entries and manage the event, and secure prizes. Schools often secure parental permission, work with students to develop their online booktalks, and provide technical expertise....
StoryTubes



[Digital storytelling resources](#)

Shelly Terrell writes: "Young language learners have powerful stories to tell in blogs, Facebook, YouTube, or Twitter. Through digital storytelling, we motivate our learners to apply, contextualize, visualize, and personalize the language they learn. There are hundreds of free digital tools and websites to inspire your learners to create extremely imaginative stories and share them with a global audience. I hope these tips and resources will help you along your journey towards integrating digital storytelling into your curriculum."...

Teacher Reboot Camp, Feb. 8



[Reading Rainbow to return as an app?](#)

Sarah Kessler writes: "When *Reading Rainbow* ended its 26-year run in 2009, it left behind decades of preschoolers for whom its theme song will forever resonate: 'Take a look, it's in a book, a reading rainbow.' The PBS program was cut because the Bush administration believed in funding programs that taught children *how* to read, not *why* they should read. LeVar Burton (right), *Reading Rainbow's* executive producer and host, thinks the latter goal is still relevant. And he plans to use digital media to bring the show back."...

Mashable, Feb. 6



[The Lead Pipe on professional development](#)

This week, the In the Library with the Lead Pipe blog is fielding professional development and career questions from LIS students at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The questions they asked range from committee work to composing cover letters to conference attendance. The blog team has responded with a range of

perspectives....

In the Library with the Lead Pipe, Feb. 8

[Little library launches in Syracuse](#)

The Little Free Libraries in Syracuse, New York, launched February 3, following in the footsteps of the Little Free Library in [Wisconsin](#).

Syracuse's project, however, is made out of reclaimed phone kiosks, which are meant to convey an exchange of information as well as to bring new life to these obsolete structures. They have been retrofitted to hold approximately two dozen books and are weatherproof, have a Plexiglas door, and have lighting inside so books are visible any time of day. Syracuse University LIS students created a customized [list of titles](#) intended to reflect the interests of the community and to seek book donations....

Syracuse Little Free Libraries, Feb. 4



[Four crazy librarian ideas](#)

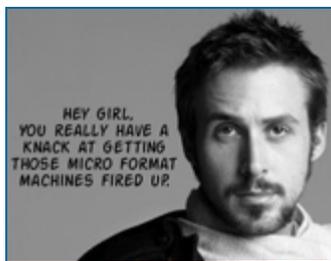
Syracuse University LIS student Mia Breikopf writes: "I'm going to be a librarian. Here are four things I'll never do: One, touch books. There are plenty of librarians out there who never touch a book as part of their professional work. Information is a librarian's work, and, as you know, information doesn't always come in the form of a beautiful, delicious-smelling book."...

Syracuse University School of Information Studies, Information Space, Feb. 6

[Library blogger's love for Ryan Gosling \(and libraries\)](#)

Gwendolyn Nixon-Carter, a public librarian from the D.C. area, shares her story behind her [Tumblr blog](#), which is dedicated to her love for Ryan Gosling and libraries. "I started this on a whim, fueled by jealousy over the [Public History Ryan Gosling blog](#), and thought surely there must be one for librarians. There wasn't one that I could find, so I started one just to make myself laugh, mostly. Then I shared it with a few friends, who in turn shared with their friends. The page received 120,000+ visitors within the first two days."...

I Love Libraries



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[Great Libraries of the World](#) | [Digital Library of the Week](#) | [Calendar](#)

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | February 15, 2012



Browse **NEW** titles added to Emerald's eBook Series Collections



American Libraries Online

Displays that move the merchandise

Alan Jacobson writes: "Displays are hit or miss. So often we throw together a bunch of books on a theme. In our flurry to pull just the right items and create beautiful signage to market the display, we get lost in the process and fail to ask ourselves important questions. Will patrons find this useful? Should it be permanent? A new method of approaching displays is called for."...

American Libraries feature



On My Mind: Returning the love

Sarah Prielipp writes: "Librarians love their patrons; it's why we do everything we do. But do our patrons really know that our efforts to save libraries, to maintain (and increase) funding, and to reevaluate our role in society as a common good do not stem from a purely selfish desire to save our jobs and paychecks, but from honestly wanting to continue providing them with these services, programs, and classes? I propose a new marketing campaign for libraries: We Love Our Patrons."...

American Libraries column, Mar./Apr.



Tools of Change Conference, day 1

Kate Sheehan writes: "Greetings from the Tools of Change for Publishing Conference 2012 in New York, put together by O'Reilly Media (which publishes the computer books with the pen-and-ink drawings of animals on the covers). This is my second publishing conference this year, and it has been fascinating to look at ebooks from the publishing perspective. The first day of TOC opened with actor and director LeVar Burton (right) as the keynote speaker."...

AL: Perpetual Beta, Feb. 15



Outside/In: Create a library tech



Bestselling author [Sapphire](#)—whose novel *Push* was adapted into the 2009 film *Precious*—will be part of the Auditorium Speaker Series at [ALA Annual Conference](#), June 21–26.



shop

David Lee King and Michael Porter write: "We librarians are experts at collecting. Our jobs, our departments, our very buildings have been designed to acquire content. There is, however, another side to content that many libraries haven't yet fully explored, and that is content creation. Here are three different but connected areas where libraries can supply the tools for creating content: digital media labs, hackerspaces, and coworking spaces."...

American Libraries column, Mar./Apr.



[Go back to the Top](#)



ALA News

[Penguin drops OverDrive; ALA responds](#)

Christopher Harris writes: "Penguin announced that as of February 10 its books will no longer be available on OverDrive. In its statement released February 9, the publishing group reaffirmed its commitment to ALA and libraries. My interpretation of this is that Penguin is joining others in expressing dissatisfaction with the OverDrive model." In a February 10 statement, ALA President Molly Raphael [wrote](#): "Despite this discouraging development, we are hopeful that Penguin will continue to seek a solution to make its titles available to libraries."...

AL: E-Content, Feb. 10

[LSTA level-funded in FY2013 budget request](#)

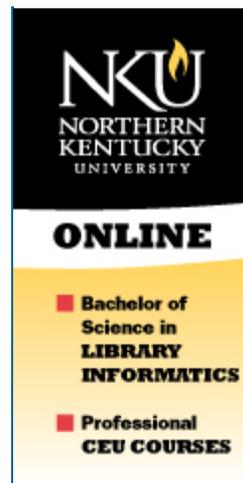
President Obama's proposed FY2013 budget has requested \$184.7 million in Library Services and Technology Act funding to be administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. This request is equal to the current funding level. ALA President Molly Raphael stated: "The President's proposal demonstrates the administration's recognition that libraries are part of the solution for our economic recovery." However, the budget also [leaves out literacy money](#) under the Fund for Improvement of Education and consolidates Improving Literacy through School Libraries with five other literacy programs....

Office of Government Relations, Feb. 13-14

[Pro-open access legislation introduced](#)

On February 9, members of the US Senate and US House of Representatives introduced identical bills with bipartisan support aimed at improving access to federally funded research. The [Senate bill](#) and [House bill](#)—both called the Federal Research Public Access Act of 2012—are essentially identical to legislation [introduced](#) in previous Congresses dating back to 2006. Nine library, publishing, and research organizations (including ALA and ACRL) sent a letter to legislators February 14 in support of FRPAA ([PDF file](#))....

District Dispatch, Feb. 10; INFOdocket, Feb. 14



Whether you're researching, surfing online, using games, reading books, or looking for programs that suit your interests, there's no place better than a public, school, university, or special library. This spring, turn your library into a celebration of all the

[Petition candidates for Council](#)

ALA has released the names of 22 individuals who will be running as petition candidates for positions on the ALA Council. The election will open at 9 a.m. Central time on March 19 and close on April 27 at 11:59 p.m. Central time. Biographical information on all candidates for councilor-at-large can be found [online](#)....

Office of ALA Governance, Feb. 15

[ALA gears up for 2012 election](#)

Polls will open at 9 a.m. Central time on March 19 for the ALA annual election. Gina J. Millsap and Barbara K. Stripling are the candidates for the 2013–2014 presidency. Results will be released on May 4....

Public Information Office, Feb. 14

[Two new ALA Endowment trustees](#)

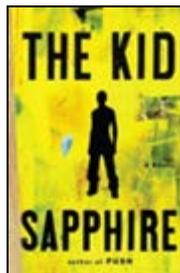
Kate Nevins, executive director and chief executive officer of Lyrasis, and Rod Hersberger, dean emeritus of the California State University–Bakersfield Library, have been appointed to serve as ALA's newest Endowment trustees. Their three-year terms will officially begin on June 27 at the conclusion of the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California....

Public Information Office, Feb. 15

[Sapphire to talk about *The Kid* at Annual Conference](#)

Sapphire, the author of the bestselling novel *Push*, will appear in the Auditorium Speaker Series at the 2012 ALA Annual Conference on June 24. She will introduce attendees to her recent novel, *The Kid* (Penguin, 2011), which brings readers deep into the interior life of Abdul Jones, son of Precious....

Conference Services, Feb. 14



[Fourth chat in job search series](#)

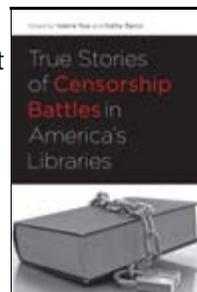
How many channels are you using to get that next job? If you are only responding to posted job ads by sending out a résumé and then hoping to get a call or an interview, it's not enough. You can do much more to take control of your search and make it more effective. Join the ALA JobLIST Placement Center on March 22 (*Note*: this has been rescheduled) to find out more. This online chat will focus on social media tools and other strategies. [Register](#) now....

Human Resource Development and Recruitment, Feb. 13

[Censorship battles from the front lines](#)

Intellectual freedom is a core value of librarianship, but fighting to keep controversial materials on the shelves can sometimes feel like a lonely battle. [True Stories of Censorship Battles in America's Libraries](#), edited by Valerie Nye and Kathy Barco, compiles dozens of stories from the library front lines, helping fortify and inform those in the fray. Published by ALA Editions, this collection touches on such prickly issues as age-appropriateness and some librarians' temptations to preemptively censor....

ALA Editions, Feb. 9



[Readers' advisory guide to mysteries](#)

[The Readers' Advisory Guide to Mystery](#), the second edition published by ALA Editions, has all the clues to help librarians solve the mystery of which titles readers

resources it provides your community with this [National Library Week poster](#). For more information on National Library Week, April 8–14, visit the [NLW website](#). **NEW!** From ALA Graphics.

Great Libraries of the World

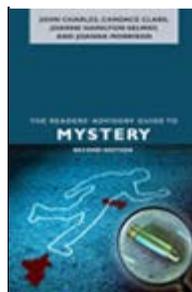


[Trinity College Library](#), Dublin, Ireland.

Dating back to the college's founding in 1592, the library is the largest in the country. It has benefited from legal deposit legislation of *both* the Republic of Ireland since 1922 and the United Kingdom since 1801, accounting for much of its collection of 5 million volumes. [The Old Library](#) opened in 1732; its main chamber is the Long Room, and at nearly 214 feet in length it is filled with some of the library's oldest books. The most famous of its manuscripts, the 8th-century [Book of Kells](#) and the 7th-century Book of Durrow, were presented by Henry Jones, bishop of Meath and former vice-chancellor of the college, in the 1660s.

should check out next. Authors John Charles, Candace Clark, Joanne Hamilton-Selway, and Joanna Morrison include several well-chosen book lists, practical programming ideas, and a new compendium of print and web-based resources....

ALA Editions, Feb. 14



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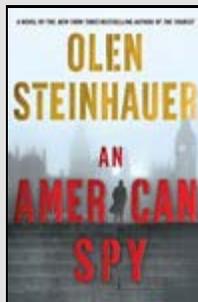
**Sometimes you feel like print. Sometimes online.
Get both with the new Booklist.**

Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Spy fiction

Steinhauer, Olen. *An American Spy*. Mar. 2012. 400p. Minotaur, paperback (978-0-312-62289-3).

When we last saw Milo Weaver, the spy had been shot on the steps of his Brooklyn brownstone (*The Nearest Exit*, 2010). This book begins with Chinese spymaster Xin Zhu, the man who crippled the CIA's Department of Tourism and engineered Weaver's shooting. But Zhu's coups haven't earned him accolades, and he's fighting a power struggle in the Guóānbù. Weaver is alive, and his former boss, Alan Drummond, wants his help taking revenge on Zhu. Weaver says no. Drummond's plan is foolhardy—his agents are dead and his department no longer exists—and Weaver no longer wants to be "part of the machine" that destroys people. When Drummond proceeds without him, however, Weaver finds he is already involved. The best spy novelists have long shaded their stories with the gray of moral ambiguity, and Steinhauer works in that tradition....



The Back Page: Tinkers and tailors

Bill Ott writes: "For years, I've thought that Alec Guinness as George Smiley in the PBS versions of John le Carré's *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy* (1979) and *Smiley's People* (1982) represents the most perfect bit of casting in movie history. One look and you realize that, without knowing it, you were imagining Guinness as Smiley all along. And when he starts talking, it just gets better—Guinness's slow, tentative speech is the ideal aural manifestation of le Carré's equally tentative prose. Guinness, of course, was superb in many, very different roles—Colonel Nicholson in *The Bridge on the*



Archiginnasio Public Library, Bologna, Italy.

This library began operations in 1801 when the city began collecting books owned by religious orders that were disbanded during the Napoleonic Era. In 1837–1838, the collection moved into the upper level of the Archiginnasio, where the University of Bologna was once located. The reading room opened to the public in 1846. The library now focuses on the history, politics, and culture of Bologna, but it also has some 3,500 incunabula and 15,000 rare books from the 16th century.

This AL Direct feature showcases 250 libraries around the world that are notable for their exquisite architecture, historic collections, and innovative services. If you find yourself on vacation near one of them, be sure to stop by for a visit. The entire list will be available in [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart, which is scheduled for publication in 2013 by ALA Editions.

River Kwai (1957), Gully Jimson in *The Horse's Mouth* (1958), Obi-Wan Kenobi in *Star Wars* (1977)—but in George Smiley, I believe he found the role of a lifetime.”...

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

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Division News

[Revised statement on the role of the school library program](#)

AASL has released an updated position statement on the role of the school library program. Approved by the AASL board at the 2012 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas, the statement can be viewed on the [AASL website](#)....

AASL, Feb. 14

[YALSA stirs up controversy over “Booze for Books”](#)

Rocco Staino writes: “Youth librarians will soon be hosting cocktail parties to fundraise for books. That’s a goal of YALSA, which announced its first ‘[Booze for Books](#)’ event set for April 12. The division is asking people to host events that day to raise funds for its [Books for Teens](#) project, which provides new, age-appropriate books for at-risk youth. The initiative sparked a flurry of comments on the ALA Council discussion list and elsewhere, some in enthusiastic support of the initiative and others opposed.”...

School Library Journal, Feb. 11; *YALSA Blog*, Nov. 3, 2010, Feb. 9



[Teen Tech Week publicity tools](#)

School and public libraries can promote Teen Tech Week (March 4–10) with online resources offered by YALSA. The division has created a number of [publicity resources](#) for you to use: templates for press releases, public service announcement scripts, sample letters to the editor (one from teens, one from parents), and a proclamation....

YALSA, Feb. 14



[New editor of RUSQ](#)

Barry Trott (right), digital services director at Williamsburg (Va.) Regional Library and past president of RUSA, has been appointed incoming editor of *Reference & User Services Quarterly*. Effective July 1, Trott will take over for Diane Zabel, who has served as



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

Career Leads from JobLIST

[Children’s Librarian,](#)

Albion (Mich.) District Library. The Albion District Library has an opening for an enthusiastic, creative, and productive librarian who will be responsible for youth services. The successful candidate should have the ability to create innovative presentations of age-appropriate events that are both educational and fun. The candidate should be able to network effectively both in the library and in the community....

Find JobLIST on Facebook



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Digital Library of the Week

editor for the past six years and led the successful conversion of the journal from print to a completely [digital format](#)....

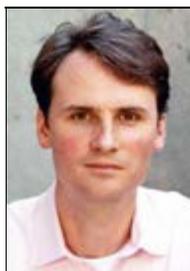
RUSA, Feb. 14



[ACRL Spring Virtual Institute](#)

Registration is now open for the [ACRL 2012 Spring Virtual Institute](#). "Extending Reach, Proving Value: Collaborations Strengthen Communities." To be held April 18–19, the institute will feature a keynote presentation, concurrent live webcasts, and asynchronous lightning talks, allowing for convenient scheduling and flexibility. John G. Palfrey Jr. (right), vice dean for library and information resources at Harvard Law School, will open the institute with a discussion on the Digital Public Library of America....

ACRL, Feb. 13



[ACRL presidential candidates online forum](#)

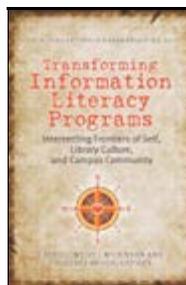
The 2012 candidates for ACRL vice president/president-elect will participate in an open online forum at 1 p.m. Central time on March 8. Trevor A. Dawes and Debbie Malone will discuss their platforms and vision for ACRL and field questions from the audience....

ACRL, Feb. 14

[Transforming information literacy programs](#)

ACRL has published [Transforming Information Literacy Programs: Intersecting Frontiers of Self, Library Culture, and Campus Community](#), edited by Carroll Wetzel Wilkinson and Courtney Bruch as number 64 in the ACRL Publications in Librarianship series. The book offers fresh perspectives on the present and future of information literacy instruction from diverse points of view....

ACRL, Feb. 14



[AASL preconferences](#)

Preconferences offered by AASL prior to the 2012 ALA Annual Conference are designed to empower school librarians as education and technology leaders in their schools. These "bring your own device" [workshops](#) will be offered June 22 in Anaheim, California....

AASL, Feb. 14

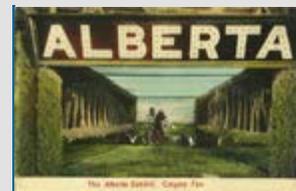
[School librarian retiree SIG](#)

The AASL board has approved the creation of a special interest group for school librarian retirees. AASL members looking to join the new interest group should visit [ALA Connect](#). The Retirees Special Interest Group will give school librarian retirees an opportunity to network with colleagues in person and virtually....

AASL, Feb. 14

[Enter your library's best publicity materials](#)

It's that time of year again—time to submit entries for the PR



The Calgary (Alberta) Public Library's [Community Heritage and Family History Digital Library](#)

contains thousands of digitized items related to Calgary and Alberta, including the newest collection, the [Calgary Public Library Archives—Our Story in Pictures](#). In 2012, the library is celebrating 100 years of service and has added more than 3,000 photographs to this latest collection. The image above is from the [Postcards from the Past](#) collection and depicts a cowboy on a horse surrounded by wheat sheaves.

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

Public Perception How the World Sees Us

"I saw in the news about Penguin pulling ebooks. Why are publishers such poopheads to you guys?"

—Los Angeles librarian Shayera Tangri relaying in a [tweet](#) an actual statement by a patron, Feb. 13.

Xchange Best of Show competition sponsored by the LLAMA Public Relations and Marketing Section. Download the Best of Show entry form and FAQ (includes category options and submission guidelines) on the [LLAMA website](#). Entries must be postmarked no later than March 16....

LLAMA, Feb. 14

[Three libraries win YALSA's Great Books Giveaway](#)

YALSA has named Southeast Arkansas Regional Library in Monticello the winner of its annual Great Books Giveaway. The library will receive more than \$20,000 in books, audiobooks, and other materials that publishers and producers sent to YALSA in 2011. The two runners-up are Jefferson High School in Edgewater, Colorado, and Barton Library in El Dorado, Arkansas....

YALSA, Feb. 14

[YALSA Best of the Best website](#)

Librarians, educators, parents, teens, and other YA literature enthusiasts who are looking for the best teen books and media of 2012 can find them online at YALSA's new [Best of the Best website](#). In addition to lists of YALSA's awards and top 10 lists, the Best of the Best homepage includes promotional tools featuring the award-winning 2012 books....

YALSA, Feb. 8



[Serving LGBTQ teens](#)

For many teens who identify as LGBTQ, the library is a critical resource to help them explore their questions in a safe environment. Join Megan Honig on February 16 for YALSA's "Serving LGBTQ Teens" webinar. Honig will explore who LGBTQ teens are and discuss their broad range of experiences. [Register](#) online....

YALSA, Feb. 8

[Upcoming ASCLA webinars](#)

ASCLA is hosting a multitude of webinars beginning this week that touch on such relevant topics as technology, library services to special populations, outreach services, facilitation, and collaboration. [Register](#) online now for these exciting webinars....

ASCLA, Feb. 14

[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[2012 Ross Atkinson Lifetime Achievement Award](#)

Pamela Bluh, associate director for technical services and administration at the Thurgood Marshall Law Library of the University of Maryland, will be awarded the 2012 ALCTS Ross Atkinson Lifetime Achievement Award, sponsored by EBSCO. She will receive a citation and \$3,000. Bluh has a long and distinguished record of service to ALCTS and to other professional organizations....

ALCTS, Feb. 14



[2012 George Cunha and Susan Swartzburg Preservation Award](#)

ALCTS has selected Gregor Trinkaus-Randall (right) as

@ [More quotes...](#)

ENJOY OUR
LATEST
CONTENT

[Connect with your kids:
License to Drive](#)



[Preservation Week @ your library](#)

[Oscar Night Has a Long History of Accomplishment, Glamour](#)

[Win a Copy of 'Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet, Slave.' 2011 Caldecott Honor Book](#)

[Great Movies: Citizen Kane- the Most Influential Film in History](#)

[Black History Month: Controversial 'Porgy and Bess' Has Some Detractors but Endures](#)

[How to Get a Great Job: Writing and Formatting Your Resume](#)

[Hillary Jordan: 'Librarians introduced me to some of my favorite books.'](#)



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Calendar

Feb. 22:
[Taking Library Data](#)

the 2012 recipient of its George Cunha and Susan Swartzburg Preservation Award. Trinkaus-Randall will receive a citation and an award of \$1,250 sponsored by Hollinger Metal Edge. As president of the Society of American Archivists, he was instrumentally involved in coordinating the organization's response to Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Rita, and Hurricane Wilma....

ALCTS, Feb. 13



[2012 Esther J. Piercy Award](#)

ALCTS has named Timothy Strawn (right), director of information resources and archives at California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, the winner of the 2012 Esther J. Piercy Award. The award recognizes the contributions to those areas of librarianship included in library collections and technical services by a librarian with no more than 10 years of professional experience....

ALCTS, Feb. 13



[Beall selected for ALCTS Outstanding Publication Award](#)

The ALCTS Outstanding Publication Award recipient for 2012 is Jeffrey Beall for his article "Academic Library Databases and the Problem of Word-Sense Ambiguity," published in the *Journal of Academic Librarianship* 37 (January 2011): 64-69. Beall describes the article as emphasizing "the importance of high-quality metadata to efficient information retrieval." He will receive a citation and \$250....

ALCTS, Feb. 13



[2012 WGSS Career Achievement Award](#)

ACRL's Women and Gender Studies Section has selected Ellen Greenblatt (right), scholarly communications librarian at the University of Colorado Denver's Auraria Library, for its 2012 Career Achievement Award. The award honors significant longstanding contributions to women's studies in the field of librarianship over the course of a career....

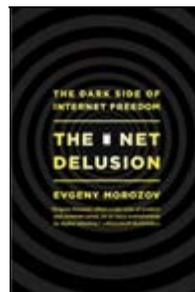
ACRL, Feb. 10



[2012 Eli F. Oboler Award](#)

The Intellectual Freedom Round Table has awarded the 2012 Eli M. Oboler Award to Evgeny Morozov for his book *The Net Delusion: The Dark Side of Internet Freedom* (Public Affairs, 2011). Jim Teliha, chair of the Eli M. Oboler Award Committee, said Morozov was chosen because "he shows why we must stop thinking of the internet and social media as instant cures for repression." The award, which consists of \$500 and a certificate, is presented for the best published work in the area of intellectual freedom....

Office for Intellectual Freedom, Feb. 14



[Gale Cengage Learning Financial Development Award](#)

[from Here to There](#), National Information Standards Organization / Dublin Core Metadata Initiative webinar.

Feb. 22-23: [Digital Asset Management Conference](#), Beverly Hilton, Los Angeles.

Feb. 29: [TechSoup Digital Storytelling Challenge](#), entry deadline, online.

Mar. 4-10: [Teen Tech Week](#), "Geek Out @ your library."

Mar. 13-17: [Public Library Association](#), National Conference, Philadelphia.

Mar. 22-23: [Internet@Schools East](#), Hilton Washington, D.C.

April: [School Library Month](#), "You Belong @ your library."

Apr. 8-14: [National Library Week](#), "You Belong @ your library."

Apr. 10: [National Library Workers Day](#).

Apr. 11: [National Bookmobile Day](#).

Apr. 11-13: [Information Institute ISONeWorld](#), The



Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Public Library Foundation is the winner of the Gale Cengage Learning Financial Development Award. The award is presented annually to a library organization for exhibiting meritorious achievement in carrying out a project to secure new funding resources for a public or academic library. The foundation is leading Library 3.0, a capital campaign to raise the private funds necessary to build a new downtown library....

Office of ALA Governance, Feb. 14

2012 Maureen Hayes Award

ALSC has awarded its 2012 Maureen Hayes Author/Illustrator Visit Award to the Hartford (Conn.) Public Library. The award, sponsored by Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, is designed to provide up to \$4,000 to an ALSC member library to fund a visit from an author or illustrator who will speak to children who might otherwise not have the opportunity. The author/illustrator will be featured at an evening event for the community at the downtown Hartford library....

ALSC, Feb. 13

Beth Kumar receives ALCTS First Step grant

Beth Kumar (right), e-resources and serials librarian at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, has received the 2012 First Step Award presented by the ALCTS Continuing Resources Section. John Wiley & Sons sponsors this \$1,500 grant, which offers librarians new to the serials field an opportunity to broaden their perspective by attending an ALA Annual Conference....



ALCTS, Feb. 13

2012 Baker & Taylor conference grants

YALSA has awarded the 2012 Baker & Taylor / YALSA Conference Grants to Heather Schubert (Hill Country Middle School in Austin, Texas) and Susan J. Smallsreed (Northwest Library branch of the Multnomah County Library in Portland, Oregon). Each will receive up to \$1,000 to attend the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. Recipients must be members of YALSA and have between one and 10 years experience working with teenagers....

YALSA, Feb. 8

New ALCTS "Transforming Collections" microgrants

ALCTS has launched a series of "Transforming Collections" microgrants in support of ALA's goal of "providing leadership in the transformation of libraries and library services in a dynamic and increasingly global digital information environment." Two microgrants up to \$1,500 will be funded annually for small projects or research initiatives in support of transforming collections. Submit proposals by May 15 to [Mary Beth Thomson](#)....

ALCTS, Feb. 13

Apply for ALTAFF Baker & Taylor Awards

ALTAFF is accepting applications for the annual Baker & Taylor Awards, given to Friends groups and library foundations. [Applications](#) are due May 1....

ALTAFF, Feb. 14

Robert Darnton receives 2011 National

Orleans, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Apr. 11–14:

[Museums and the Web](#), Sheraton Marina, San Diego.

Apr. 18–19:

[Association of College and Research Libraries](#), Spring Virtual Institute. "Extending Reach, Proving Value: Collaborations Strengthen Communities."

Apr. 21–28:

[Money Smart Week @ your library](#).

Apr. 22–24:

[IEEE Southwest](#), Symposium on Image Analysis and Interpretation, La Fonda on the Plaza, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Apr. 22–28:

[Preservation Week](#).

Apr. 23–24:

[National Library Legislative Day](#), Liaison Hotel, Washington, D.C.

Apr. 30:

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

May 1–7:

[Choose Privacy Week](#).

June 19–22:

[Summer Educational Institute for Visual Resources and Image Management](#), University of Michigan,

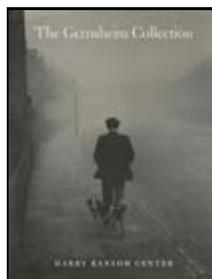
[Humanities Medal](#)

President Barack Obama presented the 2011 National Humanities Medals to nine Americans February 13 for their outstanding achievements in history, literature, education, philosophy, and musicology. One medal went to Harvard University Library Director [Robert Darnton](#) (right) for his determination to make knowledge accessible to everyone. As a historian he has illuminated the world of Enlightenment and Revolutionary France, and as a librarian he has endeavored to create the Digital Public Library of America.... National Endowment for the Humanities, Feb. 10



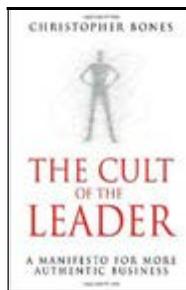
[Gernsheim catalog wins recognition](#)

The Gernsheim Collection, copublished by the Harry Ransom Center and the University of Texas Press, has been awarded an [Alfred H. Barr Jr. Award](#), which honors a distinguished exhibition catalog in the history of art published during the past year. Its publication coincided with the Ransom Center's 2010 exhibition "[Discovering the Language of Photography: The Gernsheim Collection](#)," which explored the history of photography.... Cultural Compass, Feb. 14



[CMI Management Book of the Year](#)

The Cult of the Leader (Wiley), written by Christopher Bones, was named CMI Management Book of the Year 2011/12 at a February 6 awards ceremony hosted by the British Library. Bones argues that businesses have been dragged into a talent war, where an ever-larger share of hard-won revenue is paid to a handful of senior executives. He calls this generation of ego-driven leaders the "L'Oreal generation." The book competition is run by the UK's Chartered Management Institute.... Chartered Management Institute, Feb. 7



[Go back to the Top](#)

Seen Online

[Bill aims to censor Arizona educators' speech](#)

A group of Republican state lawmakers is backing legislation that would require teachers to limit their speech to words in compliance with FCC regulations on what can be said on TV or radio. [Senate Bill 1467](#), sponsored by Sen. Lori Klein (R-Anthem), establishes penalties for anyone teaching in a public preschool, K-12 school, community college, or university who violates the FCC standards, whether in the classroom or the teachers' lounge. David Hudson of the First Amendment Center [characterized](#) the bill as "ridiculously overbroad," "unnecessary," and "unconstitutional."... Phoenix *Arizona Republic*, Feb. 12; MSNBC, Feb. 13

[Harvard library offers buyouts](#)

In a February 10 [letter](#), Harvard University Provost Alan M. Garber announced a sweeping overhaul of its library system ([PDF file](#)), including the consolidation of services and the shuffling of many of its 900-plus

Ann Arbor.

June 21-26:
[American Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Anaheim, California.

June 22-24:
[Association for Computing Machinery](#), Web Science Conference, Evanston, Illinois.

@ [More...](#)

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American Libraries
Direct



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



Beverly Goldberg,
Senior Editor:
bgoldberg@ala.org



Greg Landgraf,
Associate Editor:
glandgraf@ala.org



Sanhita SinhaRoy,
Associate Editor:
ssinharoy@ala.org



employees. The college said the changes were necessary to bring the system up to speed in the digital era. Some 275 library employees, most of them 55 and over with 10 or more years' experience, will be offered [voluntary buyouts](#) beginning February 15. On February 12, members of [Occupy Harvard](#) took over the Lamont Library Café, pledging to stay there five days in order to protest staff reductions....

Boston Globe, Feb. 13; *Harvard Crimson*, Feb. 14

[Occupy Wall Street files a claim against the city](#)

A member of the Occupy Wall Street movement filed a claim on behalf of the group February 9 alleging that New York City had damaged or destroyed \$47,000 worth of books and other property while clearing its protest site at Zuccotti Park on November 15. The notice of claim, filed with the comptroller's office, is a preliminary step toward lodging a civil lawsuit....

New York Times, Feb. 9

[Lost in time @ the library](#)

No one really knew how or when it got there. The bust had been sitting on a shelf in the Dixon (Ill.) High School library, collecting dust for at least 20 years, the district's librarian, [Madison Dhennin](#) (right), told the school board February 8. The sculpture, titled "The Poet," depicts the head of a man, and it was carved from marble by Belarusian-born artist Ossip Zadkine in 1942, Dhennin discovered through her research. And it's worth as much as \$50,000....



Dixon (Ill.) Telegraph, Feb. 9; WQAD-TV, Moline, Ill., Feb. 10

[Connecticut State Library to the rescue](#)

There are not many physical remnants of the Somers (Conn.) Congregational Church after a fire on New Year's Day destroyed the 170-year-old building. The congregation is working to rebuild, but when it does, it will have the help of one of the rare items to escape destruction—the original building plans from 1842. Connecticut State Library Reference Librarian Carol Ganz said that after hearing about the fire in the news, she went to see what documents the library had and found handwritten notes relating to its construction....

Hartford (Conn.) Courant, Feb. 12

[Seven misconceptions about how students learn](#)

Valerie Strauss writes: "Many people—educators included—still cling to some of these misconceptions about learning because they base what they think on their own experiences in school, ignoring what 21st-century science and experience are revealing. Here are seven of the biggest myths about learning that, unfortunately, guide the way that many schools are organized in this era of standardized test-based public school reform."...

Washington Post: The Answer Sheet, Feb. 14

[CBC music library could be lost](#)

For the past 32 years, archivist John MacMillan has cared for the



Laurie D. Borman,
Editor and Publisher,
American Libraries:
lborman@ala.org

Jennifer Henderson,
Contributing Researcher

To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:



Doug Lewis:
dglewis@mindspring.com



Katie Bane:
kbane@ala.org

Send feedback:
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Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's music library in Vancouver. Until now, producers and DJs have been able to visit the library's 100,000-item collection to choose tracks to play on the CBC broadcasts that air from coast to coast. In January, MacMillan was informed that he would have to dismantle the entire archive by March 31....

Vancouver (B.C.) Sun, Feb. 14

[Mining the margins of pop culture](#)

Every morning Jim Linderman gets up in his home in Grand Haven, Michigan, grabs a cup of coffee, and sits down at his computer to blog. A former librarian and archivist, Linderman collects, researches, and writes about the marginal, the forgotten, and the not quite seemly in American folk art and popular culture. In his three blogs—[Dull Tool Dim Bulb](#), [Old Time Religion](#), and [Vintage Sleaze](#)—Linderman also discloses an underground history of American popular culture, one oddball tale at a time....

New York Times, Feb. 9



[Library book sale yields novel romance](#)

When septuagenarians Earl Liston and Jan Northrop volunteered to work a book sale at the Baxter County (Ark.) Library's Donald W. Reynolds Library in 2011, they never thought their chance meeting would blossom into a friendship—much less a romance. Now, a year later, the two are planning their wedding. "There isn't any better place to meet someone," Northrop said. "You're meeting the kind of people you want to know."...

Baxter (Ark.) Bulletin, Feb. 14

[Middletown Public Library the scene of Morbid Curiosity](#)

Unexplained noises, chairs moving, and books unexplainedly falling from shelves—they're part of the lore of the Middletown (Pa.) Public Library building. Producers of the A&E Network show *Paranormal Activity* were at the library February 3–4, filming what they hope might be a new 22-episode series that they are calling *Morbid Curiosity*. Head librarian Christine Porter (above) contacted the program to plug the library's possibly paranormal attributes....



Harrisburg (Pa.) Patriot-News, Feb. 11

[British Library starts archive project of video-game websites](#)

Curators at the British Library have begun the process of archiving video-game websites to preserve gaming culture for future generations. The collection is managed by the digital curation and preservation staff at the library and will include walk-throughs, FAQs, maps drawn by gamers, reviews, pictures, and stories of game narratives. Library staff also plan to collect resources that discuss the cultural and societal impact of computer games, for example research on the impact of games on children's development....



The Independent (UK), Feb. 13

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[I want to learn to code, but...](#)

Becky Yoose writes: "You may have seen people posting that they are learning to code with CodeYear. While CodeYear and CodeAcademy are not the first sites to teach programming, CodeYear has seen quite a bit of marketing and notice, especially in the library world. But many find themselves saying or thinking, 'I want to learn to code, but . . . ' Do you fall into any of these categories?"...

ACRL TechConnect, Feb. 13

[Google will pay you to give up your privacy](#)

Matt McGee writes: "Google is quietly taking requests from web users who want to get paid to surf the web using the Chrome browser while sharing data with Google. The program is called Screenwise and there is a [sign-up page](#) explaining that Google wants to create a panel of people to help it 'learn more about how everyday people use the internet.' Panel members must be willing to let Google track their web surfing activity. The timing of this program seems odd, especially considering the [backlash](#) Google has faced over the upcoming [changes](#) to its privacy policy." Panel members will need to install a [black box](#) (above), which Google calls its Screenwise Data Collector....

Search Engine Land, Feb. 8; Marketing Land, Jan. 24, Feb. 1; Ars Technica, Feb. 9



[How to remove bloatware](#)

Joel Santo Domingo writes: "It has probably happened to you. You get your brand-new desktop or laptop, fire it up, and find yourself confronted with a screen full of programs that you didn't install. Welcome to bloatware. This is the stuff that PC makers preinstall, ostensibly for your convenience. These programs take up space and may cause problems with programs you actually want to install in the future. Here's how to get rid of whatever you don't need."...

PC Magazine, Feb. 13



[Visual literacy skills and tactile scholarship](#)

Brian Mathews writes: "Lately I've been hearing a lot about visualization, which will likely become a prominent communications outlet. I will not only read an article but also be able to manipulate the adjoining data. Aspiring librarians should invest in developing visualization and visual literacy skills. Another big theme is 3D printing, which makes knowledge production a literal possibility: You write a paper, give a presentation, and design a 3D model to showcase your concept."...

Chronicle of Higher Education: The Ubiquitous Librarian, Feb. 10



[25 essential keyboard shortcuts](#)

Jill Duffy writes: "This column is all about giving you the tools you need to master 25 essential keyboard shortcuts. Get organized and learn them, and you'll find yourself much more productive. The shortcuts I've picked (for both [Windows](#) and [Mac](#)) operate predominantly at the OS level, although a



few work across many programs, and five are specific to browsers, where computer users tend to spend a lot of time.”...

PC Magazine, Feb. 13

[Go back to the Top](#)

E-Content

[We will measure our loss](#)

Peter Brantley writes: “Last week was a hard one for readers, with [Penguin pulling out](#) of the library market. It’s left a lot of us feeling markedly less charitable about large publishers. From Penguin, and large publishers generally, there has been a striking paucity of engagement with librarians about their larger obligations to our communities. Not permitting libraries to lend ebooks means that some people have less opportunity in their lives than others. That requires a better explanation than being scared about the revenue impact of letting people read for free without having any data to back it up.”...

Publishers Weekly: PWxyz, Feb. 13



[An ebook model that’s better than OverDrive’s](#)

Brian Herzog writes: “A salesman from Library Ideas recently came here to demo the company’s new ebook product, [Freading](#). Ebooks are more popular than ever in my library, and our OverDrive ebook catalog just cannot keep up. Patrons are disappointed that everything they want to read isn’t available for immediate download. But, instead of using the OverDrive model of building your library ebook collection by purchasing one ebook that only one person can use at a time, the Freading model gives immediate access to its entire 15,000+ ebooks, and any number of patrons can download the same ebook at the same time.”...

Swiss Army Librarian, Feb. 8



[OverDrive isn’t the only game in town](#)

Steven Harris writes: “So you want to acquire some ebooks for your library? OverDrive isn’t the only game in town. There is a huge and growing number of ways for libraries to acquire ebooks. The main pathways I see (although the boundaries between them are by no means solid) are aggregators, vendors, and publishers. Here is a list.”...

Collection=Connection, Feb. 9

[How to talk to your patrons about publishers and ebooks](#)

Bobbi Newman writes: “Possible scripts for your conversation with your patrons when they ask why the library does not have an ebook from a publisher who has chosen not to lend to libraries: ‘I completely understand your frustration, unfortunately [insert publisher] has chosen not to allow public libraries to loan their ebooks. If you would like, I can provide you with contact information for [insert publisher].’” Sarah Houghton also has some [ideas](#) on how to raise awareness among patrons....

Librarian by Day, Feb. 9; Librarian in Black, Feb. 9

[BookType lets you self-publish](#)

John Paul Titlow writes: “Books can now be



published by their authors using a growing selection of self-publishing software and websites. For those disappointed in the current selection of self-publishing tools, there's a new option. BookType is a self-hosted, open source, and collaborative authoring tool for ebooks and print books. Think of it kind of like a Wordpress for books."...

Read Write Web, Feb. 15

[The bookstore of last resort](#)

Joseph Esposito writes: "The bookstore of last resort is an online venue where you can purchase any book that has been offered for sale in recent years, even if you make that purchase years from now. The idea came to me as I have been studying [patron-driven acquisitions](#) over the last several months. PDA has implications that don't apply or are of less importance to the traditional way libraries acquire books, and among these implications is a new wrinkle on preservation."...

The Scholarly Kitchen, Oct. 4, 2011, Feb. 13

[Unglue.It](#)

In January, [Unglue.It](#), a website that hopes to "unglue" ebook versions of copyrighted books through crowdfunding, was released in alpha. The site runs crowdfunding campaigns to raise money for specific, already-published books. When the funding goal set by the rights holders is reached, an electronic edition will be issued with a Creative Commons BY-NC-ND license....

AL: Solutions and Services, Feb. 14



[E-journals on the rise in academia](#)

The University of Iowa Libraries are no longer getting the print equivalent of electronic materials, partly because of increased confidence in the longevity of electronic formats. The University of Wisconsin-Madison libraries spend more than 50% of their budget on electronic materials, and the school is part of a group of institutions working with Macmillan in a pilot test of the use of electronic textbooks. Michigan State University libraries spent more than 70% of their entire materials budget on electronic formats....

Daily Iowan (University of Iowa), Feb. 10

[Manage your institutional data](#)

To address the growing need for data management plans, the University of Texas at Austin libraries have begun partnering with the Texas Advanced Computing Center and university IT services to develop an ecosystem through which faculty can manage data related to their research projects. In December 2011, the libraries launched a website to answer basic questions about data management and to alert researchers to such resources as supercomputer-powered servers for hosting petascale data collections and consulting services from knowledgeable digital archivists....

Texas Advanced Computing Center, Jan. 24



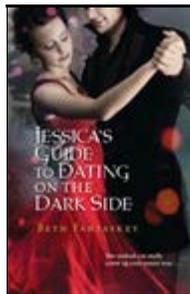
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Books & Reading

[Relationship advice from your favorite YA books](#)

Kate McNair writes: "Ah, Valentine's Day. I keenly remember the sweet pain of anticipation that every Valentine's Day brought. Although my love life was a comedy of errors, I found solace in the romantic endeavors of my favorite characters. And so to celebrate relationships from fairy tale to failure, we bloggers offer up our favorite dating advice garnered from YA books."...

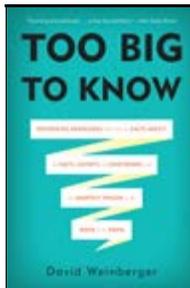
YALSA The Hub, Feb. 14



[Too big to know](#)

Lane Wilkinson writes: "If David Weinberger is to be believed, the internet hasn't just changed how we access information, it has altered the very meaning of knowledge. In a recent [interview](#) in *The Atlantic*, Weinberger claims that 'for the coming generation, knowing looks less like capturing truths in books than engaging in never-settled networks of discussion and argument.' His book *Too Big to Know* has been making the rounds, so I thought I would try to explain Weinberger's argument and what librarians should—and should not—take away from it."...

Sense and Reference, Feb. 9; *The Atlantic*, Feb. 3



[The beauty of the printed book](#)

Alice Rawsthorn writes: "Some things seem to be designed to do their jobs perfectly, and the old-fashioned book is one. Many of the publishers of ebooks also produce printed books, yet so far, the design of ebooks has been disappointing. Most of them look suspiciously as though their publishers have simply shunted their contents from print onto the screen. But some of the newer titles—such as the *The Numberlys* interactive book iPad app (right)—are more promising, largely because their designers have explored the technical and aesthetic possibilities of the new media."...

New York Times, Feb. 12



[Most controversial Judy Blume books](#)

Margaret Bristol writes: "Way before Katniss fought for her life in *The Hunger Games* and Edward met Bella in *Twilight*, there was Judy Blume. With more than 20 titles under her belt, Blume has been a driving force in YA literature since the 1970s, and her books still fly off the shelves. In honor of her 74th birthday February 12, here are five of her groundbreaking books that have made ALA's list of 100 Most Frequently Challenged Books."...

The Huffington Post, Feb. 12



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Actions & Answers

[Use Facebook for readers' advisory](#)

A small staff of librarians led by Kitsap (Wash.) Regional Library Digital Branch Manager Sharon Grant

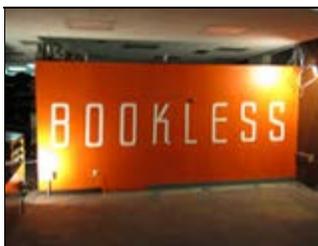


wasn't sure what to expect as 3 p.m. rolled around on January 19. The libraries were closed that day because of snow, but the planned "Facebook Challenge" readers' advisory event was going to happen anyway. By the time the dust settled on the event, a total of 267 people had posted on KRL's Facebook page seeking reading suggestions....

Port Orchard (Wash.) Independent, Feb. 10

[Bookless at Madison Public Library](#)

Macr Gartler writes: "Madison, Wisconsin, recently asked the question: 'What would happen if we cleared all the books out of the Central Library, handed the debris-strewn three-story building over to a bunch of artists, live bands, and DJs, and invited the community to a giant one-day-only party?' The answer was Bookless, on January 28, which drew more than 5,000 people to the send-off event for Madison's now-former downtown library." Check out the videos [here](#) (5:52) and [here](#) (3:20). Paul Everett Nelson has some photos [here](#)....



Boing Boing, Feb. 13; YouTube, Jan. 29–30; Retiring Guy's Digest, Jan. 29

[Public library openings and my problem with negativity](#)

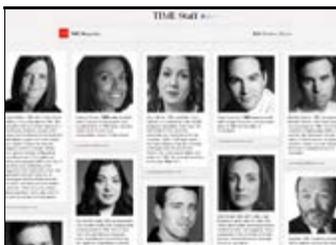
Walt Crawford writes: "On November 25, 2011, I asked, '[How many US public libraries have actually closed?](#)' LISNews, for example, seems to feature any story that suggests a public library might be in danger of closing, or that some source of funding has declined, and sometimes it seems to have a 'we're all gonna die!' feel to it. A consistent push toward negativity damages public libraries because it creates the perception that libraries are doomed anyway—that cities are already shutting them down." Indeed, some library systems are on the rebound: [Bridgewater](#) and [Santa Barbara](#)....

Walt at Random, Nov. 25, 2011; Feb. 14; *Brockton (Mass.) Enterprise*, Feb. 13; *Santa Barbara (Calif.) Daily Sound*, Feb. 14

[11 ways to use Pinterest in your library](#)

Ellyssa Kroski writes: "[Pinterest](#) is a digital pinboard application that started in 2011 but has quickly become one of the top 10 most trafficked social networking websites. Pinterest's inspiration boards have great potential for libraries and other organizations for creating visual displays of resources and services. Here are some ideas on how you can make the most of this popular social network for your library." The second set of ideas is [here](#)....

iLibrarian, Jan. 18, Feb. 10



[Downsizing the reference desk](#)

Deborah Ahlers and Heidi Steiner write: "Built in the early 1990s, the Kreitzberg Library at Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont, had a monstrous reference desk. As years passed, less and less of the 10-by-18-foot desk was used. Recently we installed a significantly smaller, 4-by-8-foot,



transaction-height desk with seating for students (above). We learned many lessons during this process, which involved a significant repurposing of first floor space. This article features some tips and considerations for libraries considering a similar endeavor.”...

College and Research Libraries News 73 (Feb.): 70–73

[Five tips for unplugging while staying connected](#)

Alexandra Samuel writes: “Going offline is no longer a realistic option. The offline world is now utterly defined by networks, too. What we can do is approach our time online with the same kind of intention and integrity we bring to our best offline interactions. The new unplugging doesn’t require you to quit Facebook but to pay careful attention to the challenging qualities of online interaction, and find a way to switch them off.” Here are five ways to find the analog in the digital....

The Atlantic, Feb. 14

[24 places to find bulletin board display ideas](#)

Julie Greller writes: “I have worked as a media specialist in elementary, middle, and high schools. The most creative teachers by far are those in the elementary schools. Their bulletin boards are always eye-catching. They are constantly changing the displays and are never short on ideas. In gathering this list of resources for bulletin board ideas, I found that most of the lists are for K–6 teachers.”...



A Media Specialist's Guide to the Internet, Feb. 8

[What is the future for federal librarians?](#)

Butch Lazorchak writes: “The Position Classification Standard for Librarian Series GS-1410 ([PDF file](#)) describes what it means to be a librarian in the federal service. Of course, the description for librarians hasn’t been updated since 1994, and it’s hard to imagine a profession that’s changed more in that time. It’s long past time to reconsider this position description. The movement to reevaluate the qualifications of information professionals is shared by, among others, the [Archivist of the United States](#).”...

The Signal: Digital Preservation, Feb. 15; *AOTUS: Collector in Chief*, Jan. 31

[You’re not really a librarian](#)

Sara Kelley-Mudie writes: “The other day I got into an argument with a student about whether or not I was really a librarian. His position was that I wasn’t a librarian—I was actually a teacher who happened to have an office in the library. I was thinking about the discussion I had with him, and with other students, in light of one of the phrases I so often hear when it comes to changing the perception/image of school librarians: ‘How do we *make* them see that librarians [fill in the blank]?’” More librarian musings [here](#)....

K-M the Librarian, Feb. 6, 13

[Not a librarian?](#)

Nicole Fonsh writes: “When I left my previous job in finance and decided to get my MLS, I had dreams of leaving the corporate and finance worlds for a future role of a reference librarian at an urban public library. Fast-forward to mid-2011. And I was asking myself how I had gotten here. How was I working for a finance firm in Boston? As you may have figured out, I just started a new position. And the kicker? I am still not a librarian. At least not by title.”...

Living the Dream, Feb. 15

[How to identify and address burnout](#)

Adam Dachis writes: "Most demanding careers practically guarantee stress, but if you're feeling completely exhausted, unable to concentrate, or as though you're neglecting your own well-being, you may be suffering from burnout. It's a very real condition that's easy to ignore, but you can detect and fix the problem if you know what to do. Here's how."...

Lifehacker, Feb. 13



[Why you should register for a conference ASAP](#)

Joanna June writes: "Here we are in the second month of the semester, and if you are new to your LIS program, you're probably just trying to get your feet under you. Old hands are reacclimating to the familiar not-enough-hours-in-the-day [feeling](#), and we are all looking at due dates, reading lists, and task lists with dread. Believe me, though, the effort of finding a good conference and then attending is going to save you tons of time, energy, and even money in the long run."...

Hack Library School, Feb. 8, 2010



[Monetizing your research staff](#)

A for-profit research service at the University of Minnesota tracks down and delivers information and documents to law firms, medical companies, financial services, pharmaceutical makers, publishers, and others—all of whom pay for the access. The service, [InfoNOW](#), has a small staff of information professionals who have access to all University of Minnesota librarians and libraries. InfoNOW operates on a hourly charge of \$60, with upcharges for rush work. Since opening in 2009, the service has generated a healthy margin for the libraries....

Business @ the U of M, Feb. 7

[Calculating scholarly journal value](#)

The California Digital Library's Collection Development and Management: Licensed Resources program has developed a value-based strategy that is now used as a major part of the University of California's journal collection-planning process. The strategy involves using objective metrics to calculate the value of scholarly journals and identify titles that make a greater or lesser contribution to the university's mission of teaching, research, and public service....

California Digital Library, Feb. 13

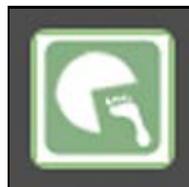
[Are you prepared to research without the SSDI?](#)

Randy Seaver writes: "We know that we may lose access to the [Social Security Death Index](#) in the coming months, and the end of it may come suddenly. Or not. It's up to Congress and the president, and perhaps they will be influenced by petitions, letters, and phone calls from constituents. I think it's worthwhile to plan ahead for that eventuality. Here are my upcoming SSDI 'mining' plans."...

Genea-Musings, Feb. 13; Records Preservation and Access Committee, Feb. 7

[Librarian Avengers film rating system](#)

Erica Firment writes: "Dear film industry: Your metadata is not granular enough. The MPAA ratings of G, PG, PG-13, and R do not fulfill my needs. I need information relevant to my particular disinterests. I need to know ahead of time if a movie contains



elements that I consider unacceptable. I'm not talking about sex, drugs, or violence. I need to know if a movie contains cannibalism, synthesizers, or Jim Carrey. Here is the film rating system we really need."...

Librarian Avengers, Feb. 12

[This is what a librarian looks like](#)

Bobbi Newman and Erin Downey Howerton have set up a Tumblr blog, [This Is What a Librarian Looks Like](#), where library staffers can post photos that go against the librarian stereotype. As Newman says, this is "a site to go beyond the bun and challenge old, outdated librarian stereotypes with photos of real librarians in their real lives doing real stuff." So find a picture that you think best represents you to the world and [submit it](#)....



Librarian By Day, Feb. 13

[Raymond James Financial ad features librarian longevity](#)

A 2010 TV ad campaign by financial services firm Raymond James Financial includes a [spot](#) (1:01) titled "The Woman Who Lived Longer Than Any Person Who Has Ever Lived." It tells the story of fastidious librarian Emily Skinner who, at the age of 187, still enjoys life to the fullest thanks to careful planning with her Raymond James financial advisor....



Martin|Williams Advertising, Oct. 16, 2010; YouTube, Oct. 20, 2010

[Go back to the Top](#)

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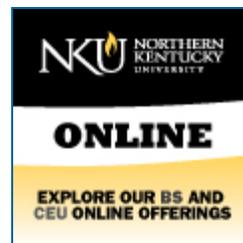
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[Great Libraries of the World](#) | [Digital Library of the Week](#) | [Calendar](#)

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | February 22, 2012



Browse **NEW** titles added to
Emerald's eBook Series Collections



american libraries
BUYERS GUIDE

American Libraries Online

[Book traffickers to smuggle literature into Tucson](#)

Educators in the Houston metro area are readying a "book trafficker" caravan that will travel March 12–18 from Houston to Tucson to donate books about the Mexican-American experience to four volunteer libraries. The donations are meant to counter the January removal of at least seven titles from Tucson Unified School District classrooms, where they had been taught as part of the district's now-outlawed Mexican-American Studies program. Watch the [video](#) (1:24) on [Librotraficante](#)....

American Libraries news, Feb. 22; YouTube, Jan. 17



[Newsmaker: Jamal Joseph](#)

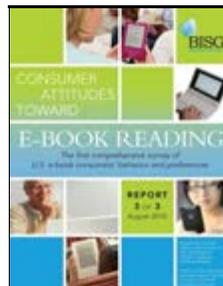
In 1970, Jamal Joseph (right) exhorted students at Columbia University to burn their campus to the ground. Today, he is an associate professor at Columbia's School of the Arts film division in New York City. His personal odyssey—from the streets of Harlem to Rikers Island, Leavenworth penitentiary, and the halls of Columbia—is detailed in *Panther Baby: A Life of Rebellion and Reinvention* (Algonquin, 2012). He sat down with *American Libraries* Associate Editor Pamela Goodes to discuss his book and about growing up with the Black Panthers. Watch the [full interview](#) (20:35)....

American Libraries column, Mar./Apr.; AL Focus, Jan. 30



[Tools of Change Conference, day 2](#)

Kate Sheehan writes: "Data, data, data. It seemed as though everything I heard at the Tools of Change for Publishing Conference February 15 mentioned data in one way or another. Len Vlahos, executive director of the Book Industry Study Group, and Kelly Gallagher, vice president of Bowker, gave a talk chock-full of charts, graphs, and numbers from [their work](#) (right) studying the ebook market. And these



[Chris Colfer](#) is one of the stars on the award-winning TV show *Glee*. He recently completed his first children's book, *The Land of Stories*, and will be part of the Auditorium Speaker Series at [ALA Annual Conference](#), June 21–26.

were some important numbers....

AL: Perpetual Beta, Feb. 15

[Will's World: The coolness factor](#)

Will Manley writes: "Age among librarians used to be fairly easy to determine, but that's no longer true in our era of nips, tucks, Botox, and hair coloring. You can't just come out and ask someone his or her age. My suggestion is that if you're really curious, for whatever reason, about how old a librarian is, the safest and most effective approach is to start talking about obsolete library resources."...

American Libraries column, Mar./Apr.



[Original University of Pittsburgh charters on display](#)

Two original state charters will be on display from February 27 at the University of Pittsburgh's Hillman Library, part of the school's 225th anniversary commemoration. One charter (right), dated February 28, 1787, led to the establishment of the university's progenitor, the Pittsburgh Academy, in a small log house on the edge of the American frontier....

AL Focus, Feb. 22



[Go back to the Top](#)

Make your mark and vote in the 2012 ALA Election For more info, click here. ALA American Library Association

ALA News

[Make your mark: Vote in the 2012 election](#)

Polls will open at 9 a.m. Central time on March 19 for the ALA annual election. Gina J. Millsap and Barbara K. Stripling are the candidates for the 2013–2014 presidency. Results will be released on May 4....

Public Information Office, Feb. 21

[New ALA "News Know-how" campaign](#)

ALA unveiled a new campaign February 21 to engage librarians, journalists, news ethicists, and students across the country in a news literacy education project. The campaign, "News Know-how," is



Find out why librarians love *Booklist*. Check out the results of the [I ♥ Booklist contest](#) on Facebook. The winner was Marya Kurwa (above) of the [Richmond \(Calif.\) Public Library's](#) Westside branch. **NEW! From *Booklist*.**

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Great Libraries of the World



[Biblioteca](#)

supported by the Open Society Foundations. The two-year, \$722,000 project seeks to create partnerships and collaborations for a nonpartisan, critical analysis of news and information. High school students, with public libraries as their newsroom, will learn information literacy principles to help them develop critical thinking skills and analyze news coverage in all of its formats....

Office for Intellectual Freedom, Feb. 21

[David Weinberger to speak at Annual Conference](#)

Celebrated internet philosopher and coauthor of *The Cluetrain Manifesto* David Weinberger (right) is the newest addition to the high-profile Auditorium Speaker Series at 2012 ALA Annual Conference on June 23. Weinberger's most recent book, *Too Big to Know*, shakes the foundations of our concept of knowledge—from the role of facts to the value of books and the authority of experts—and provides a compelling vision of the future of knowledge in a connected world....

Conference Services, Feb. 21



[Three new Executive Board members](#)

Robert (Rob) Banks, Alexia I. Hudson, and John A. Moorman have been elected to serve on the ALA Executive Board. They were chosen by ALA Council in a vote taken at the 2012 ALA Midwinter Meeting, January 20–24 in Dallas. Banks, Hudson, and Moorman will each serve three-year terms beginning in July 2012 and concluding in June 2015....

Office of ALA Governance, Feb. 21

[Free materials for National Bookmobile Day](#)

You can now [download](#) free materials—publicity templates, logos, sticker templates, flyers, and bookmarks—for National Bookmobile Day 2012. These customizable resources will help libraries across the country prepare for the third annual celebration of National Bookmobile Day on April 11....

Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, Feb. 17



[Astro4Girls and Their Families](#)

The ALA Public Programs Office is partnering with NASA-funded astrophysics education and public outreach programs to offer nine public libraries across the country the opportunity to present "[Astro4Girls and Their Families](#)" in March during National Women's History Month. The program is designed to provide participants with a special opportunity to showcase women's success, especially in science....

Public Programs Office, Feb. 17



[JCLC registration opens March 1](#)

Kansas City, Missouri, will play host to the [Joint Conference of Librarians of Color](#), September 19–23. Housing and registration will open March 1. Emmy Award-winner Sonia Manzano will welcome attendees at the opening keynote. There will be numerous opportunities to network and socialize, including an opening reception at the beautiful Kansas City Public Library's central branch....



[Ambrosiana](#), Milan, Italy. Named after St. Ambrose, bishop and patron saint of Milan, the library was established in 1609 by Cardinal Federico Borromeo, who wanted it to be a center for Catholic scholarship open to the public. His agents scoured Europe looking for books, acquiring the manuscripts of the Benedictine [Bobbio Abbey](#) and the library of scholar [Gian Vincenzo Pinelli](#) of Padua, whose large collection of ancient Greek manuscripts included a 5th-century illuminated copy of Homer's *Iliad*. Other treasures are a copy of Virgil's *Aeneid* with marginalia by Petrarch, the 12-volume Codex Atlanticus of Leonardo da Vinci, a 7th-century Latin list of books of the New Testament (the Muratorian fragment), an original copy of Luca Pacioli's treatise *De divina proportione*, and the earliest known copy of Sibawayh's Arabic grammar. The building and some of its holdings were damaged during World War II, but it was restored in 1952 and 1990–1997.



[Biblioteca Angelica](#), Rome, Italy. Established in 1604 by Bishop Angelo Rocca adjacent to the

Office for Diversity, Feb. 21

[How to host public issues forums](#)

[Programming Librarian](#) and the ALA Center for Civic Life will offer a free, four-part series of webinars for libraries called "The Conversation Continues Here: Hosting Public Issues Forums @ your library," February 28–May 22. This series is suitable for any librarians who are interested in learning more about deliberative forums and how to implement programs in the library that encourage public debate on important issues of common concern....

Public Programs Office, Feb. 21

[Ask the Advocate webinar](#)

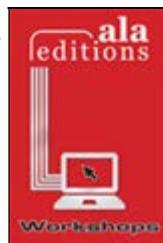
"Ask the Advocate: Find What You Need to Make the Case" is a free webinar taking place 1–2 p.m. Central time on February 29. Attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions on advocacy issues at their library, as well as learn what resources are available to help make the case for libraries. [Registration](#) is mandatory....

Office for Library Advocacy, Feb. 21

[Earth Week workshop shows how to green your library](#)

A new 90-minute workshop called "[Greening Your Library: Save Money and the Environment](#)" with Kathryn Miller will take place April 18. Miller, author of *Public Libraries Going Green*, will discuss practical ideas for how to become green, teach green, and lead green. She will introduce environmentally friendly, money-saving initiatives that fit your existing building and services. Ideas for hands-on activities—such as rain barrels and butterfly gardens—will help you raise awareness and get your community involved....

ALA Editions, Feb. 21



[Provide great customer service](#)

Trainer and coach Laurie Brown will show you how to create a welcoming, friendly experience for patrons, students, and other library users in a new April 19 workshop called "[How to Deliver Great Library Customer Service](#)." In addition to learning how to fulfill the expectations of the people who use your library, you will also get pointers on listening and communications skills to help your conversations with angry, chatty, or overly demanding patrons as gracefully as possible....

ALA Editions, Feb. 21

[New eCourse on WebDewey and DDC](#)

In a new four-week facilitated eCourse called "[Understanding and Applying Dewey Decimal Classification](#)," expert cataloging instructor Cheryl Tarsala (right) will show how to gain a comprehensive grounding in Dewey Decimal Classification principles and practice. The eCourse will begin April 2 and 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....

ALA Editions, Feb. 21



[A special report on privatizing libraries](#)

[Privatizing Libraries](#), a timely special report published by ALA Editions, provides a succinct but

Basilica di Sant'Agostino, this library owns collections related to the works of St. Augustine of Hippo and the history of the Reformation and Counter-Reformation. Since 1940, the library has housed the archives of the literary Academy of Arcadia.

This AL Direct feature showcases 250 libraries around the world that are notable for their exquisite architecture, historic collections, and innovative services. If you find yourself on vacation near one of them, be sure to stop by for a visit. The entire list will be available in [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart, which is scheduled for publication in 2013 by ALA Editions.



Career Leads from
JobLIST

[Circuit Librarian](#), US Courts, Fifth Circuit, New Orleans. The Circuit Librarian is responsible for the administration of the library program and related services for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Responsibilities

comprehensive overview of the “privatization” of public libraries. Authors Jane Jerrard, Nancy Bolt, and Karen Strege provide background on the trend of local and state governments to privatize public services and assets, and then examine the history of public library privatization up to the recently introduced California legislation to restrict cities from privatizing library services....

ALA Editions, Feb. 21



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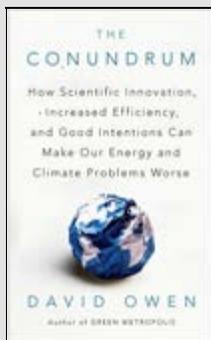
**Sometimes you feel like print. Sometimes online.
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Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Technology

Owen, David. *The Conundrum: How Scientific Innovation, Increased Efficiency, and Good Intentions Can Make Our Energy and Climate Problems Worse*. Feb. 2012. 272p. Riverhead, paperback (978-1-594-48561-9).

After *Green Metropolis* (2009), a revelatory exposition of why urban life is “green,” Owen—brisk, funny, elucidating, and blunt—illuminates a wide spectrum of environmental misperceptions in this even more paradox-laden inquiry. An enthusiastic wrangler of facts, Owen presents disconcerting statistics. Take the BP Gulf oil spill: “The average flow rate from the BP wellhead was 55,000 barrels a day. . . . Americans use that much every four minutes.” He calls us out on our tendency to delude ourselves about easy solutions to complicated problems and declares that our failure to do what needs to be done to reduce fossil-fuel consumption is the result of reluctance, not ignorance....



Top 10 books on the environment

Donna Seaman writes: “Public awareness of environmental concerns waxes and wanes, but science and nature writers remained on the case over the last 12 months, reporting on catastrophes overt and slow-brewing as well as efforts to do right by nature and ourselves.”...



Booklist adds new blog. Shelf Renewal

The blog [Shelf Renewal](#), dedicated to readers’ advisory focusing on backlist titles, has joined the *Booklist family of blogs*. The heart of the blog is readalike suggestions—



include the supervision of 22 employees, long-range strategic planning, policy development and implementation, budget oversight, human resource management, library automation, acquisition of legal subscriptions and publications, development and delivery of electronic tools and resources, planning and managing of library space and facilities, and overseeing the provision of legal research in all information formats and the training of library users in all research sources....

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Digital Library of the Week



The [Burgert Brothers Photographic Collection](#) presents a pictorial record of the commercial, residential, and social growth of Tampa Bay and Florida’s west coast from the late

matching old books to new releases, finding older titles relevant to what's happening in the news and in pop culture today. The blog has two regularly scheduled features: Dusty Books—those books that someone, somewhere, will love, if they only knew they were still on your shelves—and Web Crush of the Week, showcasing a different website that you must know about if you want to be a great readers' advisory librarian....

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

[Go back to the Top](#)

Division News

[Applications now being accepted for ACRL tracks](#)

Apply for ACRL's [Immersion '12](#) Program Assessment and Intentional Teacher Tracks. The tracks will be offered simultaneously November 14–18 in Nashville, Tennessee. Applications for both tracks are being accepted through May 7....

ACRL, Feb. 21

[Registration open for RBMS preconference](#)

Registration for the 53rd Annual Rare Books and Manuscripts Section Preconference is now open. The preconference, "Futures!," will be held June 19–22, in San Diego, California. Register by May 18 and save \$50 off the full registration fee. Registration materials are available on the RBMS [website](#). Preconference plenary sessions will focus on three components of special collections and archives work: use, object, and discovery....

ACRL, Feb. 21

[AASL updates position statement on flexible scheduling](#)

AASL has released an updated [position statement](#) on flexible scheduling. The statement stresses the role of the school library program as a fully integrated part of the educational program so that students, teachers, and school librarians become partners in learning. To be fully integrated, classes need to be flexibly scheduled into the library on an as-needed basis to facilitate research, training, and use of technology....

AASL, Feb. 21

[Participate in the PLDS survey](#)

Make sure your library is counted. Participate in the *PLDS Statistical Report* survey. Visit the [survey site](#) to participate. You will need your library's individual PLDS ID number and password. Completed surveys are due by March 30....

PLA Blog, Feb. 15

[Explore Philadelphia during PLA 2012](#)

Attendees at the [PLA 2012 Conference](#), March 13–17, Philadelphia, should plan on building some time for exploration into their schedules. More than 10 tours will take participants around Philadelphia—to historic landmarks, haunted corners, urban gems, and libraries—as well as into the surrounding, beautiful

1800s to the early 1960s. Nearly 15,000 images in this collection chronicle the history of the Tampa Bay area as it faced wars, natural disasters, and economic booms and busts. The images offer a view of a community at work, from cigar factories, sponge docks, and strawberry fields to grocery stores, service stations, and bank lobbies. Many of the photographs also depict a community at leisure, enjoying a day at the beach, participating in local celebrations, attending the Florida State Fair, or playing games such as golf, tennis, shuffleboard, or checkers.

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

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"A librarian should be as unwilling to allow an inquirer to leave the library with his question unanswered as a shop-keeper is to have a customer go out of his store without making a purchase."

—Samuel Swett Green, ["Personal Relations Between Librarians and Readers."](#) *Library Journal* 1, no. 1 (Sept. 1876): 74–81.



country. [Click here](#) for complete details and pricing information....

PLA, Feb. 21

[Winners chosen in PLA contests](#)

Two winners have been chosen in PLA's recent "Win a Trip to PLA 2012" [contests](#). They will receive free registration to the [PLA 2012 Conference](#) in Philadelphia, four nights' stay at a hotel, and up to \$500 reimbursement for travel to and from the conference. Amy Mikel, a student at the University of Washington Information School, was selected from more than 60 participants for her essay contest entry; and Catherine Pruett, youth services librarian at the Marion County (S.C.) Library, won for her [video contest entry](#)....

PLA, Feb. 21

[Winter issue of YALSA's research journal](#)

The Winter 2012 issue of YALSA's *Journal of Research on Libraries and Young Adults* is now [available](#). This issue features reflections on young adult librarianship and research from Anthony Bernier, Carol Kuhlthau, and Virginia Walter....

YALSA, Feb. 17

[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[A bear in a tutu: My first ALA award committee](#)

Emily Tichenor writes: "It all ended with a bear in a pink tutu sitting on my keyboard. I arrived in my office weary and weighed down with books on January 24, still in recovery mode from my trip to ALA Midwinter where I had participated in my first-ever ALA award committee. I opened a package on my desk and there she was: Lucille Beatrice Bear (above), star of the 2012 Carnegie Medal-winning film *Children Make Terrible Pets*. It was the perfect end to an incredible experience."...

ALSC Blog, Feb. 21



[Patty Wong receives 2012 Equality Award](#)

Patricia (Patty) M.Y. Wong (right), county librarian and chief archivist of the Yolo County (Calif.) Library, is the 2012 recipient of the ALA Equality Award. The annual award is given to an individual or group for outstanding contributions toward promoting equality in the library profession. The award jury noted Wong's outstanding efforts in teaching and mentoring students....

Office of ALA Governance, Feb. 21



[John F. Helmer wins 2012 Hugh Atkinson](#)

"I wrote all my books at a library. Lately, it's been the New York Society Library. . . . I have friends who are the librarians there, and I can come out of the stacks and tell them how poorly it's doing. They make me laugh and send me back in."

—Joe Drape, author of *Our Boys: A Perfect Season with the Smith Center Redmen*, speaking at the [Towanda \(Kans.\) Public Library](#). Feb. 8.

@ [More quotes...](#)

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[Black History Month: Tuskegee Airmen and Red Tail](#)



[Tax tips @ your library](#)

[Did You Know? History of the Academy Awards](#)

[Connect with your kids: License to Drive](#)

[How to Get a Great Job: Writing and Formatting Your Resume](#)

[Helen Schulman: 'I just remember feeling like I had fallen into heaven.'](#)

Award

John F. Helmer (right), executive director of the Orbis Cascade Alliance, has been named the 2012 winner of the Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award. The award, administered by four ALA divisions, recognizes an academic librarian who has made significant contributions in the area of library automation or management. The award cited Helmer as an effective leader and champion of new ideas and initiatives in academic libraries....

ACRL, Feb. 21



Women and Gender Studies Section Award announced

Kayo Denda, Alicia Graham, Rhonda Marker, and Li Sun of Rutgers University Libraries, and Kirsten Canfield and Lucy Vidal of the Center for Women's Global Leadership in the School of Arts and Sciences at Rutgers University are the winners of the 2012 ACRL Women and Gender Studies Section Award for Significant Achievement in Women's Studies Librarianship. The WGSS Award honors a significant or one-time contribution to women's studies librarianship....

ACRL, Feb. 21



2012 Banks/Harris Preservation Award

Julie Allen Page (right), co-coordinator of the California Preservation Program and the Western States and Territories Preservation Assistance Service, has won the 2012 Paul Banks and Carolyn Harris Preservation Award, given annually by the ALCTS Preservation and Reformatting Section. Page has been an advocate for preservation activities since 1989, during which time she contributed to the development of a preservation program that spanned the entire 10-campus University of California system....

ALCTS, Feb. 21



Jane Greenberg selected for Margaret Mann Citation

Jane Greenberg (right) is the recipient of the 2012 Margaret Mann Citation presented by the ALCTS Cataloging and Metadata Management Section. Greenberg is a highly sought-after author whose works include *Knitting the Semantic Web* and a special issue of the *Journal of Library Metadata*. In recent years, she has written on such diverse topics as automatic metadata creation, metadata best practices, ontology research, the Semantic Web, data repositories, and thesauri. The Mann Citation recognizes outstanding professional achievement in cataloging or classification....

ALCTS, Feb. 21



Leadership in Library Acquisitions Award

The ALCTS Acquisitions Section has selected Lisa German (right), associate dean for collections, information, and access services at Pennsylvania State University Libraries, to receive its 2012 Harrassowitz Leadership in Library Acquisitions Award. The award is given to a librarian in recognition of outstanding contributions in the field of acquisitions and includes a \$1,500 monetary award....



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Calendar

Feb. 28:
[Libraries for Sustainability Webinar: Call to Action](#), ALA Task Force On the Environment, 2–3 p.m. Eastern time.

Mar. 1–3:
[Marco Institute for Medieval and Renaissance Studies](#), 10th Annual symposium, Hodges Library Auditorium, University of Tennessee, Knoxville. "Grounding the Book: Readers, Writers, and Places in the Pre-Modern World."

Mar. 9–11:
[Out of the Attic and into the Stacks: Feminism in LIS](#), unconference sponsored by the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee SIS, Hilton Milwaukee River.

Mar. 12–13:
[Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition Open Access Meeting](#), Kansas City Intercontinental Hotel,

ALCTS, Feb. 17

2012 Best of LRTS Award

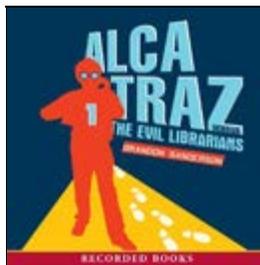
Erin Stalberg, director of discovery and access at the Mount Holyoke College Library, and Christopher Cronin, director of metadata and cataloging services at the University of Chicago Library, have been awarded the 2012 Edward Swanson Memorial Best of *LRTS* Award for their article "Assessing the Cost and Value of Bibliographic Control," *Library Resources and Technical Services* 55, no. 3 (2011): 124–137. The award is given each year to the authors of the best paper published in *LRTS*....



ALCTS, Feb. 17

2012 Notable Children's Recordings

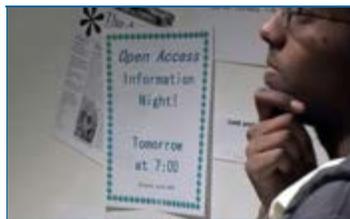
ALSC has selected its 2012 list of Notable Children's Recordings. The list includes recordings for children 14 years of age and younger that are of especially commendable quality; demonstrate respect for young people's intelligence and imagination; exhibit venturesome creativity; and reflect and encourage the interests of children and young adolescents in exemplary ways. The [complete list](#) with annotations can be found on the ALSC website....



ALSC, Feb. 21

Sparky Awards Peoples' Choice Prize

A team led by Bryan Killian, a junior biological sciences student at the University of Illinois at Chicago, has won the 2011 Sparky Awards Peoples' Choice prize for the short film, *Open Access*. The [video](#) (1:47) was selected in an open online vote held earlier this year. The Sparky Awards were created by the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition and have been widely adopted by campuses across the US....



SPARC, Feb. 21; YouTube, Mar. 25, 2011

Hill Harper receives Sankofa Freedom Award

Award-winning actor and author Hill Harper is the 2012 recipient of the \$7,000 Sankofa Freedom Award, presented by Tulsa City–County (Okla.) Library's African American Resource Center and the Tulsa Library Trust. The presentation was made February 11 at the Rudisill Regional branch. The awarded is presented every other year during Black History Month to a nationally acclaimed individual who has dedicated his or her life to educating and improving the greater African-American community....

*Tulsa (Okla.) World*, Feb. 12

The Descendants wins USC Scriptor Award

Author Kaui Hart Hemmings and screenwriters Alexander Payne, Nat Faxon, and Jim Rash won the 24th

Missouri.

Mar. 14–16: **Information Fluency Conference**

University of Central Florida, Orlando. "Information Fluency and the Digital Divides."

Mar. 22–23: **7th International Conference on Information Warfare and Security**

Center for Information Assurance and Cybersecurity, University of Washington, Seattle.

Mar. 23–24: **Southern Association for Information Systems**

Annual Conference, Atlanta.

Apr. 2–4: **Electronic Resources and Libraries**

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

Apr. 9–11: **Association of Research Libraries**

Workshop, Florida Center for Library Automation, Gainesville. "Advanced XML: Further Adventures with XSLT."

Apr. 12–13: **Western New York Library Resources Council**

Revved Up for Reference 2 Conference, Ithaca, New York. "The Road Ahead."

Apr. 12–13: **Orphan Works Symposium**

University of California at Berkeley Center for



annual University of Southern California Libraries Scriptor Award for their creative contributions to *The Descendants*.

Selection committee cochair Naomi Foner announced the winners at the black-tie ceremony on February 18. The Scriptor gala, presented by the Friends of the USC Libraries, honors each year's best cinematic adaptation of the written word....

USC Libraries Libwire, Feb. 18

[2012 Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature](#)

The Jewish Book Council announced Gal Beckerman's *When They Come for Us We'll Be Gone: The Epic Struggle to Save Soviet Jewry* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2010) as the winner of its 2012 Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature. The prize recognizes the important role of emerging writers in examining the Jewish experience. The award of \$100,000 honors a specific work as well as the author's potential to make significant contributions to Jewish literature....

Jewish Book Council, Feb. 15



[UK kids vote A Monster Calls best book of 2012](#)

Patrick Ness has won the Red House Children's Book Award 2012 for his novel *A Monster Calls*, which tells the story of a boy whose mother has cancer. The book was the overall winner, as well as the winner in the Older Readers category. The award, administered by the Federation of Children's Book Groups, is the only national book award in Britain voted for entirely by children. This year more than 80,000 votes were cast....

The Guardian (UK), Feb. 18



[Go back to the Top](#)

Seen Online

[Friends turn old books into purses](#)

Once a week the women come to the Willow Glen branch of the San Jose (Calif.) Public Library for a book club meeting. But they are there to deconstruct discarded editions of *Reader's Digest* Condensed Books and remake them into chic handbags, with colorful linings and beaded handles. All active members of the Friends of the Willow Glen Library, the women donate their time and efforts to raising money for the branch....

San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News, Feb. 15

[Collector pleads guilty to multiple thefts](#)

Self-educated presidential historian and collector of inauguration memorabilia Barry Landau (right) [pleaded guilty](#) in federal court February 7 to stealing thousands of historical documents from the libraries of the

Law and Technology, Claremont Hotel, Berkeley. "Orphan Works and Mass Digitization: Obstacles and Opportunities."

Apr. 14: [Theorizing the Web Conference.](#)

University of Maryland, College Park.

Apr. 16–18: [International Conference on Information Technology: New Generations.](#)

Flamingo Las Vegas, Nevada.

Apr. 26–27: [Colorado Interlibrary Loan Conference.](#)

Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Lory Student Center.

May 2–4: [Loleta Fyan Small and Rural Libraries Conference.](#)

Grand Traverse Resort and Spa, Traverse City, Michigan. "Connect, Collaborate, Create."

May 3–5: [LOEX 2012 Conference.](#)

Renaissance Hotel, Columbus, Ohio.

July 13–15: [University of Virginia Scholarly Communication Institute.](#)

Charlottesville. "New-Model Scholarly Communication: Road Map for Change."



Maryland Historical Society, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Connecticut Historical Society, University of Vermont, New-York Historical Society, and the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library. According to the plea agreement ([PDF file](#)), Landau and his Canadian accomplice Jason Savedoff researched their targets, compiling lists of the most valuable documents in the collections....

The History Blog, Feb. 10; *Baltimore Sun*, Feb. 7

[Library can't recoup money stolen by hackers](#)

At least \$37,500 that was stolen during a computer hacking may have ended up in the Czech Republic, James Dunivan, chairman of the Craighead County Jonesboro (Ark.) Public Library's trustees, said February 16. A hacker gained access to the library's direct deposit account, using the names of six people to move the money. Library Director Phyllis Burkett said the library will eat its loss by having a reduction in carryover funds....

WHBQ-TV, Memphis, Tenn., Feb. 17

[Yonkers library staffer admits stealing money](#)

A former Yonkers (N.Y.) Public Library worker agreed February 16 to serve one to three years in state prison for stealing \$163,582 from the library over seven years. Margo Reed pleaded guilty in Westchester County court to second-degree grand larceny and filing a false tax return, both felonies. The plea satisfied an 18-count indictment that included other fraud charges....

White Plains (N.Y.) Journal News, Feb. 16

[Occupiers leave Harvard's Lamont Library](#)

Echoing the spirit of solidarity, about 20 members of the Occupy Harvard movement exited Lamont Library together as a group at 10 p.m. on February 17. They had occupied Lamont since February 12 to protest planned staff reductions in Harvard libraries. Protesters said the library workers were "overwhelmingly supportive" of the group's effort, but they encountered some bumps along the way....

Harvard Crimson, Feb. 20

[Valuable Western collection is in between homes](#)

Jeffrey Lee and his wife, Ann Martin, who met on the job as employees of the Tattered Cover Book Store, amassed a collection of 30,000 books on the West over a span of 23 years. Called the [Rocky Mountain Land Library](#),



the collection could soon be homeless because the house they are renting in Denver will be sold. But Lee is close to signing a 99-year lease for a residential land-study center two hours from Denver and Colorado Springs where the library could be home to workshops, classes, conferences, field work, heritage tourism, and more than 20,000 of Lee and Martin's books. A March 8 deadline looms....

Denver Post, Feb. 20

[UK library advocates hit a stone wall](#)

Campaigns to save London libraries were dealt a severe blow after a recent ruling from UK Culture Secretary Jeremy Hunt. It came in a

Sept. 19–21:
[Cornell University Institute for Computer Policy and Law](#), Conference, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. "Internet Culture and the Academy."

@ [More...](#)

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American Libraries Direct



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



Beverly Goldberg,
Senior Editor:
bgoldberg@ala.org



Greg Landgraf,
Associate Editor:
glandgraf@ala.org



Sanhita SinhaRoy,
Associate Editor:
ssinharoy@ala.org

letter to protesters in Brent in which he dismissed their claim that he was required to intervene on libraries about to be closed as "academic." Annie Mauger, chief executive of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals, [called for](#) the culture secretary to set out a "framework for what library services should be delivering."...

London Evening Standard, Feb. 21; *Huffington Post*, Feb. 21

[Toronto Borges letter was a prank](#)

The librarian who claimed to find a 1978 greeting card belonging to famed Argentinean author Jorge Luis Borges in the Agincourt branch of the Toronto Public Library has revealed that his "unbelievable discovery" was a hoax. Louis Choquette wrote February 15 on the [branch's blog](#) that he had found a greeting card bearing Borges's signature in an old copy of Plato's *Republic* in the library. In a February 17 update, he wrote that "while not a true account, [it] is a very good story."...

Toronto Star, Feb. 18; Agincourt District Libraries Blog, Feb. 15



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Web tracking: Is this a big deal?](#)

Dan Tynan writes: "Web tracking companies say anonymous tracking is harmless. What's the real story? Here are two scenarios where online tracking can come back to bite you. The harm from having your movements tracked across the web depends in part on how anonymous this data really is. For example, the [Ghostery](#) folks put together a clever [Periodic Table of the Most Common 100 Web Trackers](#), using data from its GhostRank surveys."...

PC World, Feb. 19



[10 steps to smartphone privacy](#)

Eric Zeman writes: "Your smartphone is simultaneously your best friend and your worst enemy. If it falls into the wrong hands or even if it *doesn't* fall into the wrong hands, a smartphone can expose your contacts, location history, and banking data. This means all smartphone owners need to be vigilant in order to protect themselves. Here are some essential tips to help keep your vital data under control."...

Information Week, Feb. 18

[The best mobile hotspots](#)

Alex Colon writes: "Looking to get online anytime, anywhere? Mobile hotspots are a great one-size-fits-all solution because they let you connect laptops, tablets, or any other Wi-Fi-enabled devices to the mobile network of your choice. Depending on your hotspot, plan, and usage, nationwide connectivity can start at \$34.99 per month, albeit for limited use. But you could pay well over \$100 if you do lots of downloading or streaming. Here is our roundup of the best mobile hotspots on the market today."...



Laurie D. Borman,
Editor and Publisher,
American Libraries:
lborman@ala.org

Jennifer Henderson,
Contributing Researcher

To advertise in *American Libraries Direct*, contact:



Doug Lewis:
dglewis@ala.org



Katie Bane:
kbane@ala.org

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PC Magazine, Feb. 22

[Data storage can cripple mobile apps](#)

Tom Simonite writes: "The latest smartphones and tablets at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas in January came with an emphasis on faster processors and compatibility with faster wireless networks. But new research shows that the biggest performance bottleneck with popular smartphone apps such as Facebook and Google Maps is the speed they can read and write a device's data storage: Without changing how mobile gadgets store data, the benefits of new networks and processors will be limited."...

Technology Review, Feb. 20

[10 Drupal fundamentals](#)

Steve Petersen writes: "Partly due to how robust and powerful it is, Drupal has a learning curve. Like other content management systems, it has some of its own lingo. Understanding the fundamental terms here will help anyone (technically inclined or not) better grasp the system. These terms are applicable to the three versions of Drupal (5, 6, and 7) that I have used."...

The Brick Factory, Feb. 15

[Go back to the Top](#)

E-Content

[HarperCollins sticks to its 26-loan cap](#)

Michael Kelley writes: "In 2011, when HarperCollins implemented its 26-loan cap for library ebook lending, the new policy brought down upon the publishing house all the thunder that the library world could conjure. But the publisher has remained not only committed to its model but also to the market. And for this, it is receiving from some librarians, if not praise, at least a sober reappraisal—even from some of those who are holding firm to their boycott."...

Library Journal: The Digital Shift, Feb. 17

[Amazon yanks 5,000 IPG titles from Kindle](#)

Amazon has turned off the buy button on nearly 5,000 Kindle titles from distributor Independent Publishers Group after IPG refused to capitulate to Amazon's demand for better terms. The Chicago-based IPG is a distributor, which means that it provides services like marketing, sales, and distribution to smaller client publishers. The company represents some 400 publishers....

paidContent, Feb. 22

[Ebook publishers and ALA awards](#)

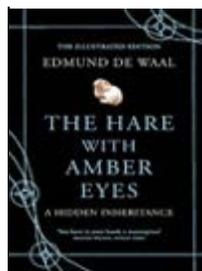
Andromeda Yelton writes: "I looked up the Caldecott and Newbery winners and honorees, 2010–2012, and the publishers' stance toward library ebook lending *at the time of the award*. Of 23 honorees, nine are from publishers that sold ebooks to libraries; one is from HarperCollins, after it announced its policy of selling to libraries with a 26-checkout restriction; and 12 are from publishers that did not sell ebooks to libraries. Just to be clear: Over half of the books that ALA honored with its awards since 2010 are books that the publishers would not at the time—and may not now—let libraries lend electronically."...

Andromeda Yelton, Feb. 13

[Enhanced digital editions](#)

In his international bestseller *The Hare With Amber Eyes*, Edmund de Waal traces the fortune of a

collection of carved Japanese netsuke figurines. Readers grew so entranced by the story of these objects that they started clamoring to see them. So after the hardback, the ebook, and the paperback came the deluxe illustrated edition in November 2011 —along with something called the “enhanced” digital edition....



The Economist: Prospero, Feb. 21

[Dress up an e-reader for style and comfort](#)

Mickey Meece writes: “E-readers are functional right out of the box. But when consumers start using them, many find that they are craning their necks awkwardly, constantly wiping the screen with their sleeves, or holding some readers to the light at night while straining to read others in the sun. Help is at hand. The marketplace for e-reader and tablet accessories is booming. What accessories users want depends in large part on the e-readers they own.”...



New York Times: Personal Tech, Feb. 15

[The best ebook readers](#)

Jamie Lendino writes: “With prices falling below the magic \$100 mark, it's a great time to buy an ebook reader. But which one should you choose? A good way to narrow the field is to consider it split into two major categories: E Ink–based ebook readers, which are designed primarily for reading, and color tablet ebook readers, which may offer a specific focus on reading but can also function as full-blown tablets.”...



PC Magazine, Feb. 15

[Ebooks can't burn](#)

Tim Parks writes: “At the university where I work, certain professors, old and young, will react with disapproval at the notion that one is reading poetry on a Kindle. It is sacrilege. Are they right? In practical terms it is all too easy to defend the ebook. But I want to go beyond practicality to the reading experience itself, our engagement with the text. The ebook actually seems to bring us closer than the paper book to the essence of the literary experience.”...

New York Review of Books: NYRblog, Feb. 15

[How to access your ebook library on an iPad via Dropbox](#)

Jason Fitzpatrick writes: “You’re a reader on the move and you don’t have time for a tethered sync. Today we’ll show you how to keep your ebook library synced to your iPad via Dropbox. Whether you’re reading novels, brushing up on your favorite RPG manuals, or otherwise consuming ebooks on the go, this tutorial will show you how you can leverage your Dropbox account to keep your documents at your fingertips.”...



How-To Geek, Feb. 21

[Eight downsides of the switch to ebooks](#) (satire)

Christina H writes: "As ebook sales overtake paper-book sales, it seems like everybody is crying and wringing their hands about what it means. What are some effects of going to an all ebook world that haven't been talked to death? I dug around and tried to find some ebook ramifications that would appeal to the type of people who spend more time preparing for a zombie apocalypse than unemployment or retirement." Number 3: How will people open secret passageways?...

Cracked, Feb. 14



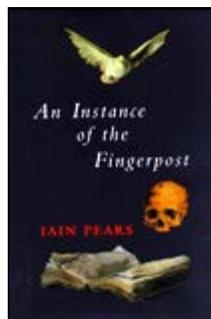
[Go back to the Top](#)

Books & Reading

[Science for the nonscientist](#)

Bill Ott writes: "I was never any good at science, whether it was dissecting a frog or completing a science-fair project. My personal nadir came on a chemistry exam in high school. Which is why, back in 1998, I had mixed feelings about meeting with the author of a soon-to-be-published historical novel about 17th-century scientists. I had enjoyed Iain Pears's mysteries about art forgery in Rome, so when his publicist stopped by the *Booklist* office, with the author in tow, to discuss Pears's new novel *An Instance of the Fingerpost*, I was intrigued."...

AL: Rousing Reads, Feb. 22



[National Book Count suggests Canada reads](#)

By the time you read this sentence, 25 books will have been sold or circulated in Canada. The second annual National Book Count, held January 23–29, shows that Canadians buy or borrow from a library more than five books every second. This year, ebooks were included in the count—which was tracked by a partnership of bookstores and libraries—revealing that 10% of all books sold in English-speaking Canada are ebooks and 3% of all library loans are digital....

National Post (Canada), Feb. 16

[The truth about anthropodermic bibliopeggy](#)

Keith Veronese writes: "Rare old books are occasionally bound in human skin, including nipples, and even the face of a Guy Fawkes conspirator. Antiquarians have discovered these grisly leather covers on prayer books, astronomy treatises, court cases, and anatomy texts—all written in the past 300–400 years. Let's take a look at a how human skin was obtained to bind these books."...

io9, Feb. 22

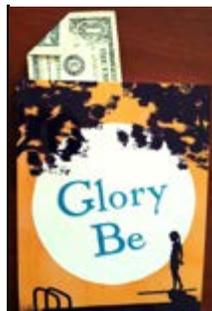


[Battle of the bad bookmarks](#)

Travis Jonker writes: "What's up with all these terrible bookmarks people use? Am I right? While I'm all for marking a page by any means necessary, some bookmarks make more sense than others. This week

in a bracket-style tournament based on your votes, we're going to determine once and for all which bookmark is the worst. P.S., if you want your bookmark to mark your page, it's not a good idea to use something that people are tempted to steal." See the finalists [here](#)....

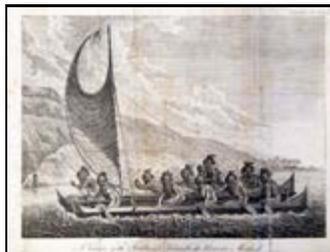
100 Scope Notes, Feb. 20–22



[The Gentleman's Magazine: An 18th-century Google](#)

Praise was certainly due to Edward Cave's *Gentleman's Magazine*, which he began in January 1731. Printed at St. John's Gate in London, it was a "repository of all things worth mentioning," and the first magazine in the modern sense. Dealing with almost every imaginable fact and fantasy, it was the first source to consult. This fact truly makes it the 18th-century answer to Google. Every page is a surprise. The University of Otago Library Special Collections Department created this online exhibition....

University of Otago Library, Dunedin, New Zealand



[A video compilation of bad book-critic clichés](#)

Dianna Dilworth writes: "What's the one word you wish book reviewers would stop using? The 'Sh*t Book Reviewers Say' [video](#) (2:44) has arrived, and we saved it for your afternoon viewing pleasure. *Washington Post* fiction editor Ron Charles starred in the video, reviving his [Totally Hip Book Reviewer](#) video series with a satirical exploration of book-review jargon."...



GalleyCat, Feb. 17; YouTube, Feb. 11

[Go back to the Top](#)

Actions & Answers

[Joining the movement: A call to action](#)

Barbara Fister writes: "The public is now becoming aware that [publishers actually want](#) a system that cuts public libraries out completely. Why do librarians continue to perpetuate the very system that we have been scolding scholars about for years? Many of our scholarly journals are published by the same corporations that supported the Research Works Act and continue to do what they can to maximize profits, which means making research in librarianship unavailable to many. To preach open access without practicing it is baffling to me. I challenge academic librarians to be as brave as other principled academics who are willing to make a sacrifice for the greater good."...

Library Journal: Peer to Peer Review, Feb. 16; *Inside Higher Ed*: Library Babel Fish, Feb. 16

[Effective school libraries contribute to student success](#)



The New Jersey Association of School Librarians released findings February 15 of a three-year [study](#) conducted by the Center for International Scholarship in School Libraries at Rutgers University, which explored the value of quality school libraries to education in New Jersey. The findings show that New Jersey school libraries and school librarians contribute in rich and diverse ways to improvements in student test scores and increased interest in reading....

New Jersey Association of School Librarians, Feb. 15

[A Chicago librarian speaks out about cutbacks](#)

Kari Lydersen writes: "'John,' 67, has been a librarian since 1973, much of that time spent in Chicago's currently embattled library system. Working in a branch in a low-income neighborhood, John—who asked his real name not be used since he's not authorized to speak to reporters—sees firsthand the important role the city's libraries play and how library workers and residents have been affected by more than 100 recent layoffs and cuts in service hours."...

In These Times, Feb. 21

[Public libraries and COPPA compliance](#)

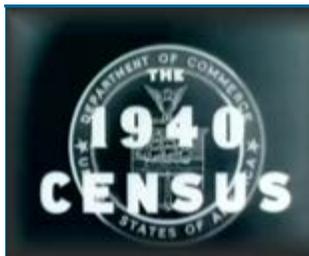
danah boyd writes: "The Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) was created to prevent corporations from collecting data about children without parental permission. This law explicitly does not apply to public institutions, nonprofits, and government agencies. Yet, many public institutions not only choose not to collect data about children; they forbid children from accessing information without parental permission. Much to my surprise, this includes many public libraries."...

apophenia, Feb. 20

[Free 1940 Census release online](#)

The National Archives, with its partner Archives.com, launched a new [website](#) February 21 in preparation for the first-ever online US Census release, which will take place April 2. The public is encouraged to bookmark the website now in order to more quickly access the 1940 census data when it goes live. Users will be able to search, browse, and download the 1940 census schedules, free of charge, from home computers or public computers at National Archives locations nationwide. Watch the [video](#) (3:13)....

National Archives, Feb. 21; YouTube, Feb. 14



[Library documentary:](#)

[Balancing the Books](#)

Patricia Snyder writes: "[Balancing the Books: Modern Library Function and Funding](#) will be a documentary about libraries, their place in people's lives, and how we pay for them. Submissions are being sought for a collection of stories about the place libraries have in people's lives. These can be a recollection from the writer's past or about something happening now. Work must be original and belong to the person submitting it. Submissions of up to 2,000 words may be [emailed](#) by June 29." Watch the [trailer](#) (2:14)....



I Love Libraries

[Digital technology makes the library invisible](#)

Tom Scheinfeldt writes: "There is a scene from the first season of the television spy drama, *Chuck*, that takes place in a library. In the scene, our hero and unlikely spy Chuck (right) has returned to his alma mater, Stanford University, to find a book his former roommate Bryce, also a spy, has hidden in the stacks as a clue. All Chuck has to go on is a call number scribbled on a scrap of paper. I like this clip because it illustrates how I think most people—scholars, students, geeks like Chuck—use the library."...



Found History, Feb. 22

[Take a survey on link resolvers](#)

Marshall Breeding writes: "Participate in a survey on OpenURL-based link resolvers and knowledge bases conducted through Library Technology Guides. Link resolvers have been implemented in libraries that offer collections of electronic resources to their users to facilitate linking to full-text content. Only one response per library is allowed. It should be completed by or in consultation with the persons in your library who deal closely with electronic resources and your linking product."...

Library Technology Guides blog, Feb. 22

[Snooki, whale sperm, and Google](#)

Margaux DelGuidice writes: "Late one night I flipped to a talk show where the infamous Snooki (right) of *Jersey Shore* fame happened to be the guest. As I went to change the channel, I paused when I heard her reason for being asked onto the show: She was there to promote her book. 'Oh, it's totally true,' she giggled while carelessly flipping her hair over a glittery shoulder. 'The ocean is salty because of whale sperm.' The interviewer raised her eyebrows as Snooki continued, doing her part to educate the American public. 'I'm telling you, it's true, just Google it.'"



In the Library with the Lead Pipe, Feb. 22

[Doodle 4 Google contest](#)

For the last five years Google has invited students across the US to submit their own doodles for a chance to be featured on the Google homepage. The doodling theme for the 2012 [Doodle 4 Google contest](#) is "If I could travel in time, I'd visit..." In addition to seeing his or her art on the Google homepage on May 18, the Doodle 4 Google 2012 national winner will also receive a \$30,000 college scholarship and a \$50,000 technology grant for their full-time school. 50 state winners will win a trip to New York City. Doodles must be postmarked no later than March 20....



Google Nonprofits Blog, Feb. 21

[Public libraries around the world](#)

Public libraries exist in many developing countries. Kenya has 58 libraries, Peru 729, Indonesia 1,598. These libraries are addressing their communities' development goals—supporting entrepreneurs in Vietnam, providing vital health information in Nepal



and Kenya, or helping their citizens to be engaged, informed, and involved in Honduras and Romania. This [map of world public libraries](#) was created by IFLA and other international organizations, with the support of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation....

Beyond Access blog, Jan. 21

[European Library Standards Handbook released](#)

The *European Library Standards Handbook* ([PDF file](#)) serves as a handbook for libraries providing data to the European Library and other services such as Europeana. The document, produced as part of [Europeana Libraries](#), clarifies the advantages of outsourcing specific data-provision tasks to an aggregator and provides a complete description of the process. Watch the introductory [video](#) (2:33)....

Association of European Research Libraries, Feb. 20; YouTube, Feb. 3

[Historian versus the Wikipedia cops](#)

Timothy Messer-Kruse writes: "For the past 10 years I've immersed myself in the details of one of the most famous events in American labor history, the Haymarket riot and trial of 1886. Along the way I've written two books and a couple of articles about the episode. In some circles that affords me a presumption of expertise on the subject. Not, however, on Wikipedia."...

Chronicle of Higher Education: The Chronicle Review, Feb. 12

[Five websites that could lower your stress level](#)

Fact: Sitting at your computer at work can cause all sorts of stress. Next time you feel an Incredible Hulk moment coming on, open your browser and take solace by surfing a novelty website. It's worth a shot, and cheaper than retail therapy....

Geek Sugar, Feb. 19



[Go back to the Top](#)

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

american libraries DIRECT

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[Great Libraries of the World](#) | [Digital Library of the Week](#) | [Calendar](#)

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | February 29, 2012



Browse **NEW** titles added to Emerald's eBook Series Collections



American Libraries Online

[Morris Lessmore wins an Oscar](#)

If you haven't yet watched William Joyce and Brandon Oldenburg's *The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore*, the Academy Award winner for Best Animated Short Film, [go here](#) now (15:07). A wordless film whose most inspiring scenes take place in a fanciful library full of living books, *Morris Lessmore* was produced by start-up Moonbot Studios in Shreveport, Louisiana. Joyce has also written a yet-to-be-published children's book of the same name and developed an [iPad app](#)....



American Libraries news, Feb. 29; YouTube, Jan. 24; Co.Design

[Women in the White City](#)

Susan Searing writes: "Next year will be the 120th anniversary of the World's Columbian Exposition, more commonly known as the Chicago World's Fair—a grand event that lasted six months and attracted 27 million visitors. Librarians participated in many aspects of the 1893 fair. In *Right Here I See My Own Books: The Woman's Building Library at the World's Columbian Exposition* (University of Massachusetts, 2012), Sarah Wadsworth and Wayne Wiegand chronicle the unprecedented collection of works by 'women in all ages and all countries' that was housed in the fair's Woman's Building (above)."



American Libraries feature

[Library history and women's history](#)

Sarah M. Pritchard writes: "The convergence of women's history and library history at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition heralded the beginnings of a tradition of advocacy that would shape our profession for the next 100 years and beyond. As American women entered



Celebrated internet philosopher and coauthor of *The Cluetrain Manifesto* [David Weinberger](#) appears at 2012 [ALA Annual Conference](#), on Saturday, June 23. His most recent book, *Too Big to Know*, provides a compelling vision of the future of knowledge in a connected world.

librarianship in the late 19th century, they focused on issues of professional equity, on services to women among the general public, and on the importance of preserving the history and writings of women themselves."...

American Libraries feature

[Internet Librarian: A hazy shade of \(Mid\)winter](#)

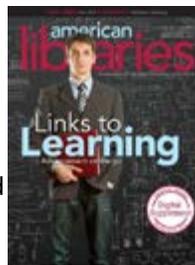
Joseph Janes writes: "You know that feeling you get when you come home from a conference, and it's all kind of a blur? That's been my post-Midwinter experience. I was so taken with the level of sophistication, depth, passion, creativity, community, collaboration, and downright chutzpah on display throughout, particularly in such a time of profound change and, often, retrenchment. It made me even prouder to be a librarian."...

American Libraries column, Mar./Apr.

[AL Online Learning Digital Supplement](#)

ALA provides continuing education in a variety of venues and formats for librarians, support staff, and trustees. Check out the opportunities in the *American Libraries* Online Learning Digital Supplement from 11 divisions and the ALA Publishing Department. Also read Char Booth's article, "Reflective Teaching for Librarians."...

American Libraries Digital Supplement, Mar./Apr.



[Go back to the Top](#)

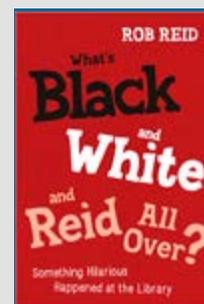


ALA News

[Three teens to tell inspiring stories at Anaheim](#)

Three courageous and creative young adults who have already changed things for the better within their communities, cultures, and societies make for a unique Auditorium Speaker session at the 2012 ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim on June 23. William Kamkwamba (right) brought electricity, light, and the promise of a better life to his village in Malawi. Talia Leman has orchestrated the philanthropic efforts of 12 million children on four continents. Gaby Rodriguez reveals how she was able to fake her own pregnancy and what she learned from the experience....

Conference Services, Feb. 28



Bestselling children's author Rob Reid knows a thing or two about getting kids' attention and holding it. His advice? Cut out the blah-blah-blah and make 'em laugh. In [What's Black and White and Reid All Over?](#), aimed squarely at the preschool / elementary school crowd, he highlights dozens of programming and title suggestions that are surefire ways to banish young ones' yawns permanently. **NEW!** From ALA Editions.



[Tell us why you love your bookmobile](#)

As libraries gear up to celebrate the third National Bookmobile Day on April 11, they can now share what makes their bookmobile special through the "[Why We Love Our Bookmobile](#)" YouTube video celebration. Libraries are invited to submit videos on the [National Bookmobile Day YouTube channel](#) that highlight the essential library services that bookmobiles and their dedicated staff provide. On April 11, three videos will be selected at random to receive \$50 gift certificates from ALA Graphics....

Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, Feb. 23



[ALA supports FCC Digital Literacy Initiative](#)

The Federal Communications Commission released a February 6 public notice ([PDF file](#)) seeking comments on who or what organizations should be involved in implementing a nationwide Digital Literacy program. Libraries are a critical part of the digital literacy picture, as the FCC's public notice readily acknowledges. The ALA Washington Office is now reviewing the public notice and will submit formal comments once the review is completed....

District Dispatch, Feb. 29

[National Library Week promotional ideas](#)

Librarians submitted programming ideas at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas and through an online form for a chance to win a set of National Library Week [promotional materials](#) from ALA Graphics. Alexis Caudell of the Mitchell (Ind.) Community Public Library was selected as the winner. To read Caudell's winning idea and other promotional ideas submitted by public, school, academic, and special librarians visit the [National Library Week promotional ideas page](#)....

Campaign for America's Libraries, Feb. 28

[Free webinar on LSSC](#)

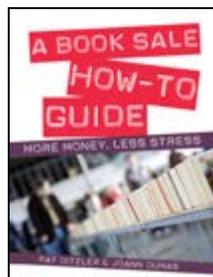
The Library Support Staff Certification Program, a national certification program that allows library support staff to demonstrate competencies and be certified by ALA, will offer an hourlong informational webinar on March 6. Register [online](#)....

ALA-Allied Professional Association, Feb. 28

[Library book sales: A how-to guide](#)

A tried-and-true method to raise funds while engaging the community, library book sales can be a win-win situation—if done correctly. Published by ALA Editions, [A Book Sale How-To Guide: More Money, Less Stress](#) shows readers how to do just that, using case histories from three successful ongoing programs. Authors and book sale veterans Pat Ditzler and JoAnn Dumas point out specific ways to run a sale to ensure maximum financial benefit....

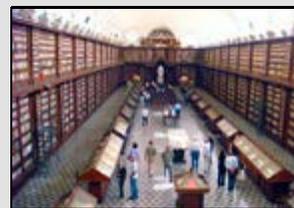
ALA Editions, Feb. 28



[Rob Reid shows how to make kids laugh](#)

Best-selling children's author Rob Reid knows a thing or two about getting kids' attention and holding it. In [What's Black and White and Reid All Over? Something Hilarious Happened at the Library](#), published by ALA Editions, Reid focuses squarely on the preschool and elementary school crowd. He highlights dozens of

Great Libraries of the World



[Biblioteca Casanatense](#), Rome, Italy.

The Dominicans of the Monastery of Santa Maria sopra Minerva in Rome opened this library to the general public in 1701 after the death of Cardinal Girolamo Casanata, who had bequeathed his collection of rare volumes. Now managed by the Ministry of Culture, many of the library's books are housed in the Salone Monumentale, a fine example of early modern library architecture. Included are many musical libretti and scores, among them unpublished works by Niccolò Paganini.

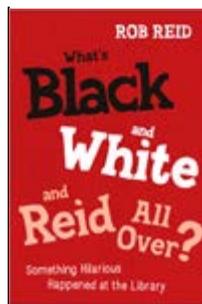


[Biblioteca Malatestiana](#), Cesena, Italy.

Established by the condottiero of Cesena, Malatesta Novello, in 1447 for the use of Franciscan monks, the library is considered

programming and title suggestions that are surefire ways to banish young ones' yawns permanently....

ALA Editions, Feb. 23



[Go back to the Top](#)

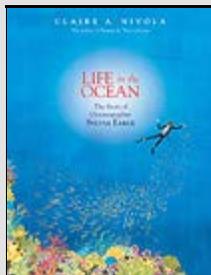
Sometimes you feel like print. Sometimes online.
Get both with the new **Booklist**.

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Science for youth](#)

Nivola, Claire. *Life in the Ocean: The Story of Oceanographer Sylvia Earle*. Mar. 2012. 32p. Farrar/Frances Foster, hardcover (978-0-374-38068-7).

This stunning picture-book biography from the creator of *Planting the Trees of Kenya* (2008) invites young explorers to connect Sylvia Earle's early life as a child "investigator" to her career as a world-renowned marine scientist and advocate. When Earle was 12, her family moved to Florida and, swimming in the Gulf of Mexico, "she lost her heart to the water." Many years later, in 1970, Earle plunged 50 feet below the surface and lived for two weeks at the deep-sea station Tektite II; nine years later, she walked in a "Jim suit" among the coral reefs, 1,250 feet down, on the ocean floor off Hawaii. Nivola's lyrical text portrays Earle's passion for and commitment to the ocean....



[Top 10 books on the environment for youth](#)

Ian Chipman writes: "Two topics jump out from this list of the best environmental books reviewed in *Booklist* over the past year—the life of Jane Goodall and the 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. All of these titles, though, explore ecological themes in fascinating ways."...



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

[Go back to the Top](#)

the first public library in Italy. Upon his death in 1465, Malatesta entrusted the library's management to the city. The architect Matteo Nuti da Fano designed the well-preserved interior in the style of a basilica, with three aisles separated by two rows of columns. The entrance portal, created by sculptor Agostino di Duccio, is topped by a pediment with the figure of an Indian elephant, and the elaborate walnut door was carved by Cristoforo da San Giovanni in Persiceto, who subdivided it into 48 small panels decorated with the Malatesta family coat of arms.

This AL Direct feature showcases 250 libraries around the world that are notable for their exquisite architecture, historic collections, and innovative services. If you find yourself on vacation near one of them, be sure to stop by for a visit. The entire list will be available in [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart, which is scheduled for publication in 2013 by ALA Editions.



Division News

LITA and transparency issues

Andromeda Yelton writes: "I just had the pleasure of spending an hour listening in on a streamed LITA board meeting. I have somehow, and entirely to my shock, become a diehard LITA politics junkie. I think the more LITA makes its meetings available (streamed or amply reported and well-advertised), the more the members will participate, and that's good for everyone. So, hats off to everyone who made that happen. I was troubled, though, by part of the discussion."...

Andromeda Yelton, Feb. 24

Geek Out @ your library

As web-enabled tools such as Facebook, texting, and smartphone apps become a staple of teen culture, school and public libraries from coast to coast will throw open their physical and virtual doors to teens and showcase technological resources available @ your library during Teen Tech Week, March 4–10. Teens will improve their digital literacy skills as they take advantage of free library social networking and digital media workshops, ebooks, databases, online homework help, and gaming tournaments....

YALSA, Feb. 27



Carmen Agra Deedy featured at AASL Awards Luncheon

Bestselling author Carmen Agra Deedy (right) will speak at the annual AASL Awards Luncheon, held June 25 during the ALA 2012 Annual Conference in Anaheim. The awards luncheon highlights the best of the best in the school library field and gives members a chance to celebrate the accomplishments of their colleagues. Register online....

AASL, Feb. 28



School Libraries Count! reports available

Personalized reports are now available for participants in the AASL School Libraries Count! longitudinal survey. The reports complement AASL's suite of advocacy tools. By using the School Libraries Count! personalized report in tandem with the results generated, school librarians will be able to present a more complete case when advocating for their school library programs and community needs....

AASL, Feb. 28



YALSA a finalist in Lifelong Learning Competition

YALSA is a finalist in the 2012 HASTAC/MacArthur Foundation Badges



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

Career Leads from JobLIST

Teen Librarian. New Albany–Floyd County (Ind.) Public Library. We are a thriving library serving a community of 75,000 people, only minutes away from Louisville, Kentucky. We are looking for a person who is passionate about advocating for teens; an avid reader of teen literature; comfortable with technology and social media; confident in approaching and partnering with local schools and community organizations; and bursting with teen program ideas. The teen area has a healthy budget for programming and books and an eager community of teens who are already enthusiastically participating in our Teen Advisory Board, Anime Club, Summer Reading Club, and other programs. Our library has gotten teen services off to a great start, and now we are looking for a librarian

for Lifelong Learning Competition. The division has been paired with a winning badge design and technology team to work collaboratively on developing a badge system to be judged February 28–29 at the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco. Winners will be announced on March 1....

YALSA, Feb. 27

[Liz Moore added to PLA Virtual Conference](#)

On March 15, author Liz Moore (right) will join the [Virtual Conference](#) held in conjunction with the 2012 PLA Conference, March 13–17, in Philadelphia. Moore is the author of *Heft*, which tells the story of the transformative connection between a reclusive, 550-pound professor and a disadvantaged boy dreaming of becoming a baseball star....



PLA, Feb. 28

[Bring civility back into your community](#)

On March 28, PLA will host a live, hourlong webinar, "[Implementing 'Choose Civility,' a Community-Wide Campaign.](#)" as part of its "Public Libraries at Work" monthly webinar series. Join presenter Valerie Gross, CEO of the Howard County (Md.) Library System, to hear how the library has been at the center of a community campaign to enhance respect, empathy, consideration, and tolerance....

PLA, Feb. 28

[Día publicity tools available](#)

As libraries throughout the country expand their collections for diverse communities, thousands will celebrate El día de los niños / El día de los libros (Children's Day / Book Day), also known as Día, on April 30. Libraries from coast to coast will host celebrations with family programs, including bilingual story hours, book giveaways, and other literacy events. ALSC is offering some free [publicity tools](#)....



ALSC, Feb. 27

[YALSA book awards and middle school readers](#)

The middle school librarian faces the unique challenge of building a collection that is appropriate for both teens and tweens. Join Megan Fink for "Finding a Place on the Shelf: YALSA Book Awards and the Middle School Library," a discussion of the YALSA award winners and honorees for middle school readers on March 22 at 2 p.m. Eastern time. [Register](#) for the webinar online....

YALSA, Feb. 24

[Friends group survey](#)

ALTAFF is conducting a [survey](#) of Friends of the Library groups. The simple 10-question survey can be completed in five minutes or less. Survey responses will help ALTAFF develop resources for members and will be published on the division's website and in an upcoming edition of its member newsletter, *The Voice*. Responses will be collected through March 1....

ALTAFF

[ALTAFF at PLA](#)

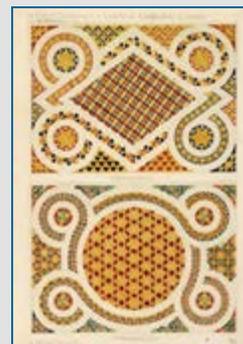
ALTAFF will present the program "With Friends Like These" on March 16, 2–3:15 p.m., at the Pennsylvania Convention Center during the PLA Conference in Philadelphia. A panel of librarians and a successful

to take teen services to the next level....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



In keeping with the theme of the March/April *American Libraries'* architectural issue, we present the [Thomas MacLaren Collection of Architectural Drawings](#) from the University of Colorado System and Auraria Higher Education Center. The collection of original pencil sketches and watercolors by Thomas MacLaren (born in Scotland, 1863; died Colorado Springs, 1928) illustrating the architecture of England, Italy, Scotland, and Switzerland predominantly between 1880 and 1891. The collection also includes some landscapes, student exercises, and miscellany.

Friends group leader will discuss how to raise money and advocate for better funding....

ALTAFF

[AASL eAcademy lineup](#)

Register now for one or more of the AASL eAcademy courses scheduled through the end of summer. The four-week, self-paced courses are designed to give participants 12 hours of learning led by experts in the school library field. Registration and course information are available [online](#)....

AASL, Feb. 28

[ASCLA preconferences](#)

ASCLA will host three half-day workshops on June 22 at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim covering library marketing and development, public library services to the visually and physically impaired, and public library partnerships with jails and prisons. These preconferences are an opportunity for other members of the library community to benefit from the division's knowledge and experience....

ASCLA, Feb. 28

[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[Winston Tabb wins Patterson Copyright Award](#)

Winston Tabb (right), dean of libraries and museums at Johns Hopkins University, is the 2012 recipient of the L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award. Tabb was cited for his decades-long support for balanced copyright law, advancement of library and user copyright exceptions worldwide, and commitment to an international copyright law to support the information needs of people with print disabilities. The award recognizes contributions that support the constitutional purpose of US Copyright Law, fair use, and the public domain....

Office for Information Technology Policy, Feb. 23



[2012 Beta Phi Mu Award](#)

Mary M. Wagner (right), LIS professor at St. Catherine University in St. Paul, Minnesota, has been selected as the recipient of the 2012 Beta Phi Mu Award. This annual award, donated by the Beta Phi Mu International Library Science Honorary Society, is presented to a library school faculty member or to an individual who demonstrates distinguished service to education in librarianship. Wagner was selected for her contributions to library education and librarianship both locally and internationally....

Office of ALA Governance, Feb. 28



[2012 Coutts Award for Innovation](#)

The ALCTS Collection Management Section has awarded Lenore England (right), digital resources librarian at University of Maryland University College, its Coutts Award for Innovation in Electronic Resources Management. The award recognizes significant and innovative contributions to electronic collections

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

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

“Another major incident was the mice. I had been warned that the library was one of their favorite playgrounds. I was rather surprised at the calm manner in which this news had been announced, and I was worried about this unfortunate presence. But, like everything else, that was how it had always been. I adopted a cat, but he preferred running around on the roofs of the Haute Ville with the other cats from the area; it’s easy to see why.”

—Marie Lebert, reminiscing about her job with the city library of Granville, France, in [“L for Library.”](#) Ebooks, Feb.

@ [More quotes...](#)

ENJOY OUR LATEST CONTENT

[Libraries Provide a Lifeline for Homeowners Facing Foreclosure](#)



management and development practice. England was cited for her work with the state Electronic Collections Task Group...
ALCTS, Feb. 27

[2012 Ulrich's Serials Librarianship Award](#)

ALCTS has named Valerie Bross (right) the 2012 recipient of its Ulrich's Serials Librarianship Award. This award for distinguished contributions to serials is presented by the ALCTS Continuing Resources Section and consists of a \$1,500 donated by ProQuest. Bross, head of the continuing resources cataloging section at the UCLA Library Cataloging and Metadata Center, was named for innumerable significant achievements....

ALCTS, Feb. 28



[2012 ACRL Innovation Award](#)

Joshua Vossler, information literacy and reference librarian at Coastal Carolina University, and John Watts, instruction and liaison services librarian at Webster University, have been selected to receive the 2012 ACRL Instruction Section Innovation Award for their work on a series of five videos. The videos were designed to introduce first-year students to fundamental information literacy concepts....

ACRL, Feb. 27

[ProQuest Innovation in College Librarianship Award](#)

Adrienne Lai, Adam Rogers, and Anne Burke (right), all of North Carolina State University Libraries, have been named the 2012 recipients of the ACRL College Libraries Section's ProQuest Innovation in College Librarianship Award for their work on the [NCSU Libraries Mobile Scavenger Hunt](#). The annual \$3,000 award honors an ALA member who has demonstrated a capacity for innovation in their work with undergraduates, instructors, or the library community....

ACRL, Feb. 28



[EBSCO Community College Leadership Award](#)

Mary Ann Laun (right), dean of library services at Pasadena (Calif.) City College, has been chosen to receive the 2012 ACRL Community and Junior College Libraries Section EBSCO Community College Learning Resources Leadership Award. The award cited her service as cofounder and chair of the first California Community College consortium....

ACRL, Feb. 24



[EBSCO Community College Program Achievement Award](#)

Sheila Afnan-Manns (Scottsdale Community College), and Kandice Mickelsen and Reyes Medrano (Paradise Valley Community College) have been chosen to receive the 2012 ACRL Community and Junior



[Lyric Opera of Chicago Produces Thrilling Version of 'Show Boat'](#)

[Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibit in New York, Philadelphia Showcases 500 Priceless Artifacts](#)

[Black History Month: Tuskegee Airmen and Red Tail, Part Two](#)

[How to Get a Great Job: Customize Your Resume](#)

[Brandon Sanderson: 'We need good literacy professionals, librarians and teachers.'](#)

[Dr. Seuss Birthday Sweepstakes: Win an 'I read banned books' Tote Bag](#)



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made possible by:



Calendar

Mar. 1:
[World Book Day.](#)

Mar. 2:
[NEA's Read Across America.](#)

Mar. 4-10:
[Teen Tech Week.](#)

Mar. 7:
[World Read Aloud](#)

College Libraries Section EBSCO Community College Learning Resources Program Achievement Award for their work on the Medrano Project. The Medrano Project provides a model for effective librarian and classroom instructor collaboration....

ACRL, Feb. 24

[2012 Ilene F. Rockman Publication of the Year Award](#)

Char Booth (right), instruction services manager and e-learning librarian at Claremont Colleges, has won the ACRL Instruction Section's Ilene F. Rockman Publication of the Year Award for her book [Reflective Teaching, Effective Learning: Instructional Literacy for Library Educators](#), published in 2011 by ALA Editions. The award recognizes an outstanding publication related to library instruction published in the past two years....

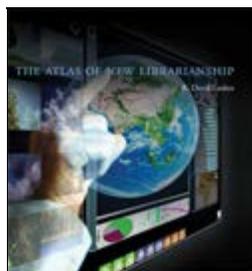
ACRL, Feb. 27



[2012 Best Book in Library Literature](#)

The Atlas of New Librarianship by R. David Lankes has been named the winner of the 2012 ABC-CLIO/Greenwood Award for the Best Book in Library Literature. The book, which articulates a new purpose for librarianship, was copublished by ACRL and MIT Press. The award committee praised the book for its unique visual map of ideas and their relationships to theory and practice....

Office of ALA Governance, Feb. 28



[First Merrill-Oldham Grant recipient named](#)

Helen Bailey (right), preservation specialist at Dartmouth College Library, has been awarded the first Jan Merrill-Oldham Professional Development Grant. The grant is sponsored by the ALCTS Preservation and Reformatting Section to support travel to the ALA Annual Conference by a preservation librarian who is new to the field....

ALCTS, Feb. 28



[Norman Horrocks–Scarecrow Press grant](#)

The ALA Retired Members Round Table has chosen Nicholas Spillios (right) as the first RMRT member to receive the first Norman Horrocks–Scarecrow Press Annual Conference Award. The \$1,000 grant will help RMRT members to defray the costs of attending an ALA Conference. Spillios was chosen for his work with ALTAFF, PIO, and RMRT....

Retired Members Round Table, Feb. 28



[2012 BWI Summer Reading Program Grant](#)

ALSC has awarded the 2012 BWI Summer Reading Program Grant to the Wichita Falls (Tex.) Public Library. The \$3,000 grant is designed to encourage outstanding summer reading programs by providing financial assistance, while recognizing ALSC members for outstanding program development....

ALSC, Feb. 28

[Apply for a Conable Conference Scholarship](#)

[Day.](#)

Mar. 13–17:

[Public Library Association](#), National Conference, Philadelphia.

Mar. 21–23:

[Tennessee Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Marriott Knoxville. "Libraries Transform."

Mar. 21–23:

[Louisiana Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Shreveport Convention Center. "Puzzled? Louisiana Libraries Have the Answers!"

Mar. 29–30:

[National Latino Children's Literature Conference](#),

University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa. "Connecting Cultures and Celebrating Cuentos."

Apr. 8–14:

[National Library Week](#).

Apr. 10:

[National Library Workers Day](#).

Apr. 11:

[National Bookmobile Day](#).

Apr. 11–13:

[Kansas Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Hyatt Hotel and Conference Center, Wichita. "I Geek Kansas Libraries!"

Apr. 11–13:

[Librarians' Information Literacy Annual Conference](#),

The Freedom to Read Foundation has opened applications for the 2012 Gordon M. Conable Conference Scholarship, which will enable a library school student or new professional to attend the 2012 ALA Annual Conference, held June 21–26 in Anaheim, California. Submit an [application](#) by April 6....

Office for Intellectual Freedom, Feb. 22

[LexisNexis Outstanding Friend Conference Grant](#)

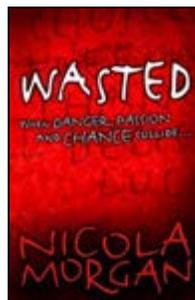
LexisNexis will fund an annual grant to enable a Friends of the Library member to attend ALA Annual Conference. The LexisNexis Outstanding Friend Conference Grant will provide a person who is active in a Friends of the Library group with \$850 and conference registration. The winner will be required to write an article chronicling the experience at the conference for *The Voice*. [Apply](#) for this year's grant by April 15....

ALTAFF, Feb. 27

[Scottish Children's Book Awards](#)

The winners of the Scottish Children's Book Awards were announced at a ceremony at the Lyceum Theatre in Edinburgh on February 23. The awards, sponsored by the Scottish Book Trust, were made in three age categories: *Dear Vampa* by Ross Collins won the Bookbug Readers' category (0–7 years); *Zac and the Dream Pirates* by Ross MacKenzie won the Younger Readers' category (8–11 years); and the award for the Older Readers' category (12–16 years) went to Nicola Morgan's *Wasted*. The three winners received a prize of £3,000 (\$4,750 US) each....

Scottish Book Trust



[Go back to the Top](#)

Seen Online

[The Research Works Act is dead](#)

Science-publishing giant Elsevier pulled its support from the controversial Research Works Act, hours before the bill's cosponsors in the US House of Representatives declared the legislation dead. [HR 3699](#) would have prevented agencies of the federal government from requiring public access to federally subsidized research. In a [statement](#) released February 27, Elsevier reiterated its opposition to government mandates even as it backed away from the bill. Cosponsoring Reps. Darrell Issa (R-Calif.) and Carolyn Maloney (D-N.Y.) said they would not push for action on the bill after all. Library Loon has some [insight](#) on the Elsevier withdrawal....

Chronicle of Higher Education, Feb. 27; *Gavia Libraria*, Feb. 28

[Six ways that Congress could fix copyright, now](#)

Matthew Lasar writes: "The fight against copyright maximalism has largely been negative. To offer something more positive, Public Knowledge has [released](#) an [Internet Blueprint](#)—six bills that the group says could 'help make the internet a better place for everyone' and that 'Congress could pass today.' We are not expecting Congress to pass them today (or tomorrow), but they're at least an intriguing starting point for debate."...

Ars Technica, Feb. 29; *Public Knowledge*, Feb. 28

[More academic libraries rely on](#)

Glasgow Caledonian University, Scotland.

Apr. 14:
[Support Teen Literature Day.](#)

Apr. 20–22:
[A Celebration of the Picture Book.](#) Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.

Apr. 21–28:
[Money Smart Week @ your library.](#)

Apr. 22–28:
[Preservation Week.](#)

Apr. 23:
[World Book Night USA.](#)

Apr. 23–24:
[National Library Legislative Day.](#) Liaison Hotel, Washington, D.C.

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

May 1–7:
[Choose Privacy Week.](#)

May 23–25:
[Workshop for Instruction in Library Use.](#) Grant MacEwan University, City Centre Campus, Edmonton, Alberta. "Vigour, Thrift, and Resourcefulness."

June 11–14:
[24th Polar Libraries Colloquy.](#) ATLAS Building, University of Colorado, Boulder. "Cold Regions: Pivot Points, Focal Points."

[retrieval systems](#)

San Francisco State University has been renovating its library since 2008, and now the overhauled building is finally finished and partly open to students. But only 25% of its collection will be available for browsing. More than a dozen universities, including at least five in California, have installed robotic retrieval systems. "More libraries are doing this because people are really looking for group interactive space," said ACRL President Joyce Ogburn. Sonoma State University library has one of the most [advanced systems](#) out today (above)...

San Francisco *Bay Citizen*, Feb. 25; *Santa Rosa (Calif.) Press Democrat*, Feb. 25



[Middle school students take back their library](#)

In the past few years, Dallas Independent School District has sliced library funding by about 20%. But with the encouragement of librarian Mary Virginia Meeks (right), Marsh Middle School students cleaned, painted, and held a read-a-thon that paid for comfy couches and chairs. Corporate sponsor Fidelity Investments constructed a new bar in the center of the library called the Tech Café. The makeover caught the attention of Nickelodeon producers, who included Marsh in a *Nick News with Linda Ellerbee* segment on students taking action to help improve their schools. Watch the [video](#) (3:03)....

Preston Hollow (Tex.) Advocate, Feb. 24



[The quirky Providence Athenaeum](#)

Jacki Lyden writes: "With a bit of reverence, librarians carefully wind an antique library clock near the circulation desk in a temple of learning called the Providence Athenaeum. This is one of the oldest libraries in the United States, a 19th-century library with the soul of a 21st-century rave party. In fact, the Rhode Island institution has been called a national model for civic engagement. After see-sawing through the recession, membership has rebounded, to about a thousand members and growing."...

NPR: *Weekend Edition*, Feb. 25



[How Scientology drives librarians nuts](#)

Tony Ortega writes: "We've been hearing pretty regularly from librarians near and far who have had it with the aggressive tactics of Scientology. Scientology is like an octopus that wants to get its tentacles into as many places as possible through front groups and supposedly secular entities. Librarians tell us how Scientologists never take no for an answer and insist on sending them books they don't want. Recently we heard from a Detroit-area librarian, Alan Naldrett, and felt compelled to share his story with you."...

Village Voice, Feb. 28



[Warhol's assailant left a mark—on a library book](#)

James Barron writes: "If ordinary people were caught doing what Valerie Solanas did, they would probably have their library cards

@ [More...](#)

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George M. Eberhart,
Editor:

geberhart@ala.org



Beverly Goldberg,
Senior Editor:

bgoldberg@ala.org



Greg Landgraf,
Associate Editor:

glandgraf@ala.org



Sanhita SinhaRoy,
Associate Editor:

ssinharoy@ala.org



Laurie D. Borman,
Editor and Publisher,
American Libraries:

lborman@ala.org

Jennifer Henderson,
Contributing Researcher

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taken away. But Valerie Solanas—mainly remembered for shooting Andy Warhol—was not an ordinary library patron. She marked up a book's cover and several pages inside. And because the book had been hers in the first place—she was listed as the author, after all—her annotations, said Thomas Lannon, NYPL's assistant curator of manuscripts, were more like copyediting by a very angry author."...
New York Times: City Room, Feb. 22

[Woman admits to stealing books from libraries](#)

A woman accused of stealing thousands of books from libraries around San Diego County pleaded guilty to a felony burglary charge February 21. An investigation reportedly started last year when Maria Nater tried to leave the Carlsbad (Calif.) Library with books that had not been checked out, using a rolling cart she had brought with her. Library workers had previously noticed an unusual loss of certain books on cooking, crafts, gardening, and oversized books. Police [seized](#) approximately 2,000 books and numerous DVDs from Nater's Vista, California, home....

San Diego (Calif.) Union-Tribune, Feb. 23; *San Diego Reader*, Feb. 22

[GE Foundation a major victim in embezzlement](#)

In December, federal prosecutors charged Linda E. Duffy, a former Saugus (Mass.) Public Library worker, with stealing more than \$800,000 in library funds from 2004 to 2011. The GE Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the corporation, was the largest victim in the alleged embezzlement because much of the missing money came from its matching grant program to benefit the library. Prosecutors [allege](#) that Duffy withdrew charitable donations, along with fees from overdue books and videos, from a library bank account, deposited the funds into her own account, and then used the money to pay personal expenses. ...

Boston Globe, Feb. 12, 23

[Library arson in San Francisco](#)

A man set fire to a stack of pamphlets in San Francisco's main library branch February 26, damaging cassette tapes, chairs, and computers. The fire was set in the Library for the Blind and Print Disabled room on the second floor, library spokeswoman Michelle Jeffers said, which is typically closed on Sundays. Although the whole building was evacuated, no injuries were reported....

San Francisco Examiner, Feb. 27

[Top 10 public libraries of the 21st century](#)

Adel Zakout writes: "In the age of the internet and rapid media consumption, the library has inevitably lost its granted presence within people's lives. According to the BBC, 12.8% of the adult population in England visited a library in 2010, falling from 16.4% in 2005, and there are plans to close many there. So what can we do, from an architectural point of view, to keep libraries alive and most importantly, meaningful?"...

Huffington Post, Feb. 22



[Toronto Public Library is looking for ad opportunities](#)

At its February 27 meeting, the Toronto Public Library board approved a proposal to create an advertising policy for the city libraries ([PDF](#)



Doug Lewis:
dglewis@ala.org



Katie Bane:
kbane@ala.org

Send feedback:
aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:
americanlibrariesmagazine.org/aldirect

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[file](#)). The idea would be to start slowly, by hiring a contractor to sell ads that would be printed on the backs of date-due slips. With that accomplished, the library would hire a consultant to look for other advertising-sales opportunities that would maximize revenue....

Torontoist, Feb. 27

[Alberta SLIS prof eschews meekness](#)

Early on, Professor Toni Samek (right) asks her students this question: Is homelessness a library issue? Students entering the MLIS program at the University of Alberta's School of Library and Information Studies arrive not knowing what to expect. But after the homelessness question, students forget their stereotypes about meek librarians. Samek is anything but meek. In fact, she sees herself as an activist in a radical profession....



Macleans OnCampus, Feb. 28

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[First look at what's new in Windows 8](#)

Whitson Gordon writes: "Microsoft [released](#) its Windows 8 Consumer Preview February 29, complete with a new tablet interface and some enhancements to the traditional mouse- and-keyboard desktop. Here's what it looks like. No matter what device you're on, you can switch between the simple Metro interface and the traditional Windows desktop to fit whatever your needs are at that given moment." *PC Magazine* has a more [detailed review](#)....



Lifehacker, Feb. 29; *PC Magazine*, Feb. 29

[How to remove your Google web data history](#)

Eva Galperin writes: "On March 1, Google will implement its new, unified [privacy policy](#), which will affect data Google has collected on you prior to March 1 as well as data it collects on you in the future. Until now, your Google Web History (your searches and sites visited) was cordoned off from Google's other products, such as YouTube or Google+. Here is how you can remove all items from your Web History and stop it from being recorded in the future."...

Electronic Frontier Foundation, Feb. 21; Official Google Blog, Jan. 24

[3G vs. 4G: What's the difference?](#)

Sascha Segan writes: "For average consumers, '3G' and '4G' are two of the most mysterious terms in the mobile technology dictionary, but they're used relentlessly to sell phones and tablets. If you're shopping for a new phone, the answer isn't clear-cut, and you shouldn't always go for the higher number. Our primer will help explain which technology to pick."...

PC Magazine, Feb. 24

[Card sorting, A-Z](#)

Ellyssa Kroski writes: "Card sorting is a method or technique for discovering how website users categorize information so that you can design your information structure in a way that is navigable and findable by your users. The method involves asking participants to

sort sets of cards that have items, names, pages, or sections of your website printed on them into groups that make sense to them, and sometimes to assign labels to those groups.”...

iLibrarian, Feb. 28



[21 ways to buff up your browser](#)

Patrick Miller writes: “Whether you are at home, work, or school, odds are you spend a lot of time staring at your web browser. So why does it look and run like everyone else’s? This collection of our favorite browser secrets and extensions can make your browser safer and more efficient than ever—and help you figure out what’s wrong when things don’t work as you expect.”...

PC World, Feb. 27



[Go back to the Top](#)

E-Content

[Is it censorship if it's pizza?](#)

Christopher Harris writes: “I love reading Seth Godin’s work; his musings on marketing and business practices provide a wealth of ideas for libraries. As he noted in a [blog post](#) on the Domino Project: ‘I just found out that Apple is rejecting my new manifesto *Stop Stealing Dreams* and won’t carry it in their store because inside the manifesto are links to buy the books I mention in the bibliography.’ Sure seems wrong, but what is the whole story?”...

AL: E-Content, Feb. 29; The Domino Project, Feb. 28



[iBooks on your Kindle: Possible, but is it legal?](#)

Christopher Harris writes: “Apple’s FairPlay digital rights management (DRM) system for iBooks has been cracked. Using the latest version of Requiem, a FairPlay cracking tool that has offered DRM removal for music and movies for a number of years, it is now be possible to read your iBookstore purchases on a Kindle or other device. Not necessarily legal or ethical, but possible.”...

AL: E-Content, Feb. 27

[Storybundle](#)

Jason Griffey writes: “Way back on February 1, I posted a short blog entry about [Storybundle](#), a new ebook distribution model spearheaded by Jason Chen (formerly of Gizmodo and Lifehacker). Over the next couple of weeks we traded a few emails, resulting in the following interview about his thoughts on how Storybundle will work and whether or not it might be something that libraries should watch. Here’s the interview.”...

ALA TechSource blog, Feb. 27



[Harry Potter ebooks coming to](#)

[**schools, libraries**](#)

Opening up the *Harry Potter* books for a new generation of readers, OverDrive [announced](#) February 27 that it has worked out a deal with J. K. Rowling's Pottermore to bring the series to e-readers in school and public libraries. The books will be available on Kindle readers, any e-reader that uses the ePub format, and OverDrive apps for Android, iOS, BlackBerry, and Windows Phone....

Washington Post, Feb. 27; OverDrive, Feb. 27



[**E-textbook vendor sues publisher**](#)

A licensing agreement between the publisher Cengage Learning and the e-textbook vendor Kno has gone sour. Details recently surfaced of a legal battle between the two companies over the publisher's effort to terminate a contract to digitize its printed textbooks. Cengage accused Kno of copyright infringement, and now the start-up is suing the publisher for damages and the right to continue selling its partner's e-textbooks....

Chronicle of Higher Education: Wired Campus, Feb. 22

[**Bones of the book . . . and ebook**](#)

Robert Moor writes: "I recently bought a book about the future of books. It's called *The Late American Novel: Writers on the Future of Books* and features 26 authors describing what they think might become of literature. Given the collection's prophetic subtitle, and that I was reading it on my new, still-extraterrestrial-seeming iPad, I was surprised to find that very few of the authors mention ebooks."...

n+1, Feb. 27

[**A guide to publishers in the library ebook market**](#)

Michael Kelley writes: "The ebook library lending policies of the Big Six publishers garner most of the attention, because public libraries regard access to best-selling titles as a critical service. The following list is meant to be a helpful, not comprehensive, resource. The focus is whether or not publishers are in the library ebook marketplace."...

Library Journal: The Digital Shift, Feb. 24

[**10 Pinterest boards for ebook fans**](#)

Dianna Dilworth writes: "The new social networking site [Pinterest](#) can be used as a resource for free ebooks. The site, which lets users create virtual pinboards by pinning images of their favorite things, has a host of pages dedicated to books, including a number of pages dedicated to free ebooks. To help you get started, we've put together a list of 10 Pinterest boards for ebook fans."...

eBookNewser, Feb. 24



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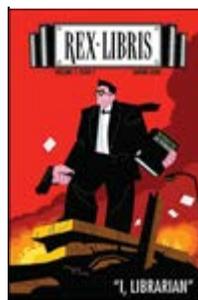
Books & Reading

[**Rex Libris to be adapted for the screen**](#)

Walden Media is moving ahead on development of *Rex Libris*, tapping Ben Zazove to adapt the humorous sci-fi graphic novel written by James Turner. Walden acquired feature rights in 2011 to *Rex*, which follows

the zombie-slaying adventures of librarian Rex Libris as he protects the books of the Middleton Public Library and guards the world's literary treasures from a host of supernatural foes....

Variety, Feb. 23



[The Mad Men reading list](#)

Billy Parrott writes: "In preparation for the long-awaited return of *Mad Men*, I'd like to present the revised *Mad Men* reading list, which will be updated as books appear in new episodes. Details on literary references will continue in the comments field. As mentioned in my original blog post, some of the books on the list are featured more prominently in the series than others but all are a great way to gain insight into the episodes and the social and cultural times in which the series is set."...

NYPL Blogs, Feb. 27



[How books saved Armenian culture](#)

Armenian civilization is one of the most ancient of those surviving in the Middle East, but for large parts of its history Armenia has been a nation without a country. This has given the spoken and written word, the primary means through which Armenian identity has been preserved, enormous prominence in its people's culture. Over the centuries this emphasis has fostered a particular regard for books and the means of producing them....

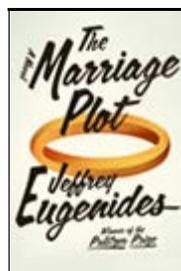
New York Times, Feb. 24



[Fantastic novels with disappointing endings](#)

Judy Berman writes: "They can't all end with "[yes I said yes I will Yes.](#)" but is there anything less satisfying than turning the final page of a book you've loved and being thoroughly dissatisfied with its conclusion? This only happens to us rarely, and while a weak ending usually won't completely ruin a great novel, it can certainly leave us feeling frustrated. We have rounded up 10 books both classic and contemporary that have had us hooked all the way through, only to leave us wanting more (and not in a good way)."...

Flavorwire, Feb. 27



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Actions & Answers

[Google to include "Do Not Track" browser button](#)

Google will allow a "Do Not Track" button to be embedded in its web browser, letting users restrict the amount of data that can be collected about them. Google is getting into the initiative as the



Obama administration unveiled plans ([PDF file](#)) to provide consumers with more control over their personal information online. In early February, Google [acknowledged](#) it had been circumventing the privacy settings of people using Apple's web-browsing software on their iPhones, iPads, and computers. The Chrome browser is [expected](#) to embed this new functionality by the end of 2012. But Do Not Track will [not completely stop](#) all data collection on consumers....

Wall Street Journal, Feb. 17, 23; *Search Engine Journal*, Feb. 24; *New York Times*, Feb. 26

[School libraries to receive money for Mazda test-drives](#)



Mazda, Universal Studios, the National Education Association's Read Across America, and the NEA Foundation have created a program to benefit public school libraries nationwide. For each test-drive of a Mazda vehicle between February 21 and April 2, Mazda will donate \$25 toward public school libraries nationwide, up to \$1 million. To participate, consumers must obtain [this certificate](#) and take it to any Mazda dealer in the US....

National Education Association, Feb. 21

[School library self-censorship](#)

If they are honest, school librarians face selection dilemmas. At the AASL Conference in Minneapolis in October 2011, five current and former public and private school librarians presented a session on self-censorship. After the session, Michelle Bayuk, director of marketing at Albert Whitman & Co., wondered what can publishers do to help librarians put a controversial book on the shelves. The AASL Intellectual Freedom Committee asked her and two of her colleagues their advice on how school librarians can face challenges....

AASL Blog, Feb. 27

[Calling all superhero librarians](#)



Gale, part of Cengage Learning, has launched the second annual "Are You a Librarian Superhero?" contest to recognize the efforts put forth by librarians around the country. Looking to build on the success of last year's contest, during which more than 800 nominations were received, Gale is again calling on fellow librarians, library patrons, students, and school administrators to [nominate](#) a superhero librarian who is making a real difference for their library and community....

Cengage Learning, Feb. 27

[Make your library a local publisher](#)



Nate Hill writes: "Public libraries will have tremendous value and support in their communities if they strategically position themselves as community publishers. This might mean assisting in the scanning and publishing of photographs from a patron's basement, offering basic recording facilities for local teens interested in making music, or producing and distributing a local author's novel. Here are the two components of a system that would truly reposition the public library as a local publisher." It turns out that Escondido (Calif.) Public Library has been [doing this already](#) with its [LibraryYOU](#) project....

PLA Blog, Feb. 24, 29

[Renewable library resources](#)

Collins Memorial Library at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington, is transitioning to an online environment and withdrawing many

physical resources from the collection. In the spirit of preserving a sustainable planet, the library has found creative uses for its discarded resources. The staff has created a website that offers ideas for repurposing materials by showcasing projects where books, parts of books, printouts, and even microfiche are transformed into useful or decorative objects....

Collins Memorial Library



[PDA: The bookstore in the library](#)

Joseph Esposito writes: "One way to think about patron-driven acquisitions (PDA) is that it sets up a bookstore in the library. It's not what we usually think of as a bookstore—there are no dusty shelves or a chic coffee bar. Nor is this what we have come to expect from online bookselling, where Amazon sets the standard. The library bookstore is a new phenomenon, but there is a chance that it will become more widespread, perhaps even ubiquitous in the coming years."...

The Scholarly Kitchen, Feb. 28

[Traveling on a library roadtrip](#)

Josh Hadro writes: "Two of my esteemed librarian colleagues and friends—Lisa Carlucci Thomas and Patrick 'PC' Sweeney—and I will be traveling from Charlotte, North Carolina, to Philadelphia, blogging, vlogging, and tweeting our way to as many libraries as we can handle (see '[Follow the Roadshow](#)' for a running list of ways to track our progress). At the end of the trip, we'll be rolling into the PLA Conference that begins March 14."...

Library Journal: The Digital Shift, Feb. 28



[The skills you don't learn in school](#)

Annie Pho writes: "Librarianship is a profession that's all about helping people, which means we need to be able to work with them. Even if you don't work with patrons, you'll still have to work with coworkers that run the gamut. There are a lot of things library school can't teach you, people skills being one of them."...

Hack Library School, Feb. 28

[Three cheers for embedded metadata](#)

Lynda Schmitz Fuhrig writes: "I love metadata because it makes my professional life as a digital archivist, as well as my personal life, easier. Of course, creating and embedding it also requires time and effort. As a case in point, Mike Ashenfelder from the Library of Congress has written about how challenging the process of [adding metadata](#) to digital photos can be. Files from only a few years ago can become forgotten or obsolete, and image information is often lost as many digital items end up having multiple lives."...

The Bigger Picture, Feb. 28; The Signal: Digital Preservation, Oct. 11, 2011



[LC announces RDA implementation date](#)

Beacher Wiggins writes: "Because the Library of Congress has such a large contingent of staff to be trained to apply RDA, we have

determined that we will need sufficient lead time to get everyone trained. To set the training plan in motion, we needed to determine a target RDA Implementation Day One. As will be seen in the attached plan ([PDF file](#)), we have determined that date to be March 31, 2013."...

Library of Congress, Feb. 27

[Notes on RDA workflows](#)

James Hennelly writes: "RDA Toolkit's workflow feature is intended to be used for creating workflows, obviously, but also for creating and storing any type of in-house work document. A workflow document might actually be a cheat sheet, a set of instruction interpretations or guidelines, or training materials. The workflow editor is really a blank sheet and can be used to serve any purpose you can imagine for it."...

RDA Toolkit blog, Feb. 27

[24 sites for certificates, awards, and coupons](#)

Julie Greller writes: "We all love to be recognized. After all, who doesn't like being told they are wonderful? Students respond to the reward system, and with so many templates and online creation tools, you should have no problem finding the perfect coupon or certificate."...

A Media Specialist's Guide to the Internet, Feb. 24



[11 web-based survey tools](#)

Richard Byrne writes: "On February 27, I wrote a short post about [Kwiqpoll](#). After that post was published I got a few requests for suggestions about other web-based polling and survey tools. Here are 11 other ways you can conduct polls and surveys online."...

Free Technology for Teachers, Feb. 27-28



[New terrorism research resource](#)

The Beacham Group has created Terrorism Research and Analysis Consortium (TRAC), a comprehensive research resource for faculty, scholars, students, government and defense professionals, and the general public. TRAC provides researchers in the fields of terrorism studies, political science, international relations, sociology, criminal justice, philosophy, and history with content that enables intellectual clarity on a highly complex topic...

Terrorism Research and Analysis Consortium, Feb. 27



[Easy-to-read drug information](#)

Barbara Bibel writes: "Those of us who work in public libraries sometimes deal with substance abuse issues among patrons. The issues unfortunately often go hand-in-hand with literacy problems. For those who need information at a lower reading level, the National Institute of Drug Abuse has launched a new website called [Easy-to-Read Drug Facts](#). It offers information about drugs, drug abuse and addiction, rehabilitation, the effects of drugs, and drug abuse prevention."...

Booklist Online: Points of Reference, Feb. 28

[One-stop site for cultural treasures](#)

Stacie Moats writes: "Imagine giving your students free, unlimited access to treasures from cultural institutions from around the

world. Perhaps your students would examine an ancient manuscript up close for small but important details. Afterward, they might learn more about its significance from an expert. Such experiences are now available through the [World Digital Library](#). Primary sources are provided in their original languages, while information about them is available in seven languages.”...



Library of Congress: Teaching with the Library of Congress, Feb. 23

[10 amazing uses for Wolfram Alpha](#)

Chris Hoffman writes: “You may have heard of [Wolfram Alpha](#), a ‘computational knowledge engine.’ That makes it sound a bit scary, but it’s a great tool once you can wrap your head around it. Apple’s Siri uses Wolfram Alpha for 25% of its searches. You can leverage that magic and put Wolfram Alpha to work for you—the empty search box on its homepage holds endless possibilities.”...

How-To Geek, Feb. 29



[Endangered Species Day, May 18](#)

Endangered Species Day, created by the US Senate in 2006, is an opportunity for everyone to learn about the importance of protecting endangered species and steps people can take to help protect our nation’s disappearing wildlife. Held the third Friday in May, libraries can celebrate by making a reading list, creating an exhibit, or hosting a book reading. The Endangered Species Coalition has a [toolkit](#) available....

Endangered Species Coalition



[The challenges of film preservation, analog and digital](#)

David Bordwell writes: “In 1978, builders discovered a cache of 507 reels of early films in Dawson City, Yukon. Whatever the merits of these films, discoveries like these are signs of hope. Who knows how much more of our film heritage remains to be rediscovered? But today such a task is much harder. Soon most of the films we make and show will not exist on photochemical stock. They’ll be digital files, and they need to be kept securely. It seems likely that digital projection has, in unintended and unexpected ways, put the history of film in jeopardy.”...

Observations on Film Art, Feb. 13



[The Librarian Song from The Red Green Show](#)

Harold (Patrick McKenna) and Red (Steve Smith) sing a [campfire song](#) (0:44) about librarians on Season 7 (1997) of the Canadian *Red Green Show*. “Love is hard to read, and librarians are often fickle / I returned her home 10 minutes late: She had the nerve to fine me a nickel.”...

YouTube, Oct. 18, 2011



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