

american libraries DIRECT

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

Contents

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

APA PsycNET
New eBook content from APA
SEE WHAT'S NEW FOR YOUR LIBRARY

american libraries BUYERS GUIDE

American Libraries Online

[This political library gets everyone's vote](#)

Janice Arenofsky writes: "Tough reference questions—from reporters, candidates, and political junkies—are the lifeblood of the nonpartisan and nonprofit New Hampshire Political Library in Manchester, founded in 1997 by former New Hampshire Gov. Hugh Gregg and Secretary of State Bill Gardner. Queries usually peak before primary and general presidential elections. Library visitors can interact with a permanent exhibit of the historical New Hampshire primary and various temporary exhibits."...

American Libraries feature



[Newsmaker: Joanne Budler](#)

Kansas State Librarian Joanne Budler (right) recently terminated the Kansas Digital Library Consortium's contract with ebook vendor OverDrive to become a beta tester of 3M's new Cloud Library ebook lending service. The change is the culmination of a nearly yearlong battle over whether the consortium owned the content it had purchased or had simply licensed it. In this interview, conducted by email with AL Senior Editor Beverly Goldberg, Budler discussed her decision and its ramifications for Kansas....

American Libraries column, Jan./Feb.



[Youth Matters: Making progress by fives](#)

Dorcas Hand writes: "At the Australian School Library Association conference in October 2011, Executive Director Karen Bonanno (right) offered several excellent insights in her [keynote](#) (31:46) that are useful to all librarians in this era of tightened budgets and job opportunities. School librarians in particular may want to implement Bonanno's five-finger mnemonic to craft that one-minute



View the [ALA Midwinter Meeting Scheduler](#) in ALA Connect. Find upcoming sessions, read tweets about the meeting, look for speaker schedules, and much more.

elevator speech we should all have at the ready to explain to anyone who will listen what it is we do and why it is important.”...

American Libraries column, Jan./Feb.

[Library Design Showcase deadline January 13](#)

Two pieces of information regarding *American Libraries*' annual Library Design Showcase. First, a friendly reminder: Submissions are due January 13. Download the submission forms [here](#). Second, an alert for anyone who submitted through YouSendIt on January 2 or 3: The YouSendIt site was down for significant portions of those days....

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 4

[Perpetual Beta, signing off](#)

Jason Griffey writes: "On December 28, I received notice that that my contract with *American Libraries* for Perpetual Beta is not being renewed. Perpetual Beta was originally conceived of by myself and former Associate Editor Sean Fitzpatrick as a way of highlighting edgy, interesting tech that pushed the boundaries of what might be considered 'library technology.'"

AL: Perpetual Beta, Dec. 31



[Currents](#)

On January 1 **Deanna Marcum** (right) became managing director of Ithaka S+R. **Pauline J. Shipp Love**, 100, died December 8. She was a librarian at Baker University in Baldwin, Kansas, and Atchison (Kans.) High School before joining the ALA Publishing staff as editorial assistant in 1942....

American Libraries column



ALA News

[Annual Conference early bird registration now open](#)

ALA looks forward to welcoming attendees to its [2012 Annual Conference](#) in Anaheim, California, June 21–26. [Early bird registration and housing](#) opened on January 3. Registering early ensures the best rates. Housing is open for bundle and all other conference registrants. New in 2012 are "Conversation Starter" programs, where presenters will share expertise and ideas in 45-minute sessions. Anyone wishing to submit a program should fill out [this form](#)....

Conference Services, Jan. 3



[Camila Alire to open DiversiTea](#)

Camila Alire (right), dean emerita of the University of New Mexico and Colorado State University libraries and 2011 Achievement in Library Diversity Research honoree, will provide opening remarks and receive her plaque at the DiversiTea on January 22 during the 2012 ALA Midwinter Meeting. The ALA Council

ONLINE

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

Over **15,000** digital scholarly books now available! Visit our site today.

PROJECT **MUSE**



With this new [Dinotrux poster](#), encourage kids to read amid the rumble and tumble of Tyrannosaurus Trux, Tankersaurus, Garbageadon, and their riotous band of prehistoric pals. Chris Gall's imaginative, high-intensity illustrations command attention as the rude, crude, and totally dashing Dinotrux crash and honk their way into readers' hearts.



Committee on Diversity, the Diversity Research Grants Advisory Committee, and the ALA Office for Diversity recognized Alire with the 2011 Achievement in Library Diversity Research Honor for her contributions and her promotion of diversity within the profession....

Office for Diversity, Dec. 29

[New ALA membership development director](#)

Ronald J. Jankowski (right) has been appointed the new ALA membership development director, effective January 9. Jankowski brings to the position more than 20 years' experience in marketing in both nonprofit and for-profit organizations. He will be filling the position most recently held by John Chrastka, who left ALA on August 30 to become a partner in an association consulting agency....



Communications and Member Relations, Dec. 30

[OITP digital collections panel](#)

The ALA Office for Information Technology Policy will continue the conversation about libraries increasing access to digitized materials with the panel "Online and Above the Radar: Ensuring the Use and Discoverability of Digital Collections" at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas on January 21. Organized by Gwen Glazer and Jason Kucsma, the panel will include several speakers from diverse parts of the library world....

Office for Information Technology Policy, Jan. 3

[New OITP Fellow](#)

The Office for Information Technology Policy has named Renee Hobbs (right) as its most recent OITP Fellow. Her term extends through 2012. Hobbs is one of the nation's leading authorities on media literacy education and has developed award-winning multimedia resources to integrate digital and media literacy into the context of K-12 education. She is also the founding director of the Harrington School of Communication and Media at the University of Rhode Island....



District Dispatch, Jan. 5

[Minnesota Library Association supports Spectrum](#)

The Minnesota Library Association has announced its support of the ALA Spectrum Scholarship Program through a gift to the Spectrum Presidential Fundraising Initiative. MLA has made a \$750 contribution. MLA's contributions will allow ALA to continue to support master's-level Spectrum Scholarships....



Spectrum Presidential Initiative, Jan. 3

[John Green to appear at FTRF Banned Author Event](#)

NEW! From ALA Graphics.

New this week *in American Libraries*



[The New Hampshire Political Library](#)

[Dining in Dallas](#)

[Newsmaker](#)

[Youth Matters](#)

[Rousing Reads](#)

[Global Reach](#)

[E-Content](#)

[Censorship Watch](#)

[Currents](#)

[Perpetual Beta](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Solutions and Services](#)

[AL Focus](#)

Great Libraries of the World

On January 22, in conjunction with the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas, bestselling YA author John Green will appear at the Freedom to Read Foundation's annual [Banned Author Event](#) at the Dallas Public Library. Green, author of the challenged book *Looking for Alaska* and the forthcoming *The Fault in Our Stars*, is a major voice in the YA world. [Reserve](#) your spot now by making a donation to the Freedom to Read Foundation....



OIF Blog, Jan. 3

[Family literacy @ your library](#)

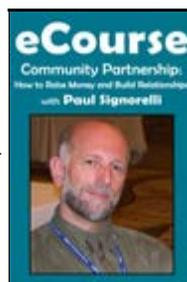
Dale Lipschultz writes: "Family literacy programming has a long history in public libraries. As a national movement, it emerged in the late 1980s in response to the 1983 release of the seminal report *A Nation at Risk* ([PDF file](#)). If anything, the need to help children succeed in school is greater now than it was 30 years ago. In these challenging times, I'm delighted to share two very different family literacy funding opportunities."...

OLOS Columns, Jan. 3

[Improve your library instruction](#)

ALA Editions is offering a new session of Paul Signorelli's facilitated eCourse, "[Rethinking Library Instruction: Libraries as Social Learning Centers.](#)" Signorelli, former director of staff training and volunteer services for the San Francisco Public Library system, will lead this four-week course, which begins February 6. Registration is purchased through the ALA Store....

ALA Editions, Jan. 3



[Course on copyright for librarians](#)

ALA Editions will host a new session of the popular facilitated eCourse "[Demystifying Copyright: How to Educate Your Staff and Community.](#)" Lesley Ellen Harris (right), a copyright, licensing, and digital property lawyer who works with the information industry, will serve as instructor for this four-week course, which begins on March 5. Registration is purchased through the ALA Store....

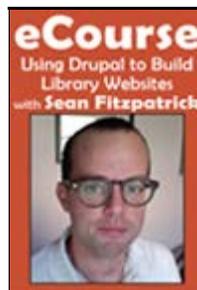
AAL Editions, Jan. 3



[New session of Drupal for websites](#)

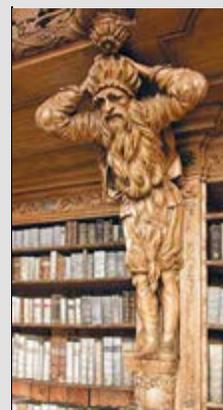
ALA Editions is offering a new session of the facilitated eCourse "[Using Drupal to Build Library Websites.](#)" Sean Fitzpatrick will once again serve as the instructor for this six-week facilitated eCourse starting on February 6. Librarian, consultant, and Drupal expert Fitzpatrick will guide participants in building an attractive, functional library website using Drupal. Registration is purchased through the ALA Store....

ALA Editions, Jan. 3



[New Booklist subscription model offers it all](#)

Booklist is introducing a new subscription model effective January 1—a combination of print and online access that promises to have a strong impact on streamlining collection development and



[Waldsassen Abbey Library](#)

Waldsassen, Germany. The current library of this Cistercian monastery was completed in 1727. The four ceiling frescoes were painted by Karl Hofreiter, and the 10 wooden sculptures of life-sized figures that seem to be holding up a second-floor balcony were created by [Karl Stilp](#).

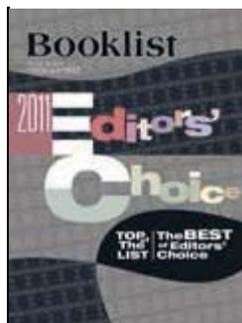


[Wiblingen Abbey Library](#)

Ulm, Germany. Originally designed as a reception hall in 1744, the former Benedictine library's multicolored marble Corinthian columns are topped with gilded capitals that support an elaborate balustrade. The library is exquisitely decorated with scholarly iconography filled with theological and philosophical references by artist [Franz Martin Kuen](#) and

readers' advisory workflows. A subscription now includes 22 *Booklist* and 4 *Book Links* print issues, plus the new benefit of 24/7 password-access to [Booklist Online](#). Subscribers who haven't already done so can [activate](#) their new online access....

Booklist, Jan. 3



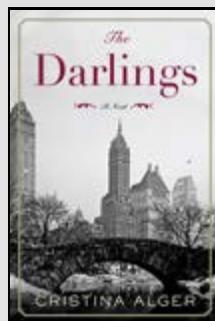
Sometimes you feel like print. Sometimes online.
Get both with the new **BOOKLIST**.

Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Adult fiction

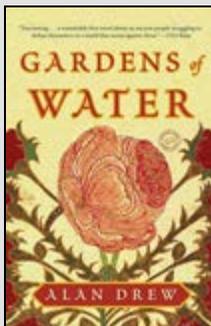
Alger, Cristina. *The Darlings*. Feb. 2012. 338p. Viking/Pamela Dorman, hardcover (978-0-670-02327-1).

Probably the most compulsively readable fiction to come out of the Wall Street financial scandal so far, this debut novel by a former Goldman Sachs analyst offers readers plenty of schadenfreude, if only of the imaginary variety. Paul Ross, married to the daughter of billionaire investment manager Carter Darling, has lost his job. The pressure to maintain a Manhattan lifestyle trumps his unease about working for his father-in-law, and he is hired as general counsel. Two months into Carter's new post, one of his closest friends, who also runs the fund in which the firm is most heavily invested, takes a header off the Tappan Zee Bridge. Turns out the feds were closing in. Now Paul has to answer for the millions of dollars that have vanished from the fund, which turns out to have been nothing more than a Ponzi scheme. Alger knows the ins and outs of both Wall Street and an upscale NYC lifestyle, nailing all the details, from the plush, hushed atmosphere of high-end law firms to the right tennis togs for a "casual" weekend in the Hamptons. Delicious reading....



Three debuts for the new year

Kaite Stover writes: "On the first day of a fresh year, I'm offering up three debut novels that have book group appeal. Compelling stories, discussable points, and realistic characters make these books fine choices for a reading group. *Gardens of Water* by Alan Drew: Two families of differing faiths and cultures come together in Turkey in the aftermath of the cataclysmic earthquake of



sculptor Dominikus Hermenegild Herberger.

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

Library Children's Services Manager.

Waukesha (Wis.) Public Library. The retirement of Waukesha Public Library's longtime children's services manager has created an opportunity for a creative, dynamic, professional who is dedicated to serving children, families, and educators. Lead the

1999. *Over and Under* by Todd Tucker: This story set in the summer of 1979 follows best friends Andy and Tom as they come of age during a labor dispute at a local factory that pits their fathers against each other. Reminiscent of *Stand by Me* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. *The Effects of Light* by Miranda Beverly-Whittemore: A young woman returns to her family home after the death of her father. She and her sister were child-models for a controversial photographer, and someone wants to bring her past into the present."...
Book Group Buzz, Jan. 1

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

Dallas Update

Dining in Dallas

Greg Landgraf writes: "The informal parts of Midwinter—those personal meetings that take place outside of the official sessions, often over a good meal—can be among the most rewarding. Fortunately, Dallas offers plenty of options for tasty meals. Here, several Dallas librarians have shared some of their favorites."...

American Libraries feature



An insider's look at Dallas

Heather Botelho writes: "If you're going to Dallas for Midwinter, you've probably seen the different lists of places you should visit and eat. Having lived in Dallas-Fort Worth for a couple of years now, I can tell you that a lot of places that make those lists aren't the true gems. I asked my library friends, and we came up with a list of our combined must-see and must-dine places in DFW."...

YALSA Blog, Dec. 29



Public ArtWalk Dallas

Public ArtWalk Dallas is a 3.3-mile, self-guided tour that highlights 30 pieces of art and architecture in the Arts District and downtown Dallas. The route begins at the Nasher Sculpture Center and takes you past such public artworks as the Genesis mosaic, Four Chromatic Gates, Lot's Wife, the Floating Sculpture, and [De Música](#) (right). The Dallas Public Library is also included on the walk....

Public ArtWalk Dallas



John Neely Bryan cabin replica

In 1839, John Neely Bryan, a Tennessee-born attorney, first visited the place that would one day become Dallas. He returned to Arkansas temporarily, but in November 1841 he was back in Texas and settled on the east bank of the Trinity River, not far from the present location of downtown Dallas. In the spring of 1842 he persuaded several families who had settled at Bird's Fort to join him. A replica of the one-room log structure, the first in Dallas, stands in Founders Plaza near the corner of Elm and Record Street.

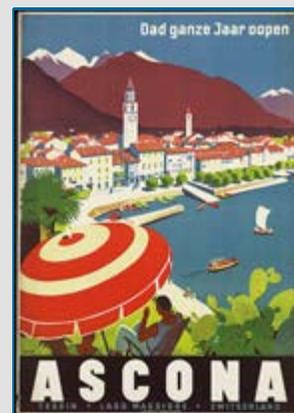


children's services team and oversee all aspects of the children's services Department, including collection development; program planning and implementation, both within the library and at outreach locations; readers' advisory; and reference service. Work in Waukesha Public Library's vibrant, recently remodeled and expanded children's area, which includes an early learning/pre-literacy center....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The Boston Public Library's [Print Department](#) is home to more than 350 vintage [travel posters](#), most dating from the 1920s to the 1940s, the "Golden Age of Travel." Railways opened up America and Europe, luxe ocean liners introduced

The original was destroyed by a flood in the 1930s....
D Magazine

[The five best things to see and do in Dallas](#)

Wondering what to do while you're in Dallas for the Midwinter Meeting? Startle.com, the online home of *Forbes Travel Guide*, has some suggestions: Catch a [Mavericks game](#). Getting seats at the American Airlines Center may be pretty tough to come by these days after the Mavs became the 2011 NBA Champions, "but watching Dirk Nowitzki hit three-pointers like nobody's business is absolutely worth it." Dallas is also known for being the city where JFK was assassinated; visit the [Sixth Floor Museum](#) at Dealey Plaza to view related artifacts and exhibits....

Startle



[Cranky Concierge](#)

MrSkyGuy writes: "This month I had the opportunity to utilize a service I'd been watching with interest—Brett Snyder's [Cranky Concierge](#). It is an extension of the goodwill Brett has established over the years as a top airline blogger worldwide on [CrankyFlier.com](#). The concierge service is something he developed as an answer to the 'what do I do now' question travelers frequently ask when things don't go as planned."...

Airline Crazy, Dec. 27



Division News

[Every Child Ready to Read webinar](#)

Following the release of the second edition of [Every Child Ready to Read @ your library](#), ALSC and PLA are offering a new webinar to update librarians on the new product: [Every Child Ready to Read: New Conversations on Research, Relationships, and Partnerships](#). The webinar will be offered on three different occasions: February 16, March 8, and April 12. To register, visit the [ALSC webinars](#) site....

ALSC, PLA, Dec. 29



[Great Websites for Kids redesigned](#)

[Great Websites for Kids](#), the ALSC online website directory, has been completely redesigned. The renewed site boasts a fresh and colorful kid-friendly look and interactive social media enhancements. Clear, bright icons display subject categories, while special sections highlight Sites of the Week and Month, Most Popular pages, and Top Rated selections. A second round of improvements will take place in 2012 and include further development of social functionality and interactivity....

ALSC, Dec. 27



[New edition of Great Early Elementary Reads](#)

ALSC has revised its popular bibliography *Great Early Elementary Reads*, which features recommended book titles for beginning readers.

elegance into overseas voyages, and drivers took to the road in record numbers in their new automobiles. By the mid-1940s, new airlines crisscrossed the globe, winging adventure-seekers to far-flung destinations. Travel agents and ticket offices during this period were festooned with vivid, eye-catching posters, all designed to capture the beauty, excitement, and adventure of travel, and to promote a world of enticing destinations and new modes of transportation. Individual artists gained fame for their distinctive graphic styles and iconic imagery, and many posters from this era still remain important works of art long after their original advertising purposes have faded.

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.

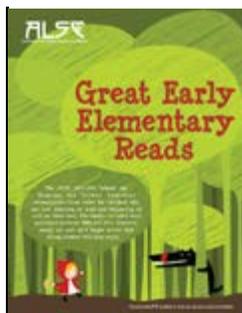


Public Perception
How the World Sees Us

"LIBRARIANS—in

PDFs of the book list are available online in full color and black-and-white and are free to download, copy, and distribute. The updated bibliography is organized into two categories: "Starting to Read" and "Reading on My Own."...

ALSC, Dec. 27



[New Día brochure, webinars](#)

ALSC is releasing a new El día de los niños / El día de los libros brochure for parents and will also host a new round of Día-related [webinars](#). The new brochure for parents and caregivers will be available after the ALA Midwinter Meeting. A downloadable PDF will be available from the new [Día website](#). Each webinar will covers a different area of Día celebrations, including strategies, expansion, and cooperation in the community. The dates are January 11, February 21, March 2, and April 12....

ALSC, Dec. 29



[Register for ALSC online courses](#)

There is still time to register for the new semester of ALSC online courses. The division is offering four great courses, all of them beginning on January 16. Detailed descriptions and registration information are available on the ALSC online course [information page](#). All courses will run between four and six weeks and will be taught in an online learning community using Moodle....

ALSC, Dec. 29

[ACRL Scholarly Communications road show](#)

Once again, ACRL will take its popular scholarly communications workshop on the road to five locations in 2012. Titled "Scholarly Communication: From Understanding to Engagement," the road show was originally offered to raise awareness about scholarly communications in the community. In 2012, the program will be expanded to a full-day workshop with more applied programmatic elements, while still retaining much of the "101 basics" elements. The [deadline](#) to apply is February 7....

ACRL, Jan. 3

[Leonard Kniffel at ALTAFF's Gala Author Tea](#)

ALTAFF will host its Gala Author Tea, featuring former *American Libraries* Editor-in-Chief Leonard Kniffel (right), on January 23 at the 2012 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas. The tea will also feature Kim Edwards, Erin Duffy, Pam Houston, and Taylor Stevens. Attendees will enjoy tea, finger sandwiches, and a variety of sweet treats. [Tickets](#) will remain at the discounted rate through January 13....

ALTAFF, Jan. 3



[Thanks, we did it](#)

Linda W. Braun writes: "In December, an anonymous donor gave YALSA a challenge. If the association was able to raise \$500 for the [Books for Teens](#) project,

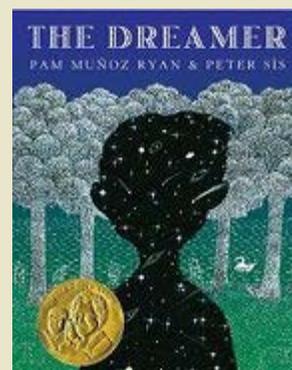
times of stress we take comfort in trusted authorities."

—*Time* magazine's list of things not considered dangerous for 2012, which also includes money, teddy bears, and hugs, Jan. 9, p. 36.

@ [More quotes...](#)

ENJOY OUR LATEST CONTENT

[Win a Copy of Pam Muñoz Ryan's 'The Dreamer'](#)



[Kick Start Your Career Search Strategy! by Rebecca Walden](#)

[National Film Treasures Selected for Preservation](#)

[Libraries Provide Resources for Book Clubs](#)

[Untraditional Lincoln Museum Exhibits Garner Much Attention](#)

[New Porgy and Bess Stirs Up Controversy as it Opens on Broadway](#)

[A.S. King: 'Libraries had the weirder books.' \(video\)](#)

 [Join Us on Facebook](#)

[Subscribe to our](#)



the donor would give a matching \$500. Because of the generosity of those who support and understand the importance of teen reading, the challenge was met and even exceeded. \$780 was raised by donations (after the service charge) plus another \$500 from the donor, making for a grand total of \$1,280."...

YALSA Blog, Jan. 3

[Help review *Library Consultants Code of Ethics* draft](#)

The Library Consultant Interest Group—an ASCLA member group—invites independent librarians, library consultants, state and regional library consultants, and any library staff who help others learn and solve problems to join the conversation. An open forum to discuss a draft [Library Consultants Code of Ethics](#) will be held January 22 during the ALA Midwinter Meeting....

ASCLA, Jan. 3

[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[ALA awards deadline extended](#)

The deadline has been extended to February 1 for a number of ALA awards and grants, including the ALA Information Today Library of the Future Award, Beta Phi Mu Award, Melvil Dewey Award, Equality Award, Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award, Ken Haycock Award For Promoting Librarianship, and the Scholastic Library Publishing Award. Although the online application has a December 1 deadline date the applications will be accepted through February 1....

Office of ALA Governance, Dec. 29

[DIY mock Printz](#)

Amanda Margis writes: "Last month I had the most fun doing the nerdiest thing since becoming a librarian: I participated in my first Mock Printz discussion. Fourteen YA librarians met for a morning of great books, amazing discussion, and criminal amounts of fun. Afterwards, I realized how easy organizing a Mock Printz discussion would be. All you need is a group that loves YA literature—librarians, teens, or your monthly book club—and these easy steps."...

YALSA The Hub, Jan. 2



[National arts and humanities youth program awards](#)

The President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities is accepting applications for the [2012 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards](#). The 12 winning programs will receive \$10,000 and the opportunity to accept their awards from First Lady Michelle Obama, the President's Committee's Honorary Chairman, at a ceremony at the White House. The deadline for application submissions is January 31....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Dec. 28

[2011 Costa Book Awards](#)

Carol Ann Duffy has won the Costa Poetry Award for

[Newsletter](#)

@your library

made possible by:



Calendar

Jan. 23–25:

[BOBCATSSS](#),

International Conference on Information Management, Amsterdam, the Netherlands. "Information in E-Motion."

Jan. 27–29:

[Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators](#),

Winter Conference, Grand Hyatt, New York City.

Feb. 8:

[Amigos Library Services](#), online technology conference. Keynote speaker is Jean Carlos Bertot. "Technology: Unexpected Consequences of Legislation and Policies in Libraries."

Mar. 1–2:

[University of Oklahoma Libraries](#),

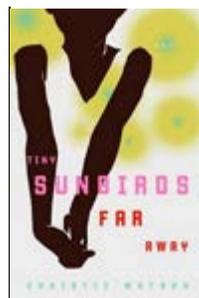
Annual Conference. "Incredible Transformations for Research Libraries: Back to the Future."

Mar. 12:

[Oxford Internet Institute](#), Keble College, Acland Centre,

The Bees (Picador), and debut biographer Matthew Hollis has scooped the Costa Biography Award with *Now All Roads Lead to France: The Last Years of Edward Thomas* (Faber). A nurse, Christie Watson, won the Costa First Novel Award for her book, *Tiny Sunbirds Far Away* (Quercus), which is set in Nigeria. The Costa Book Awards are among the United Kingdom's most prestigious literary awards. The category prize winners each win £5,000 (\$7,800 US)....

The Bookseller, Jan. 4



Seen Online

[The dangers of SOPA](#)

David Carr writes: "Virtually every traditional media company in the United States loudly and enthusiastically supports the Stop Online Piracy Act, but that doesn't mean it's good for the rest of us. Rather than launch into a long-winded argument about why the legislation is a bad idea—it is, as currently written—I thought it might be worthwhile to boil SOPA down into a series of questions." Eric Hellman notes some further potential SOPA [problems for foreign libraries](#)....

New York Times, Jan. 1; Go to Hellman, Jan. 3

[Bloomfield Hills librarian's winning advocacy effort](#)

This is a story about a librarian who fought a battle for the common good—and mobilized one of Michigan's wealthiest communities to listen first to its heart, then to its wallet. Larry Neal (right), now director of the Clinton-McComb (Mich.) Public Library, persisted because he believed in a basic American idea that everyone should have access to a public library, including the affluent residents of Bloomfield Hills, where he lives....

Detroit News, Dec. 29



[Three NYC public library systems receive \\$5 million](#)

The Carnegie Corporation of New York announced December 22 a \$5 million grant to New York City's three public library systems: the New York Public Library, Queens Library, and Brooklyn Public Library. The grant, which boosts the amount Carnegie has provided to the city's public library systems to approximately \$15 million over the past 14 years, will be [used](#) to expand services and resources across each system and strengthen the partnership between the region's public libraries and public schools....

Carnegie Corporation of New York, Dec. 22; Philanthropy News Digest, Dec. 28

[ACLU sues library for blocking Wiccan websites](#)

The American Civil Liberties Union and the ACLU of Eastern Missouri filed a lawsuit January 3 ([PDF file](#)) charging the Salem (Mo.) Public Library with unconstitutionally blocking access to websites discussing minority religions by improperly classifying them as "occult" or "criminal." Salem resident Anaka Hunter contacted the ACLU after



Oxford, England. "Social Science and Digital Research: Interdisciplinary Insights."

Mar. 13–17:

[Public Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Philadelphia.

Mar. 19–22:

[Bologna Children's Book Fair](#), Bologna Fair Center, Bologna, Italy.

Mar. 21–23:

[Computers in Libraries](#) conference, Hilton Washington, D.C. "Creating Innovative Libraries."

Mar. 29–

Apr. 2: [Art Libraries Society of North America](#), Annual Conference, Toronto, Ontario. "Colouring Outside the Lines."

May 15–16:

[Enterprise Search Summit](#), Hilton New York.

May 22–25:

[Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries](#), international conference, Absolute Hotel, Limerick, Ireland.

Apr. 16–18:

[London Book Fair](#), Earls Court Exhibition Centre, Warwick Road, London, SW5, UK.

June 21–26:

[American Library](#)

she was unable to access websites pertaining to Native American religions or the Wiccan faith for her own research. After protesting to the library director, Glenda Wofford, portions of the sites were unblocked, but much remained censored by the Netsweeper software. Jason Pitzl-Waters [comments](#) that web-filtering software has an inherent Christian bias....

American Civil Liberties Union, Jan. 3; The Wild Hunt, Jan. 3

[Mom says police went to collect overdue books from 5-year-old](#)

WBZ-TV in Boston [reported](#) (1:55) that a 5-year-old girl (right) was left in tears after a police officer showed up at her family's house to collect an overdue library book. But the Charlton (Mass.) Public Library director said that the branch was actually looking for an audiobook worth \$100 checked out since April 2009 by the girl's father. David Lee King [notes](#) that this is a good reason why you should update your library policy page: "After I read the article, I first visited the library's website and tried to find their fines and fees policy. Here's all I found (until they updated the site and their Facebook page)."...

Worcester Telegram, Jan. 4; WBZ-TV, Boston, Jan. 2; David Lee King, Jan. 3



[Community protests Detroit library closure](#)

A group of metropolitan Detroit activists have been protesting the [closure](#) of the Lincoln branch of the Detroit Public Library, calling it an integral hub to the community. Some 18 protesters organized by the group BAMN (By Any Means Necessary) were circling and chanting January 3 in front of the branch. In December at the same branch, police [arrested](#) 10 adults and one child protesting the library's closure....

Detroit Free Press, Jan. 3; Michigan Citizen (Detroit), Jan. 1

[On centennial of birth, Guthrie gets a belated honor in Oklahoma](#)

Oklahoma has always had a troubled relationship with her native son Woody Guthrie. The communist sympathies of America's balladeer infuriated local detractors. But as places from California to the New York island get ready to celebrate the centennial of Guthrie's birth in 2012, Oklahoma is finally ready to welcome him home. The George Kaiser Family Foundation in Tulsa announced that it is buying the Guthrie archives from his children and building an exhibition and study center to honor his legacy....

New York Times, Dec. 27



[Library card at burglary scene leads to arrest](#)

A Muncie, Indiana, man was arrested December 30 after police said he burglarized a woman's home on Christmas and left his library card at the scene. The alleged victim told police several items had been stolen from the house and said she also found one item on the floor that wasn't there when she left the previous day: Jerry Ray Bane's signed Muncie Public Library card....

Muncie (Ind.) Star Press, Jan. 1

[Charles Schulz Library finds new home after hurricane damage](#)

The Center for Cartoon Studies has found a new home for the Schulz Library in the old post office building in

[Association](#). Annual Conference, Anaheim, California.

Oct. 29–31: [Library Assessment Conference](#).

Charlottesville, Virginia. "Building Effective, Sustainable, Practical Assessment."

@ [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.



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



Beverly Goldberg,
Senior Editor:
bgoldberg@ala.org



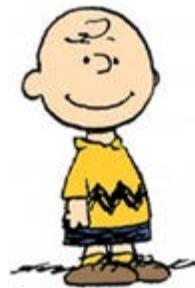
Greg Landgraf,
Associate Editor:
glandgraf@ala.org



Sanhita SinhaRoy,
Associate Editor:
ssinharoy@ala.org



Laurie D. Borman,



White River Junction, Vermont. The building will provide instruction space, faculty offices, and will be the new home to the Schulz Library, a one-of-a-kind cartoon collection that was [damaged](#) in the flooding after Hurricane Irene in August....

Center for Cartoon Studies, Dec. 20; *The Comics Reporter*, Aug. 29

[**\\$30K grant replaces books lost in Alabama storm**](#)

The National Endowment for the Humanities awarded the Alabama Humanities Foundation a \$30,000 grant as part of "Project Turn the Page," which helped provide thousands of books to nine state facilities that were damaged by last April's devastating storms. The foundation compiled a list of books that were damaged or destroyed, focusing on Southern and Alabama history and fiction, as well as award-winning young adult titles....

Montgomery (Ala.) *Advertiser*, Dec. 23

[**The Painted Mirror puts you in the story**](#)

The new Springville (Utah) Public Library has an unusual feature called The Painted Mirror, a full-length video monitor that captures your image and draws it into the story. Created and installed by Design I/O, it invites library visitors to move and perform as they stand in front of a storybook page. "Kids step into the world of The Painted Mirror, and they are transformed by different illustration styles inspired by favorite children's illustrators like Eric Carle or Chris Van Allsburg," said Theodore Watson, one of the designers....

Provo (Utah) *Daily Herald*, Dec. 24

[**Ex-Revere Library director pleads guilty**](#)

The former Revere (Mass.) Public Library director charged with stealing more than \$270,000 from the city pleaded guilty to three counts of embezzlement and 15 counts of procurement fraud December 27. Robert Rice Jr. will serve six months in the Suffolk County House of Correction and pay full restitution to the city. Prosecutors said Rice used his position as library director to falsify city purchase orders, which he then used to buy personal items. Rice will [return](#) to his current position as director of the Pelham (N.H.) Public Library after serving his sentence....

Lynn (Mass.) *Daily Item*, Dec. 28; *Manchester (N.H.) Union Leader*, Dec. 29

[**Officials remove books from UK library under police guard**](#)

Protesters campaigning against library closures in the London borough of Brent were dealt a post-Christmas blow December 29 after council staff moved in to empty one of the condemned branches of its contents. Members of Brent's SOS libraries group were held back by around seven police officers as they stood outside Preston Library. Campaigners lost a second bid in the Court of Appeal in their attempt to overturn the council's decision to shut six of Brent's 12 libraries....

London24, Dec. 29

[**Libraries are popular in Spain**](#)

The Spanish Statistics Institute in December released figures on library use, showing that,



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:
aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:
americanlibrariesmagazine.org/aldirect

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

Sign up to receive *AL Direct* every Wednesday [here](#).

American Libraries
50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X

on average, Spaniards visited their libraries 4.6 times per year. Navarre in northern Spain is the region where users visit the library the most (6.9 visits annually), while the Balearic Islands show the least use (2.4 visits per year). Nine out of 10 libraries in Spain provide internet access. Nationally, the number of library users has increased by 11.5% every two years since 2008....

EuroWeekly Online, Dec. 30



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[David Pogue's Pogie awards](#)

David Pogue writes: "It's time for the seventh annual Pogie Awards! The awards celebrate the best ideas of the year: ingenious features that somehow made it out of committee and into real-world products, even if the resulting products aren't that great—such as [Watch It](#), which tells you where, how, and if a movie is available with one quick search."...

New York Times, Dec. 28



[The 10 best digital cameras](#)

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

PC Magazine, Dec. 20



[Five great apps to help you write](#)

Liz Buffa writes: "Whether you're writing a to-do list, journaling, writing a blog, a novel, or simply a note, there are plenty of great apps out there to make your writing better. But even more importantly, these apps can keep you organized and learning all year long. Make your 2012 resolution to write more, write better, and get your writing organized."...

Family Goes Strong, Jan. 2

[Top 10 apps for Android phones](#)

In 2011, with devices using the Android operating system reaching a dominant position in the world's smartphone market, deeper-pocketed developers turned their full attention to them. The result was a slate of new apps that can more seriously challenge Apple's best....

New York Times, Dec. 28



[Ditch these 10 devices in 2012](#)

Deborah Netburn writes: "Most of the devices we've deemed no longer necessary are actually very useful items that served us better than the smartphone functions that have come to replace them. They helped us navigate strange



cities (GPS for the car), easily take video of our children (Flip cam), and transport large files between our home and office computers (flash drive). So why have they become obsolete? Because they did one thing and one thing only, and a person can carry only so many devices.”...

Chicago Tribune, Dec. 29

[Google acquires more IBM patents](#)

Google has acquired more IBM patents, adding more than 200 to approximately 2,000 patents it had previously bought from IBM. The latest set of IBM patents, transferred to Google on December 30, covers a variety of technologies, including email management, server backup, tuning and recovery, e-commerce, advertising, mobile web page display, instant messaging, online calendaring, and database tuning....

PC World, Jan. 3

[10 super geeky tips for the new year](#)

Gwyneth Jones writes: “I’m usually not one for New Year’s resolutions. If I decide to do something, the calendar doesn’t matter and I’ve blown too many good resolutions to believe an arbitrary day will make a diff. But there are a few things that are easily done and it can feel great for a super geeky safe (errm) aware New Year.” Number 1: Change your passwords, all of them....

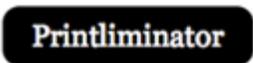
The Daring Librarian, Dec. 29



[10 useful Chrome apps for teachers](#)

Richard Byrne writes: “As [reported](#) by numerous news outlets, at the end of 2011 Google’s Chrome surpassed Mozilla’s Firefox to become the second-most-used web browser. If you’re one of the people that made the switch to Chrome in 2011, here are some extensions and Chrome web apps that you and your students should find handy.”...

Free Technology for Teachers, Jan. 4; Wall Street Journal, Dec. 2



E-Content

[Publishers vs. libraries](#)

Randall Stross writes: “In the eyes of publishers, borrowing an ebook from a library has been too easy. Worried that people will click to borrow an ebook from a library rather than click to buy it, almost all major publishers in the United States now block libraries’ access to the ebook form of either all of their titles or their most recently published ones. While many major publishers have effectively gone on strike, more than 1,000 smaller publishers, who don’t have bestseller sales that need protection, happily sell ebooks to libraries.”...

New York Times, Dec. 24

[Barnes & Noble could sell off its Nook](#)

Barnes & Noble cut its Nook sales forecast for this year and shocked investors by saying it was considering a sale of the e-reader and tablet business, sending its shares down more than 20%. News that

holiday sales of the Nook were disappointing raised investors' fears that Barnes & Noble is finding it hard to compete with its deep-pocketed rival, Amazon.com's Kindle. PC Sweeney writes that B&N is much more [library-friendly](#) than Amazon....

Reuters, Jan. 5; PC Sweeney's Blog, Jan. 5

[Brilliance Audio suspends library sales](#)



Gary W. Price writes: "[Brilliance Audio](#) is suspending the sale of audiobooks for library lending via OverDrive and other vendors as of January 31. OverDrive partners were informed of this change in a collection development [update email](#). Brilliance Audio was [acquired](#) by Amazon.com in May 2007. Amazon also owns [Audible.com](#), the popular audiobook download service."...

InfoDocket, Jan. 4

[So you want to set up a Kindle lending program](#)

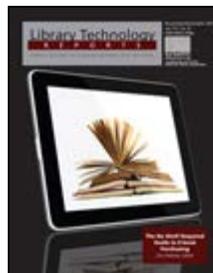
Patrick Berry writes: "Lending out Kindles to patrons may, on the surface, seem like a really easy thing to do. Perhaps it's easier to get funding for a project if you sprinkle in a little technology. I'm not here to stomp your newfound excitement into the ground, but I do want to help you understand the technical issues that you will need to deal with to make this program workable and sustainable. I strongly advise that you work with your circulation folks to figure out what will work best for them."...

code{4}lib, Dec. 14

[The No Shelf Required Guide to Ebook Purchases](#)

There's no question that the role of ebooks and e-readers in libraries is increasing rapidly. For the November/December issue of [Library Technology Reports](#), Sue Polanka has compiled an expert-authored series of articles that provide librarians with strategies, best practices, and case studies for meeting the unprecedented legal, technological, and vendor challenges that come with ebook purchasing....

ALA TechSource



[E-textbooks saved students only \\$1, study finds](#)

Despite the promise that digital textbooks can lead to huge cost savings for students, a new study at Daytona State College in Florida has found that many who tried e-textbooks saved only \$1, compared with their counterparts who purchased traditional printed material. The [study](#), conducted over four semesters, compared four different means of textbook distribution and found that e-textbooks still face several hurdles as universities mull the switch to a digital textbook distribution model....

Wired Campus, Jan. 4; *Educause Quarterly*, Vol. 34, Number 4

[Go back to the Top](#)

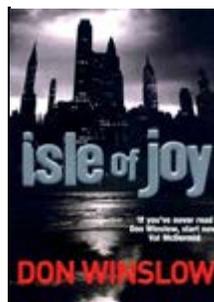
Books & Reading

[Rousing Reads: It's that time of year](#)

Bill Ott writes: "For compiling best lists, that is. I either make or participate in the making of at least three different kinds of best-book lists every year. First, there's the *Booklist* Editors' Choice list; then there's my Back Page list of favorite personal

reading; finally, there's this list, which I suppose we could call my most Arousing Reads. The books below—new or old, read to review or not—are simply the titles I most enjoyed over the past 12 months.”...

American Libraries column, Jan./Feb.



[The world's most expensive book at auction](#)

The Duke of Portland's four-volume set of John James Audubon's *Birds of America*, the most expensive printed [book](#) ever sold at auction, will be coming up for auction on January 20 at Christie's. Estimated at \$7–\$10 million, bibliophiles will wait with bated breath to find out if the duke's *Birds* will break the current world record of \$11.5 million, set at Sotheby's sale of rare books and manuscripts in December 2010....

Fine Books and Collections, Jan. 3



[Vintage space flight books](#)

[Dreams of Space](#) is a wonderful blog by University of California, Irvine, Biology Librarian John Sisson that celebrates graphics from children's books and ephemera related to space flight from 1945 to 1975. The [illustration](#) on the right is from William M. Hutchinson (illustrator) and Kurt Spielberg, *Space Travel* (New York: Maxton Publishing Co., 1958), 28 pages....

Dreams of Space



[Vintage Tolkien covers](#)

Tom Hawking writes: "It would have been the late J.R.R. Tolkien's 120th birthday January 3, and with the film of *The Hobbit* on the horizon, the great man has been on our mind a bit of late. A gazillion different editions of his books have been published around the world since *The Hobbit* first appeared in 1937, so we've put together a gallery of some of the most beautiful and/or weird cover artwork that's adorned Tolkien's work over the years.”...

Flavorwire, Jan. 3; English Russia, May 27, 2010



[The 2011 book lists digested](#)

John Crace writes: "What are the must-read lists made of? Here is our ultimate guide," including "7. The heartbreaking biography of a previously unknown major war poet who was killed on the first day of the Battle of the Somme having just completed the first verse of his only poem" and "15. The provocative and groundbreaking insight into Lady Gaga buying her own drinks in a German nightclub that has reclaimed feminism for the 21st century.”...

The Guardian (UK), Dec. 28

Actions & Answers

[Walter Dean Myers named Young People's Ambassador](#)

Walter Dean Myers (right), five-time winner of the Coretta Scott King Award and two Newbery Honors, was named National Ambassador for Young People's Literature on January 3 by Librarian of Congress James H. Billington. Myers will serve in the position during 2012 and 2013, succeeding Katherine Paterson (who reflects on her own term [here](#)). Myers has chosen "Reading Is Not Optional" as the heading for his platform. The inauguration ceremony will take place on January 10 in LC's Thomas Jefferson Building....



Library of Congress, Jan. 3; *Huffington Post*, Jan. 3

[Copyright Office approves fix for sound recordings](#)

The US Copyright Office has recommended that pre-1972 sound recordings should be protected by federal copyright law in its *Report on Federal Copyright Protection for Pre-1972 Sound Recordings* ([PDF file](#)). See the [executive summary](#). Currently, these older sound recordings are protected by state laws under which copyright exceptions such as library and archival preservation and fair use are uncertain. This uncertainty leads to caution on the part of music librarians and archivists to actively preserve sound recordings—some in fragile or obsolete formats and extremely rare....



District Dispatch, Dec. 30

[Public Domain Day 2012](#)

John Mark Ockerbloom writes: "It's January 1 again, and in much of the world this means another year's worth of works enter the public domain. There's not so much excitement about Public Domain Day in the US, where no published works are scheduled to enter the public domain for another seven years, due to a 20-year copyright extension enacted in 1998. But Americans don't have to simply sigh and contemplate [what might have been](#) if copyright terms hadn't been extended. There are five things Americans can do to improve access to the public domain."...



Everybody's Libraries, Jan. 1; Center for the Study of the Public Domain

[New Year's resolutions for social media managers](#)

Heather Mansfield writes: "Here are 11 resolutions for nonprofit social media managers: (1) Create thank-you videos for your 2012 fundraising campaigns, because sometimes your supporters want to see what your staff and working space look like, which can inspire them and make them more committed to your cause; (2) Learn basic HTML to add social networking icons, a Donate Now button, or an e-newsletter subscribe link to your blog, Facebook page, or Flickr Sets and Collections."...

Nonprofit Tech 2.0, Jan. 3

[Google Book Search redux](#)

Karen Coyle writes: "On December 12, the Authors Guild filed a fourth amended complaint ([PDF file](#)) against Google. This brings us back to square one, with the addition of the involvement of more libraries and the creation of HathiTrust as a way for the libraries to store their (allegedly) ill-gotten copies. We are therefore back to the question of

whether Google's book scanning is or is not fair use. Looking at this from the library point of view, I wonder what will happen to the millions of library books already scanned by Google."...

Coyle's InFormation, Jan. 2

The wonders of Wordnik

Anne Eisenberg writes: "Traditional print dictionaries have long enlisted lexicographers to scrutinize new words as they pop up, weighing their merits and eventually accepting some of them. Not [Wordnik](#), the vast online dictionary. Automatic programs search the internet, combing the texts of news feeds, archived broadcasts, the blogosphere, Twitter posts, and dozens of other sources for definitions and example sentences."...

New York Times, Dec. 31



OpenStreetMap challenges Google Maps

Christopher Mims writes: "[OpenStreetMap](#) is exactly what its name implies—a [wiki of maps and location data](#) to which anyone can contribute, just like Wikipedia. With the help of some deep-pocketed boosters, including MapQuest and Microsoft, it's suddenly a legitimate challenger to the hegemony of [maps.google.com](#)."...

Technology Review: Mims's Bits, Dec. 26



Yes We Scan campaign

Public-domain advocate and president of Public.Resource.Org Carl Malamud launched a campaign seeking 25,000 signatures to [petition](#) the US government to respond to the idea that federal cultural institutions (including libraries) are national treasures and should be made available to everyone through a federal digitization effort. The petition asks the administration to create a group that will answer, within one year, the question, "What would it take to scan .gov?" The deadline is January 20 to sign on....

Yes We Scan

Facebook, 1911: When Joe met Leola at UNR

In 1911, a young Joe McDonald and Leola Lewis, a freshman and junior, were meeting at University of Nevada, Reno's Morrill Hall to study in the basement library. They probably would have had Facebook pages 100 years later. So the university's Special Collections and Archives is providing a new opportunity for [Joe](#), who would become president of Reno Newspapers, and [Leola](#), his wife-to-be, to have those pages, with the help of a rich supply of historical photos and other materials....

University of Nevada, Reno, *Nevada Today*, Dec. 15



How Luther went viral

Scholars have long debated the relative importance of printed media, oral transmission, and images in rallying popular support for the Reformation. Now the internet offers a new perspective on this long-running debate, namely that the important factor was not the printing press itself, but the wider system of media sharing along social networks—what is called "social media" today.



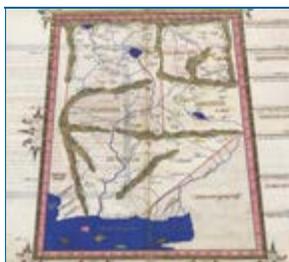
Luther, like the revolutionaries of the Arab Spring, grasped the dynamics of this new media environment quickly and saw how it could spread his message....

The Economist, Dec. 17

Medieval Jewish manuscripts discovered in Afghanistan

More than 150 medieval Jewish documents have been discovered in Afghanistan. The works were found, purportedly by shepherds looking for sheep, in the mountains of Samangan Province, which lies along the Silk Road trade route. The manuscripts were written in the 11th century and written in Judeo-Arabic and Judeo-Persian. They include an unknown history of the Kingdom of Judea, passages from the Books of Isaiah and Jeremiah; hitherto unknown works by the 10th-century sage Rabbi Sa'adia Gaon; and personal poems of loss and mourning....

Medievalists, Jan. 3



Linking, not typing

Lorcan Dempsey writes: "'Knowledge organization' seems a slightly quaint term now, but we don't have a better in general use. Take the catalog. This has been a knowledge organization tool. When an item is added, the goal is that it is related to the network of knowledge that is represented in the catalog. In theory, this is achieved through 'adjacency' and cross reference, notably with reference to authors, subjects, and works. In practice this has worked variably well."...

Lorcan Dempsey's Weblog, Jan. 1

Is a digital media lab right for you?

Mick Jacobsen writes: "This post is for those of you who are considering starting a digital media lab and wondering if you will enjoy it as an aspect of your job. This is what my work life looks like being in charge of the Skokie (Ill.) Public Library DML. Training, training, and more training. Training myself, colleagues, and library members. Oh, and also making sure everything runs smoothly and is positioned for the future."...

Tame the Web, Dec. 31



61 nontraditional jobs for LIS grads

Mia Breitkopf writes: "I've been combing through library job postings, looking at the varied types of positions available right now, a year before I'll be applying for jobs. Some of them are traditional library jobs, like reference librarian and cataloger. But many of them aren't. I've come up with a list of 61 jobs for librarians, almost none of which actually have the word 'librarian' in the title. Nearly all of them require an MLIS."...

Information Space, Dec. 23

The words "library" and "librarian"

Jill Hurst-Wahl writes: "Which is more important, the name 'librarian' or what librarians can accomplish? Sadly, it does matter—maybe not to you, but to a colleague who is job hunting, a student who is graduating, or an organization that needs a skill and isn't sure where to find it. In those and other situations, the words may be hindering what is truly possible."...

Digitization 101, Dec. 24

[Peter Sís murals at Champaign](#)

Three murals by illustrator and author Peter Sís (right) were installed in the children's department of the Champaign (Ill.) Public Library on November 30. Sís says the imagery conveys the way that books open the world to young readers, combining familiar faces from children's literature with the artist's own characters. He paid a visit to the library December 14 to talk about the project....



Champaign (Ill.) Public Library, Dec. 21

[Civil War's 150th anniversary uncovers treasures](#)

From New England to the South, state archivists are using the sesquicentennial of the Civil War to collect a trove of wartime letters, diaries, documents, and mementos that have gathered dust in attics and basements. This still-unfolding call will help states expand existing collections on the Civil War and provide new insights into the era. Virginia archivists are especially pleased by a submission from the family of David Harris, an escaped slave who wrote of his love for a woman named Julia at the same time he fled bondage....



Associated Press, Dec. 26

[Tips for using US Census records, 1790–1930](#)

Constance Potter, archivist at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., discusses US Federal Census records from 1790 to 1930 and how they can be used for genealogical research in this [video tutorial](#) (12:13). This is one of five videos that are part of the Know Your Records program hosted by the National Archives....



YouTube, Dec. 12

[John Boynton Kaiser, bibliophilatelist](#)

Larry Nix writes: "January 1 is the 125th anniversary of the birth of John Boynton Kaiser (1910–1971), librarian and philatelist. Kaiser was one of the first to collect postage stamps that depict libraries and librarians. He had a successful career as a librarian, which included serving as administrator of the Tacoma (Wash.) Public Library, the University of Iowa Libraries and Library School, and the Newark (N.J.) Public Library."...



Philatelic Literature and Research, Jan. 1

[The secret language of stamps](#)

Many philatelists are familiar with positioning postage stamps to silently express their sentiments. The various positions of the stamp found on postcards indicated, as the pointer of an erotometer, the temperature of love. Others, by contrast, informed unwanted suitors about the reasons for rejection through the position of the stamp. The majority, however, conveyed more subtle messages, from hesitation through desire to



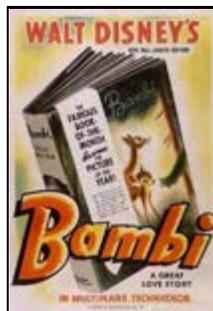
rejection, and even specific instructions such as "tomorrow at the usual place!"...

Poemas del río Wang, Dec.

[2011 National Film Registry choices](#)

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington selected on December 28 *Forrest Gump* (1994) and 24 other films to be preserved as cultural, artistic, and historical treasures in the National Film Registry of the Library of Congress. Annual selections to the registry are finalized by the Librarian of Congress after reviewing hundreds of titles nominated by the public. Other picks this year are *The Kid* (1921), *Bambi* (1942), *The Lost Weekend* (1945), *Norma Rae* (1979), and *El Mariachi* (1992)....

Library of Congress, Dec. 28



[Library kit: Flip Filmmakers](#)

Carissa Christner, youth services librarian at the Madison (Wis.) Public Library, created this kit ([PDF file](#)) for a fun filmmaking library activity. Good for older kids and teens, the program teaches about short films and lets kids put what they learn into practice by writing and filming their own short film. The kit is free to share and modify to suit your library's needs....

Library As Incubator Project, Jan. 2

[Ribbed library in Norway](#)

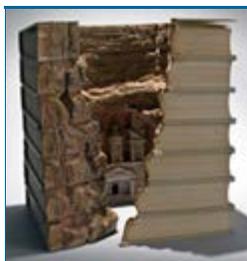
Bringing together a library, café, meeting places, and administrative areas into one shared space, the municipal library of Vennesla, Norway, conveys a soothing, intimate feeling. Underneath the 27 ribbed wooden structures, shelves and benches offer visitors a personal study zone. Designed by [Helen and Hard](#) architects in Stavanger....



Freshome, Dec. 22; Helen & Hard

[Extreme book sculptures](#)

Benjamin Starr writes: "I thought I'd seen every type of book carving imaginable until I ran across these jaw-dropping creations by [Guy Laramée](#). His works are so sculptural, so movingly natural in their form, they've really touched me. His works are inspired by a fascination with so-called progress in society: a thinking which says the book is dead, libraries are obsolete, and technology is the only way of the future."...



Visual News, Dec. 22

[Billy Quan and the Library of Death](#)

Billy Quan is reading his father's book on manners when John Rudely interrupts him, in an [episode](#) (2:14) of "Mind Your Manners with Billy Quan," featured in the Seattle TV comedy series *Almost Live!* in the 1990s. Quan was played by cameraman Darrel Suto. The voice and mouth movements of the characters were out of sync, a reference to some of Bruce Lee's early martial arts films....



YouTube, Mar. 5, 2007

[Adult hide-and-peek in the PCC Library](#)

Portlandia, the IFC channel's sketch comedy program, featured the Portland (Oreg.) Community College library in its Season 1 opening episode, which aired January 21, 2011. In the "PCC Library" [sketch](#) (3:41), two rival teams in Portland's Adult Hide-and-Seek League, the Sherlock Holmies and the Punky Bruisers, play a competition match in the reading room, where a senior patron criticizes their lifestyle: "Kind of a house, but kind of falling apart—I think that describes your life right now, honey."

Season 2 starts this Friday....

YouTube, Jan. 28, 2011



[Go back to the Top](#)

ALAPUBLISHING | AmericanLibraryAssociation

Sign up to receive *AL Direct* every Wednesday [here](#).
[American Libraries Magazine](#), 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611

american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | January 11, 2012

Contents

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



APA PsycNET®
 New eBook content from APA
 SEE WHAT'S NEW FOR YOUR LIBRARY



american libraries
 BUYERS GUIDE

American Libraries Online

The revolution isn't just digital

Alan S. Inouye writes: "Every day we read about some upheaval in the ebook industry, a new development in digitization, or yet another service from Google. It is natural enough to focus on digital content, whiz-bang technology, and how libraries should provide innovative services for our communities. Yet for librarians, there is more going on than meets the digital eye."...

American Libraries feature



Making new connections

Molly Raphael and Keith Michael Fiels write: "E-content offers rich and extraordinary opportunities for libraries to provide expanded access to information and to revolutionize the relationship between libraries and library users. At the same time, these new forms of digital content pose profound challenges. To help libraries adapt to this new world, activities are under way throughout the ALA to proactively address these digital content opportunities at the highest levels from both policy and practical perspectives."...

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 11

Reflecting our communities

Kate Angell, Beth Evans, and Barnaby Nicolas write: "While efforts to diversify the profession have gradually improved in the past quarter-century, librarianship remains relatively monochrome. Libraries can help address the imbalance by offering internship programs that devise concrete strategies to recruit students of varying gender identities, ethnicities, sexual orientations, physical abilities, and other backgrounds. The three of us were lucky enough to be part of one such program in summer 2009 at the Brooklyn College Library."...

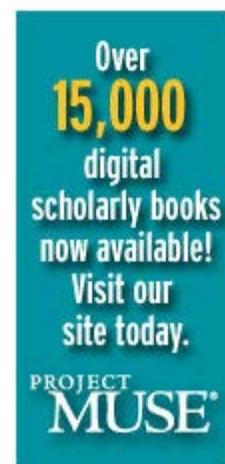
American Libraries feature



The conversation starts in Dallas



Cognotes is your online source for updates and news on the Midwinter Meeting in Dallas—and free in print every day once you get there. Download the January digital issue of *Cognotes* for all the highlights. *Cognotes* is available in four formats: [interactive](#), [mobile](#), [accessible](#), and [PDF](#) (large file).



Over
15,000
 digital
 scholarly books
 now available!
 Visit our
 site today.
 PROJECT
MUSE

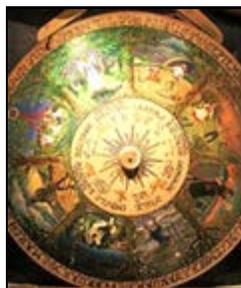
Join the more than 10,000 library leaders, publishers, authors, and guests in discussions about the transformation of libraries, learn firsthand from frontline Occupy movement librarians, and engage in the excitement of Youth Media Award announcements during the ALA [Midwinter Meeting](#) January 20–24 at the Dallas Convention Center and area hotels. Attendees will also have the opportunity to visit with more than 400 companies and get signed books from favorite authors... *American Libraries* feature



[Missouri library sued for barring Wiccan websites](#)

The American Civil Liberties Union has filed suit against the Salem (Mo.) Public Library for allegedly blocking websites related to the modern Pagan religion Wicca. Salem resident Anaka Hunter said that when she tried to access websites about Wicca, Native American religions, and astrology in July 2010 for her personal research, the library's filtering software blocked them....

AL: Censorship Watch, Jan. 11



[Editor's Letter: Treasure hunt](#)

AL Editor and Publisher Laurie D. Borman writes: "All of you who've weeded a collection know the challenges I face. Former *American Libraries* Editor Leonard Kniffel left me a legacy: file drawers stuffed with materials from his 15 years at the helm of this magazine. As someone new to ALA and to this publication, it's been somewhat daunting to determine what should stay and what should go. Is it a trifle or a treasure?"...

American Libraries column, Jan./Feb.

ALA News

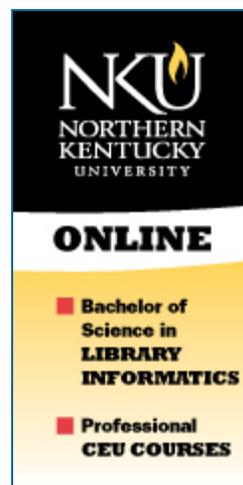
[President's Message: No longer business as usual](#)

ALA President Molly Raphael writes: "My first ALA Midwinter Meeting was in 1976. After stimulating learning experiences at two Annual Conferences, I really wanted to get involved. Colleagues advised me that Midwinter provided the best venue to do that with its focus on ALA business meetings. ALA's open meeting policy allowed me to observe meetings related to my interests then, for example, serving the deaf community. Now, decades later, Midwinter has evolved into a multifaceted event."...

American Libraries column, Jan./Feb.

[ALA gears up for 2012 ALA election](#)

For the fourth year in a row, ALA is holding its upcoming election exclusively online. To be eligible, individuals must be members in good standing as of January 31. Polls will open March 19 and close April 27. [Gina J. Millsap](#) and [Barbara K. Stripling](#) are the candidates for the 2013–2014 presidency. Millsap is the chief



executive officer of the Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library. Stripling recently assumed the position of assistant professor of practice at Syracuse University, after serving as the director of School Library Services for the New York City Department of Education for seven years....

Public Information Office, Jan. 10

[Get ready for an active exhibit floor at Midwinter](#)

For those attending ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas January 20–24, carving out time for the [exhibits](#) is highly recommended, with its 430 exhibiting organizations, PopTop stage, and “Spotlight on Adult Literature” featuring popular authors, and the ALA Store. If you can't [register](#) for the entire meeting, there are two other options that allow full access to the floor during exhibit hours: the Exhibits-Only pass and the Exhibits Supreme package (which also includes access to the Auditorium Speaker Series and the Wrap Up/Rev Up celebration)....

Conference Services, Jan. 10

[Martin Luther King Jr. Sunrise Celebration](#)

Oralia Garza de Cortés, past-president of Reforma and children's literacy advocate, will deliver the call to action at the 2012 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Sunrise Celebration, held during ALA's Midwinter Meeting in Dallas. The celebration will take place 6:30–7:30 a.m. on January 23 in Room A2 of the Dallas Convention Center. The call to action allows a member of the profession to reflect on the work of Dr. King and its importance in our professional efforts....



Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, Jan. 9

[White House petition on school libraries](#)

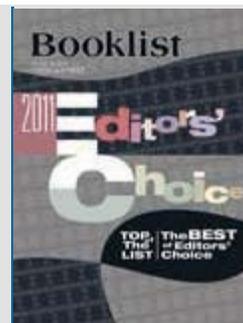
Carl Harvey, 2011–2012 AASL president, initiated a White House petition January 5 on school libraries, which specifically petitions the Obama administration to “ensure that every child in America has access to an effective school library program.” He [introduced](#) the petition as an individual, not as a representative of AASL or ALA. 25,000 signatures are required in order for this petition to be viewed by White House staff, no later than February 4....

White House, Jan. 5; Library Ties, Jan. 8

[ALA welcomes FCC digital literacy initiatives](#)

ALA welcomes recent [remarks](#) by FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski on the modernization of the Lifeline and Linkup programs. Genachowski underscored the commission's continued commitment to digital literacy training to bolster broadband adoption. The ALA filed ex parte comments ([PDF file](#)) with the FCC in December, encouraging the FCC to consider using the programs to support digital literacy training. To help transition these programs from telephony to broadband, digital literacy is essential; America's libraries are uniquely positioned to help shape the initiatives....

Office for Information Technology Policy, Jan. 10



Booklist subscriptions now include 24/7 access to Booklist Online. [Activate](#) your account today. **NEW!** From ALA Publishing.

[New this week in American Libraries](#)



[The Revolution Isn't Just Digital](#)

[Reflecting Our Communities](#)

[Midwinter Preview](#)

[Editor's Letter](#)

[Global Reach](#)

[E-Content](#)

[Censorship Watch](#)

[Currents](#)

[Inside Scoop](#)

[Solutions and Services](#)

[AL Focus](#)

[ALA becomes authorized provider of IACET CEUs](#)



The International Association for Continuing Education and Training has awarded ALA the prestigious Authorized Provider status. IACET Authorized Providers are the only organizations approved to offer IACET Continuing Education Units. The recognition period extends for five years and includes all programs offered or created during that time. "This will be a great benefit to our members, who can now receive national recognition for their participation in ALA online and face-to-face workshops," said ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels...

ALA Human Resource Development and Recruitment, Jan. 10

[Save on advocacy preconferences at Midwinter](#)

The first 50 registrants can save \$25 off the combined registration cost for "Nuts and Bolts for Trustees, Friends, and Foundations" and "Mobilizing Community Support for Your Library: An Advocacy Institute Workshop" by [registering](#) by January 13. Both programs will take place January 20 at the Omni Hotel Dallas....

Office for Library Advocacy, Jan. 10

[Outreach forums at Midwinter](#)

The Office for Literacy and Outreach Services will host two forums at the 2012 Midwinter Meeting in Dallas highlighting its latest toolkits, *Adult Literacy @ your library* and *The Small But Powerful Guide for Building Big Support for Your Rural Library*, on January 22.

Attendance is open to all Midwinter attendees....

Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, Jan. 10

[Emmy winner and author Sonia Manzano to open JCLC](#)

Sonia Manzano (right) will open the Joint Conference of Librarians of Color September 19–23 in Kansas City, Missouri. Manzano was named one of the most influential Hispanics by *People en Español* for her work playing Maria on *Sesame Street*, a role she's held since the early 1970s. She has earned 15 Emmys as a writer for that show and reached generations of children. She is also author of two children's books and has recently published a novel, *The R(E)volution of Evelyn Serrano* (Scholastic)....

Office for Diversity, Jan. 10



[ALA Island closes](#)

ALA Island, the Second Life virtual world presence of the American Library Association, closed January 1. ALA is only scaling down its presence in Second Life, not abandoning it, and plans for an alternate space will be [discussed](#) at Midwinter. ALA Second Life coordinator Tina Coleman (Kay Tairov) said: "ALA is still very much planning to be involved in SL and we by all means look forward to supporting the work that our members (and the rest of the SL Library Community) are doing here."...

Virtual Presence, Dec. 29



[Free LSSC webinar](#)

The Library Support Staff Certification Program will offer an hourlong informational [webinar](#) discussing portfolio creation January 17 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Great Libraries of the World



[Gennadius Library,](#)

Athens, Greece.

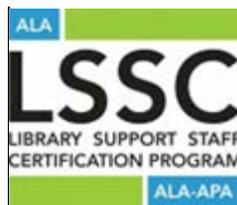
Opened in 1926 with 26,000 volumes from diplomat and bibliophile Ioánnis Gennádiós, who spent a lifetime collecting first editions and illuminated manuscripts, the library now holds a diverse collection of books, archives, manuscripts, and works of art on the Hellenic tradition and neighboring cultures. The library is one of two attached to the American School of Classical Studies.



[Iviron Monastery Library,](#)

Mount Athos, Greece. The library of this 10th-century Eastern Orthodox monastery is one of the richest of the 20 on the mountain. It holds 2,000 manuscripts, 15 liturgical scrolls, and 20,000 books, most of which are in Georgian, Greek, Hebrew, and Latin.

This *AL Direct* feature showcases 250 libraries



Central time. Candidates for the program have two options for completing the competency sets needed for certification: taking and passing approved courses or compiling and submitting portfolios. This presentation will focus on helping candidates create successful portfolios for submission....

ALA–Allied Professional Association, Jan. 10

[Haiti libraries in need two years after earthquake](#)

This week marks the second anniversary of the terrible earthquake in Haiti (January 12, 2010). [Deborah Lazar](#), librarian at New Trier High School in Winnetka, Illinois, has pledged to match any gift to the ALA Haiti Library Relief Fund (up to a maximum of \$5,000) through January to help rebuild the Petit Goâve Public Library (right). Some \$3,000 has been raised so far. You can make a [qualifying donation](#) on the ALA website now, or send your contribution to the ALA International Relations Office....

International Relations Office



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.

[The ALA Montreal conference of 1900](#)

Larry Nix writes: "Librarians in Canada were welcome as members of ALA from its inception, and the Association met in Montreal, June 7–12, 1900, for the first of six times in Canada (the last was in Toronto in 2003). I have a couple of artifacts in my collection from the [Montreal conference](#)—the program and a pamphlet from the Local Committee. Most of the 452 attendees were housed at the Windsor Hotel, where room and board cost only \$3.00–\$3.50 per day."...

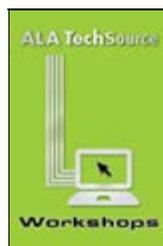
Library History Buff Blog, Jan. 9



[Integrate iPads and tablets into your library services](#)

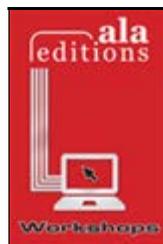
ALA TechSource is offering a new session of the popular workshop "[Integrating iPads and Tablet Computers into Library Services](#)." Tablets offer major potential for library services, including the ability to increase productivity and improve your library's programs in such areas as reference services, collection management, and library instruction. In this two-part workshop on March 8 and 15, Virginia Tech librarians Rebecca Miller, Heather Moorefield-Lang, and Carolyn Meier will share their experiences in building a tablet program....

ALA TechSource, Jan. 10



[New workshop will show how to serve deaf patrons](#)

ALA Editions announces "[Serving Deaf Patrons in the Library](#)," a new two-part workshop with Kathy MacMillan that will take place on February 22 and 29. MacMillan, librarian and certified American Sign Language interpreter, will guide you in making your library a



Career Leads from
ALA JobLIST

[Arts and Architecture Librarian](#), University of North Carolina at Charlotte. The J. Murrey Atkins Library at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte is seeking an Arts and Architecture Librarian to represent the library and serve as the Information Commons Department's subject librarian for the university's College of Arts and Architecture and selected academic programs in the humanities and social sciences....

welcoming place for deaf people. You will gain an understanding of deaf culture, learn several useful library-related signs, and be ready to work confidently with interpreters for your programs....

ALA Editions, Jan. 10

[A guide to library grant money](#)

Sometimes a grant can make the difference between maintaining or cutting services, especially at a time when no institution is immune from the budget crunch. Completely overhauled since its last edition, [The ALA Book of Library Grant Money](#) remains the gold standard for locating sources of funding. It's edited by Ann Kepler, veteran editor of trade, educational, and reference books, and author of more than a dozen books....

ALA Editions, Jan. 11



[New guide to using and managing ebooks](#)

With their explosive sales and widespread availability over the past few years, ebooks have definitively proven that they are here to stay. In [No Shelf Required 2: Use and Management of Electronic Books](#), the sequel to her [earlier book](#) published by ALA Editions, ebook expert Sue Polanka dives even deeper into the world of digital distribution. Contributors from across the ebook world offer their perspectives on what's happening now and what to expect in the coming months and years....

ALA Editions, Jan. 9



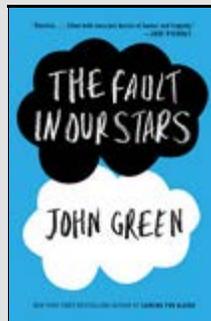
Sometimes you feel like print. Sometimes online.
Get both with the new **Booklist**.

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Youth fiction](#)

Green, John. *The Fault in Our Stars*. Jan. 2012. 336p. Grades 9–12. Dutton, hardcover (978-0-52-547881-2).

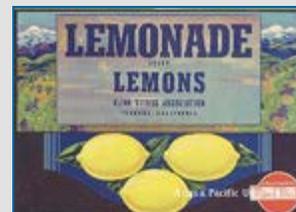
At 16, Hazel Grace Lancaster, a three-year stage IV–cancer survivor, is clinically depressed. To help her deal with this, her doctor sends her to a weekly support group where she meets Augustus Waters, a fellow cancer survivor, and the two fall in love. Both kids are preternaturally intelligent, and Hazel is fascinated with a novel about cancer called *An Imperial Affliction*. Most particularly, she longs to know what happened to its characters after an ambiguous ending. To find out, the enterprising Augustus makes it possible for them to travel to Amsterdam, where *Imperial's* author, an expatriate American, lives. What happens when they meet him must be left to



follow us on
twitter

@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



Southern California's Azusa Pacific University's [Citrus Crate Label Collection](#) consists of 300 bright and colorful citrus crate labels that were used by various California citrus growers. They represent locations in both Central and Southern California. These labels were used to identify and advertise the wooden crates of various fruits, such as grapefruit, lemons, and oranges, that were shipped throughout the United States.

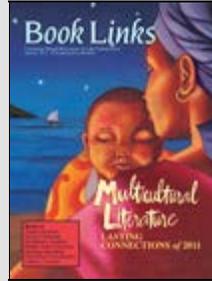
Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#) Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the [Love Libraries](#) site.

**Solutions
and
Services**
LOOKING FOR NEW
PRODUCTS? [Click Here!](#)

readers to discover. Suffice it to say, it is significant. Writing about kids with cancer is an invitation to sentimentality and pathos—or worse, in unskilled hands, bathos. Happily, Green is able to transcend such pitfalls in his best and most ambitious novel to date....

[Book Links magazine's top 30 K–8 titles](#)

Book Links magazine announces its annual annotated [Lasting Connections list](#), spotlighting the editors' selections of the 30 best 2011 picture books, novels, and informational titles for K–8 libraries and classrooms. Lasting Connections is considered an essential collection development tool for children's librarians, school library media specialists, and K–8 educators....



[A conversation with John Green and Ilene Cooper](#)

Ilene Cooper writes: "When *Booklist* Editor Bill Ott told me to write an introduction to this interview with John Green, he said he wanted it to be personal. Well, that made me a little squirmy. Many people know that John worked at *Booklist* for a few years about a decade ago, and because he has talked about it in various places (including on one of his phenomenally popular Vlog Brothers videos), people may also know that I was his first reader and amateur editor on *Looking for Alaska* and that I helped him find his way in the wonderful world of publishing. But in the years John and I worked together, we also became fast friends, which was a little odd considering I was one of his bosses and old enough to be his . . . well, let's just say aunt. But age doesn't matter much when you find the same things fascinating. Clearly, John is a busy guy these days, but I ran him to the ground at the NCTE conference in Chicago in November. After we found a couple of chairs in a spare corner, and Dan Kraus turned on his video camera, John and I talked."...



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

Dallas Update

[Be on the lookout for large groups of hungry librarians](#)

Scott Reitz writes: "*American Libraries* has just posted a [Dallas dining guide](#) for librarians. Ever wanted to know where your most bookish counterparts dine? If they're near the convention center, Wild Salsa, Iron Cactus, Truluck's, and Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen are recommended. Mi Cocina is on the list, but a smart librarian would head north just a touch and check out Mr. Mesero. I hear they're up to great things."...

Dallas Observer, Jan. 5; *American Libraries* feature



Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"I just wanted to find a place to feel safe. It is tough being a woman out there. Sometimes I read romance novels. Because they are telling stories about love and being wanted."

—Hope Pitts, 22, unemployed and homeless, on why she comes to the Central branch of the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library, *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, Jan. 11.

@ [More quotes...](#)

ENJOY OUR LATEST CONTENT

[Multi-generational Housing on the Upswing: Is it for you?](#) by Wanda Urbanska



[How to Get a Great Job: Getting Down to Brass Tacks](#)

[The Return of the Mummies- 'Eternal Life in Ancient Egypt'](#)

[Poachers-- Killers for Financial Gain--Continue to Endanger World's Animal Population](#)

[Second Season of 'Downton Abbey,' Excellent Drama from BBC America, Airls this Month](#)

Got coupons?

The Dallas Convention and Visitors Bureau has partnered with restaurants, attractions, and stores to provide discounts to city visitors. Your ALA convention badge or special event ticket is all you need to redeem these coupons. Use the PDF files on this site to print out the coupons....

Dallas Convention and Visitors Bureau



African American Museum

The African American Museum, 3536 Grand Avenue, was founded in 1974 as a part of the special collections at Bishop College, a Historically Black College that closed in 1988. The museum has operated independently since 1979 and is the only one in the Southwest devoted to the preservation and display of African American artistic, cultural, and historical materials....

African American Museum



Museum of Nature and Science

Next door to the African American Museum in Fair Park, the Museum of Nature and Science is the result of the 2006 mergers of the Dallas Museum of Natural History, The Science Place, and the Dallas Children's Museum. Current exhibits include Planet Shark (right), Dino Dig, and winners of the 2009 and 2010 Trinity River Photo Contest. Its collections include one of the largest scientific collections of birds in Texas. The museum's Edmund W. Mudge Jr. Library of Ornithology is one of the most important and valuable illustrated bird libraries in the United States....

Museum of Nature and Science



The Dallas Pedestrian Network

The Dallas Pedestrian Network is a system of grade-separated walkways covering 36 city blocks of downtown Dallas. The system connects buildings, garages, and parks through underground tunnels and above-ground skybridges. It features an underground city of shops, restaurants, and offices during weekday business hours. Because the network was built over several years by private developers, there is no governing authority to ensure a consistent experience under or above ground, and [wayfinding](#) is subpar. One major entrance is at Thanks-Giving Square....

Wikipedia; Noah Jeppson



Reunion Tower

One of the tallest buildings in Dallas, Reunion Tower was built in 1978 as part of an urban redevelopment project that included the adjacent Union Station. Now attached to the Hyatt Regency Hotel, the 561-foot tower is topped with a geodesic dome that is lit up at night with hundreds of newly installed multicolored lights (watch the [video](#), 1:03) that flash in computer-generated patterns. Unfortunately, the observation deck has been closed since 2007, but views are available from the rotating



History of the Youth Media Awards: Part 3

[Sara Zarr: 'The library was an extremely special place to me.' \(video\)](#)

[Donna Seaman Interviews Dika Lam](#)



[Join Us on Facebook](#)

[Subscribe to our Newsletter](#)

@your library

made possible by:



Calendar

Jan. 31:
[Society for Scholarly Publishing Librarian Focus Group](#).

American Geophysical Union, Washington, D.C.

**Jan. 31–
Feb. 1:**
[Advanced Social Media Strategies](#), conference, Marriott Bloor Yorkville, Toronto.

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

Feb. 19–21:
[International Conference on Information Systems](#), Penang, Malaysia.

Mar. 3–5:
[International Council](#)

Wolfgang Puck restaurant, [Five Sixty](#), at the very top level....

Wikipedia; Reunion Tower; *Dallas Morning News*, Jan. 3

[Shopping the exhibit hall](#)

Whether it's ALA, the Medical Library Association, or Computers in Libraries, grocery store advice applies to any conference exhibit—and maybe to the whole conference itself. Different conferences are like different groceries. Make the most of your time by bringing a list and following it, take away only what you will use, keep track of your time so you don't miss all the educational and social opportunities available to you, and don't go hungry....

ReferencePoint, Dec. 28

Division News

[ITAL goes online and open access](#)

LITA has announced that *Information Technology and Libraries (ITAL)* will become an open-access, electronic-only publication, beginning with the March 2012 issue (vol. 31, no. 1). This change will help ensure the long-term viability of the journal by making it more accessible, more current, more relevant, and more environmentally friendly. The complete electronic archive of *ITAL* and its predecessor, *Journal of Library Automation*, will also be made available online....

LITA Blog, Jan. 10



[Steve Berry named Preservation Week 2012 national spokesman](#)

New York Times bestselling author Steve Berry (right) has been named the first national spokesperson for [Preservation Week](#) (April 22–28). Berry will make an appearance at the Midwinter Meeting in Dallas and will keynote the Preservation Week 2012 Kick Off on January 23. A devoted student of history, Berry and his wife, Elizabeth, founded [History Matters](#), a nonprofit organization that aids preservation....

ALCTS, Jan. 10



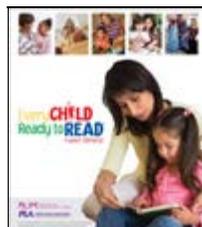
[ACRL visual literacy standards](#)

The new [Visual Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education](#) have been published by ACRL. The standards provide, for the first time, a common framework for visual literacy learning in higher education. The learning outcomes included in the standards offer new opportunities for visual literacy teaching and assessment, and support efforts to develop measurable improvements in student visual literacy....

ACRL Visual Literacy Standards, Jan. 4

[Facebook Forum to help answer Every Child Ready to Read questions](#)

PLA and ALSC will host a live, hourlong Facebook Forum with guest Saroj Ghoting, early childhood literacy consultant. No registration is necessary. Visit the Every Child Ready to Read [Facebook page](#) at 1 p.m. Central time on January 18. The companion ECRR webinar, "[Every Child Ready to Read: New Conversations on Research, Relationships and Partnerships](#)," with consultant Elaine



[for Scientific and Technical Information](#)

Annual Members' Meeting and Workshop, International Council for Science, Paris, France. "Delivering Data in Science."

Mar. 21–23:

[Louisiana Library Association](#)

Annual Conference, Shreveport Convention Center. "Puzzled? Louisiana Libraries Have the Answers!"

Apr. 11–13:

[Kansas Library Association](#)

Annual Conference, Hyatt Hotel and Conference Center, Wichita. "I Geek Kansas Libraries."

Apr. 11–14:

[Montana Library Association](#)

Annual Conference, Huntley Lodge, Big Sky. "Reaching New Summits."

May 9–10:

[Massachusetts Library Association](#)

Annual Conference, DCU Center, Worcester. "Book to the Future."

May 9–11:

[Maryland Library Association / Delaware Library Association](#)

Joint Conference, Clarion Resort, Ocean City, Maryland. "Choose Your Own Journey."

May 19–21:

[Maine Library Association / Maine Association of School Libraries](#), Joint

Meyers, will be offered beginning February 16. ECRR's 2nd edition [toolkit](#) includes a series of customizable workshops....

PLA, ALSC, Jan. 10

[Early-bird registration for PLA 2012 ends January 13](#)

There are only a few days left for early-bird savings on [registration](#) for the 2012 PLA Conference in Philadelphia March 13–17. The early-bird registration deadline is January 13. Keynote speakers will include Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and Betty White. Eleven preconferences will tackle topics like media relations, leadership, and grant writing....

PLA, Jan. 10



[Henry Jenkins anchors AASL Fall Forum](#)

Henry Jenkins (right) will be the keynote speaker and primary facilitator of AASL's 2012 [Fall Forum](#). Author and editor of more than a dozen books on media and popular culture, Jenkins will present his ideas and research during the two-day forum, October 12–13, in Greenville, South Carolina. In an environment of increasingly pervasive digital content, Jenkins is considered one of the first media scholars to chart the effects of participatory media on society, politics, and culture....

AASL, Jan. 10



[Kausch named YALSA 2012 board fellow](#)

YALSA chose Carrie Kausch (right), librarian at Osbourn Park High School in Manassas, Virginia, as its inaugural board fellow. The YALSA Board Fellow program gives one member an expanded opportunity to be involved in the leadership of the division. Kausch will begin serving as board fellow in June 2012. YALSA will accept applications for the 2013 [program](#) through December 1....

YALSA, Jan. 9



[Win \\$250 for your great idea](#)

Through March 16, YALSA will accept innovative ideas from its members for its Great Ideas Contest. YALSA members can submit ideas that help the division meet goals laid out in its most recent [strategic plan](#). To apply, visit the [Great Ideas](#) page and download the official application. Winners will be announced the week of April 23 and will have their photo and idea featured in *YALSA E-News*, YALSA's email newsletter....

YALSA, Jan. 10

[YALSA still collecting for Books for Teens](#)

After a December fundraising drive that was aided by a matching gift from an anonymous donor, YALSA raised more than \$1,200 for its [Books for Teens](#) initiative. Donations can still be made through the Books for Teens [Causes page](#), on [Facebook](#), or through the [ALA fundraising](#) page (select ALA Divisions and Offices and scroll down to YALSA, then select Books for Teens)....

YALSA, Jan. 9



[January YA Forum: Serving religious teens](#)

YALSA is featuring services to religious teens in its [January YA Forum](#)

Conference, University of Maine at Orono. "Libraries United."

June 5–6:

[New Jersey Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Revel Resort, Atlantic City. "ReTooling 4 Tomorrow."

June 7–9:

[American Democracy Project](#), 2nd National Meeting, Marriott Rivercenter, San Antonio, Texas. "Civic Engagement 2.0: Re-Imagining, Strengthening, and Deepening Our Civic Work."

Aug. 11–17:

[International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions](#), World Library and Information Congress, Helsinki, Finland. "Libraries Now! Inspiring, Surprising, Empowering."

Sep. 19–23:

[Joint Conference of Librarians of Color](#), Kansas City, Missouri. "Gathering at the Waters: Celebrating Stories, Embracing Communities."

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct



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

discussion. Sarah Holtkamp and Jennifer Lowe discuss how to connect religious teens with materials, what is implied by "clean reads," and how to help teens when there is a scarcity of material. Throughout the week, YALSA members are encouraged to check in to the forum, ask questions, and contribute to the ongoing discussion. The forum will close at 3 p.m. Eastern time on January 13....

YALSA, Jan. 9

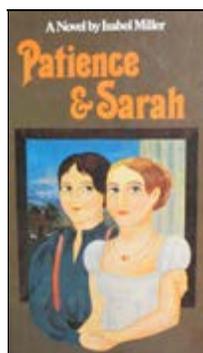
[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[Stonewall Book Awards fundraising campaign launched](#)

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table has announced a new fundraising campaign to support the [Stonewall Book Awards](#) program, the first and most enduring award for GLBT books. In their 40-year history, the Stonewall Book Awards have grown to include fiction, nonfiction, and youth categories and have gained national attention. This new fundraising [campaign](#) will help ensure the long-term success of the awards program and support the recently inaugurated Children's and Young Adult Literature Award....

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table, Jan. 10



[Luis Herrera: LJ Librarian of the Year](#)

San Francisco City Librarian Luis Herrera (right) has been named 2012 Librarian of the Year by *Library Journal*. He was cited for getting voters to extend their library support for 15 years, creating a strong alliance between management and union, and building effective partnerships with other city departments....

Library Journal, Jan. 9



[Ezra Jack Keats minigrants](#)

This year marks the 24th annual call for minigrant proposals by the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, with approximately 70 grants in the amount of \$500 to be given to qualifying teachers and librarians at public schools and libraries across the United States. The deadline for [grant submissions](#) is March 15....

Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, Jan. 11

[Apply for the Excellence in Summer Learning Award](#)

[Applications](#) for the National Summer Learning Association's 2012 Excellence in Summer Learning Award are due February 10. The award recognizes outstanding summer programs that demonstrate excellence in accelerating academic achievement and promoting healthy development for young people between kindergarten and 12th grade....

National Summer Learning Association, Jan. 11



[Library given Jefferson Muzzle Award](#)

Each year, the Thomas Jefferson Center for the

[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

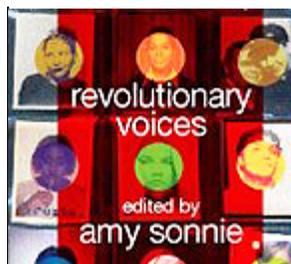


Katie Bane:
kbane@ala.org

Send feedback:
aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:
americanlibrariesmagazine.org/aldirect

Protection of Free Expression "awards" individuals and organizations with [Jefferson Muzzles](#) as a means to draw attention to abridgments of free speech and press, and foster an appreciation for the First Amendment.



The Burlington County (N.J.) Library System is among those to receive the dubious honor for 2011. Last year its director, Gail Sweet, unilaterally pulled *Revolutionary Voices*, edited by Amy Sonnie, from shelves, calling it child pornography, after receiving one complaint about its content. The removal was in violation of library policy....

Comic Book Legal Defense Fund, Jan. 9

[North Dakota collection receives national awards](#)

The North Dakota State University Libraries' [Germans from Russia Heritage Collection](#) has received the Award of Merit and the WOW Award by the American Association of State and Local History. The awards were presented September 16 at the National Convention in Richmond, Virginia. Since its inception in 1978, the privately funded, specialized archives has become one of the most comprehensive collections of German-Russian resources in the world....



Bismarck (N.Dak.) Tribune, Jan. 9

[2011 HP Image Permanence Award](#)

Nora Kennedy (right), Sherman Fairchild Conservator of Photographs at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, is the 2011 recipient of the [HP Image Permanence Award](#). The award is given by the Society for Imaging Science and Technology in partnership with the International Institute for Conservation and is sponsored by the Hewlett-Packard Company. Kennedy is being recognized for her outstanding contributions that advance the longevity of photographic and fine art images created via modern digital methods....



Preservation and Conservation Administration News, Jan. 10

[Vote in the 2012 Kiddo Awards](#)

Author James Patterson's ReadKiddoRead website announced the second annual Kiddo Awards that showcase the best books of the year for getting kids addicted to reading. Patterson has tapped the ReadKiddoRead board, children's book reviewers, librarians from across the country, authors, and booksellers and here presents the list of the 40 top picks of the year. Now it's up to you to declare the five victors. Voting closes February 15....



ReadKiddoRead, Jan. 9

Seen Online

[Research Works Act introduced](#)

In a perplexing turn of events, Rep. Darrell Issa (R-Calif.) introduced the [Research Works Act](#) (H.R. 3699) on December 16. Cosponsored

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

Sign up to receive *AL Direct* every Wednesday [here](#).

Manage your existing subscription [here](#).

[American Libraries](#)

50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X

by Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-N.Y.), the bill would effectively turn back the clock on the National Institutes of Health Public Access policy put into place in 2008. The bill was referred to the US House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of which Rep. Issa is chairman. Meanwhile, the Association of Research Libraries has [responded](#) to the White House RFI on Public Access to Scholarly Publications with its comments. Wayne Bivens-Tatum offers a [historical perspective](#) on open access....

District Dispatch, Jan. 9; Association of Research Libraries, Jan. 8; Academic Librarian, Jan. 11

[Publishers and the Research Works Act](#)



Maura Smale writes: "I was flabbergasted to read about the [Research Works Act](#), legislation that is strongly supported by the Association of American Publishers. I recommend reading the [AAP statement](#) in full—it's truly head-spinning. If this legislation goes through, it would be a major blow to open access to scholarly research and publishing. And this comes on the heels of the (unsurprising, yet still disappointing) news that SOPA and the Protect IP act are also [strongly supported](#) by many commercial publishers."...

ACRLog, Jan. 6; Association of American Publishers, Dec. 23; Gizmodo, Dec. 21

[Libraries are the best counter to piracy](#)

Peter Brantley writes: "On January 24, Sen. Harry Reid (D-Nev.) will likely call for an up-or-down vote to consider the [Protect IP Act](#) (PIPA, S.968), the Senate's companion bill to the House's [Stop Online Piracy Act](#) (SOPA, H.R. 3261). [Almost everyone](#) who understands the technical operations of the internet or cares about innovation is opposed to these bills.



Instead of heeding Tim O'Reilly's advice that making content available in desirable places under terms that users accept is the most profitable path, publishers are attempting to control something they have no adequate understanding of, and can never really control: computing and the internet."...

Publishers Weekly: PWxyz, Jan. 6; Know Your Meme

[PIPA, SOPA, and OPEN: A guide](#)

Corey Williams writes: "The latest bill to watch is the Online Protection and Enforcement of Digital Trade Act (OPEN, [S. 2029](#)). Introduced on December 17 by Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Oreg.), along with Sen. Jerry Moran (R-Kans.) and Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.), the OPEN Act is being heralded as a more palatable alternative to the other anti-piracy bills (PIPA and SOPA). To illustrate how all three bills compare, I've constructed a handy reference chart ([PDF file](#))."...

District Dispatch, Jan. 10

[Study challenges SCOTUS free-speech image](#)

The US Supreme Court led by Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr., the conventional wisdom goes, is exceptionally supportive of free speech. A recent study challenges that conclusion. It says that a comprehensive look at data from 1953 to 2011 tells a different story, one showing that the court is hearing fewer First Amendment cases and is ruling in favor of free speech at a lower rate than any of the courts led by the three previous chief justices....

New York Times, Jan. 7

[Taking shelter in the library stacks](#)

The Central branch of the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library, like others across the country, has a serious homeless issue. Metro Atlanta patrons also have complained about homeless persons in DeKalb, Cobb, and Gwinnett County libraries. ALA considers homeless people pouring into public libraries to be a nationwide concern, particularly for urban systems. Even if officials wanted to do something, like ban them or limit their access, the chances of it happening are slim. ALA President Molly Raphael said legal and philosophical reasons prevent it....

Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Jan. 11

[Washington State Library addresses budget cuts](#)

The result of Washington State's recent Special Legislative Session means a cut of nearly \$1.4 million to the state library's 2011–2013 biennial budget, a 12.5% reduction. Since 2008, Washington State Library's budget has fallen by 30%, and staffing has decreased by 35%. The state library's lobby is now unstaffed, and signs direct customers to the second floor—the building's only service point....

Between the Lines, Jan. 9



[Chicago branches to close on Mondays](#)

Chicago Public Library neighborhood branches will now be closed on Mondays beginning January 9, instead of being closed in the morning on Mondays and Fridays, as Mayor Rahm Emanuel originally envisioned. The change in plans, quietly announced in early January, is the result of a stalemate between the city and the union representing library workers. The union has not agreed to a schedule that includes working two half-days a week. Two Chicago aldermen [countered](#) with the suggestion that workers give up raises in order to avoid service cuts....

Chicago Tribune, Jan. 6, 10

[Scheduled book signing at library spurs outrage](#)

A book signing scheduled at the Leath Memorial Library in Rockingham, North Carolina, that featured *An Innocent in the House of the Dead*, a book of poetry written by Joanna Catherine Scott in collaboration with convicted murderer John Lee Conaway, stirred up an emotional outcry in the community. Conaway killed two local men 20 years ago. The library postponed Scott's visit and issued a statement....

Richmond County (N.C.) Daily Journal, Jan. 8

[Skokie Public Library: 30 years of musical talent](#)

In 1981, the Skokie (Ill.) Public Library went where few libraries had gone before. Introducing a program called the Young Steinway Concert Series, the library wanted to celebrate the arts for young people in a big way. The program's 2011–2012 season, which began in September to mark its 30th anniversary, continues to provide a performance venue for some of the brightest young musical talent in the region....

Skokie (Ill.) Review, Jan. 9



[Library partners with fitness centers](#)

Decatur (Ill.) Public Library has joined with a fitness center and the

local YMCA to provide free-trial exercise classes and demonstrations throughout January. The classes focus on a range of different workout types to help people of all ages and skill levels. Some classes include tai chi, karate, Zumba, and Pilates. The library also offers free health screenings and monthly lectures through a partnership with a nearby hospital....

Decatur (Ill.) Herald and Review, Jan. 7

[Mini-golfers take to the links . . . inside the library](#)

Dawn Bussey, executive director of the Glen Ellyn (Ill.) Public Library, said she took note when a few libraries across the country started hosting indoor mini-golf tournaments. In 2011, she brought the idea to Glen Ellyn with the inaugural Swinging thru the Stacks event as a fundraiser (\$5 a round). It raised \$9,700 and attracted about 175 people. This year there will be a Snacks in the Stacks booth selling candy, popcorn, and other goodies....

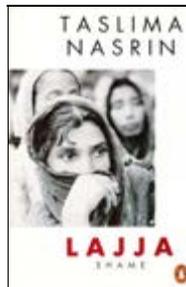
Arlington Heights (Ill.) Daily Herald, Jan. 9



[Bangladesh teacher arrested for placing banned book in school library](#)

The principal of the Pirojpur Technical and Business Management College in southern Bangladesh was arrested for possession of a copy of *Lajja (Shame)*, a famous novel by Bangladeshi writer Taslima Nasrin. Police found a copy in the school's library. The book has been banned in the country since 1993 because it is considered blasphemous against Islam. The teacher, Yunus Ali, faces up to three years in prison, but he claims he was the victim of a conspiracy....

Asia News, Jan. 5



[Funding dispute threatens Bosnian national library](#)

Staff and visitors at the National and University Library of Bosnia (right) in Sarajevo put on extra layers of clothing January 6, as the heating was turned off after the library failed to pay its bills. The library is facing the same fate as Bosnia's History Museum and its National Gallery, both recently closed because they could not pay for basic operating costs. All three institutions have run low on funds because of disputes over who is responsible for their financing....

Balkan Insight, Jan. 6



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[The coming war on general-purpose computing](#)

Cory Doctorow writes: "The shape of the copyright wars clues us into an upcoming fight over the destiny of the general-purpose computer itself. It may seem like SOPA is the endgame in a long fight over copyright and the internet. But the reality is that copyright legislation gets as far as it does precisely because it's not taken seriously by politicians. It's why the World Intellectual Property Organization is gulled time and again into enacting crazed, pig-ignorant copyright

proposals. We haven't lost yet, but we have to win the copyright war first if we want to keep the internet and the PC free and open."...

Boing Boing, Jan. 10

[Forget SOPA: Build a better BitTorrent](#)

Jon Brodtkin writes: "While copyright owners test the legal limits of website takedown processes and push legislation greatly expanding powers to limit file sharing on the open internet, a company that helps corporations protect intellectual property argues there is a better way: Create more user-friendly services for acquiring legitimate content. Envisional's head of piracy intelligence, David Price, said the large levels of pirated content downloaded on BitTorrent proves that copyright holders aren't offering enough legitimate, user-friendly avenues to get content."...

Ars Technica, Jan. 9

[Photojojo lenses on an iPhone](#)

David Lee King writes: "I recently purchased some iPhone photo/video lenses from [Photojojo](#), and wanted to show you what they do to iPhone video. I bought the three-lens bundle, which includes a wide-angle/macro lens, a telephoto lens, and a fisheye lens. They actually work pretty well. Watch the [video](#) (2:03) to see the three lenses in action."...



David Lee King, Jan. 9

[Store, organize, annotate, and read your PDFs](#)



Bobbi Newman writes: "I have been looking for the perfect PDF reader for a long time. Spending hours a day at the computer was killing my back; I needed a system and some tools, quick. I did some research and thought I'd share what works best for me. Here are my favorite tools and the why and how of their use."...

Librarian by Day, Jan. 10

[The library automation industry in 2012](#) | **kuali** OLE

Marshall Breeding writes: "As we enter a new year, I'd like to pause and consider some of the trends and events that I anticipate playing out in 2012. The predictions I made for 2011 largely held (see *Smart Libraries Newsletter*, February 2011). Given the momentum of developments and the issues currently in play, 2012 may turn out to be a very interesting year in the realm of library technologies."...

ALA TechSource Blog, Jan. 10

[Vizio brings first ultra widescreen TVs to US](#)



Vizio has announced three CinemaWide TVs with a 21:9 aspect ratio—the first devices of that kind in the US market. The three TVs shown at the Consumer Electronics Show are a 50-inch, 58-inch, and 71-inch screen. They aren't exactly new, but they will be new to US customers. The 21:9 (2.37) aspect ratio is close (but not identical) to the widescreen anamorphic cinema 2.39 format, which makes the TV-watching experience similar to watching a movie in the cinema....

Mashable, Jan. 10

[AT&T joins OpenStack](#)

At AT&T's Developer Summit in Las Vegas, company CTO John Donovan announced AT&T had



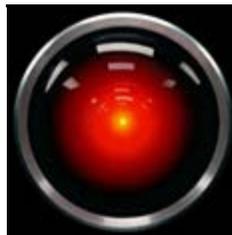
officially become a contributor to [OpenStack](#), the open-source cloud architecture project that emerged from efforts by NASA and hosting company RackSpace. AT&T is the first telecom services provider to join OpenStack. It announced the move as part of the unveiling of a new AT&T-hosted cloud product, [AT&T Cloud Architect](#)....

Ars Technica, Jan. 10

[Samsung develops emotion-sensing smartphone](#)

Sebastian Anthony writes: *"You are too angry to update Facebook, please try again later.* Judging by an early prototype Samsung Galaxy S II developed by a wing of Samsung's R&D group, your smartphone might soon block you from posting tweets and status updates, depending on your emotional state. Alternatively, instead of blocking you, a little emotional state emoticon could appear next to your tweet so that your followers can better understand your drunk/sad/angry/sleepy tweet."...

Extreme Tech, Jan. 9



[Top 10 Photoshop blunders of all time](#)

Joel Lee writes: "Adobe's Photoshop image editing software has become a staple in the world of graphics and media. The program's primary function is to take an image and alter it in such a way that the final image is cleaner, crisper, and—for lack of a better word—better. Unfortunately, mistakes are made, errors are overlooked, and the final product can be catastrophically bad."...

Make Use of, Jan. 10

E-Content

[E-content 2012: Dichotomous scenario planning](#)

Christopher Harris writes: "In 2011, the consumer market drove digital content. So what does 2012 hold for e-content? And what place will libraries have in this consumer-focused digital content world? To answer these questions, I will present a pair of dichotomous scenarios. These intentionally single-minded visions will attempt to view the future of e-content in black and white; your job is to consider the many shades of gray that fall between."...

AL: E-Content, Jan. 9

[Working with digital maps](#)

Matt Knutzen writes: "The New York Public Library has now scanned nearly all of its public domain [New York City atlases](#) (a collection of now more than 10,000 maps) and built a [web tool](#) where users both inside and outside the library can virtually stretch old maps onto a digital model of the world. This creates a new copy that is not only aligned with spatial coordinates on the Earth, but normalized across the entire archive of old maps. All of this is done collaboratively, through the piecemeal efforts of staff, volunteers, and interns, a group of roughly 1,500 participants worldwide."...

New York Public Library blogs, Jan. 10



[Study: Kids prefer ebooks to print books](#)

Jeremy Greenfield writes: "Given the choice between reading ebooks or print books, children prefer ebooks, according to a new field study. Children who read ebooks also retain and comprehend just as much

as when they read print books. A new QuickStudy by the Joan Ganz Cooney Center in New York City observed 24 families with children ranging in age from 3 to 6 reading both print and ebooks in the Summer and Fall of 2011.”...

Digital Book World, Jan. 9

[Fine. I got an e-reader. Now what?](#)

Travis Jonker writes: “Can I just say something? I’m wary of e-readers. Try as I do to reject traditional librarian stereotypes (I mean, I wear cardigans, but I wear them ironically), the idea of books on screens presents such a huge revolution in the way I operate as a school librarian that I can’t help but be hesitant. I have trouble going from a physical book to an e-reader. But then I bought a Kindle.”...

School Library Journal, Jan. 1

[An ebook is not a book](#)

Nate Hill writes: “I’d like to explain why I don’t think e-reader lending is a good plan for public libraries. It’s not that lending e-readers is a bad thing. If someone gifts your library a garbage bag full of Nooks, what the heck, please use them. Instead, I’d argue that libraries with foresight can spend their dollars on other programs, equipment, and skill set development for both staff and patrons that will far transcend the fleeting, temporary lifespan of the next version of whatever consumer electronics are currently fashionable.” PC Sweeney offers some [arguments in favor](#) of lending e-readers....

PLA Blog, Jan. 8; PC Sweeney’s Blog, Jan. 10



[Will there ever be a used ebook market?](#) **UNLOADER**

Dianna Dilworth writes: “Remember the days of selling your old books and CDs and using the money to buy used books and used CDs? A company called ReDigi is letting consumers sell used digital media, but it doesn’t seem to be going very well. In fact, [EMI is suing ReDigi](#) for copyright infringement. Could it work for ebooks? The [Lexink website](#) explains how it works.”...

GalleyCat, Jan. 9; *New York Times*: Media Decoder, Jan. 6

[Go back to the Top](#)

Books & Reading

[Nancy Pearl partners with Amazon](#)

Amazon Publishing is launching a new series, “[Book Lust Rediscoveries](#),” curated by librarian and NPR commentator Nancy Pearl (right). Pearl will select a handful of out-of-print books each year to be republished by Amazon in print and digital formats. Each book in the series will include an introduction by Pearl, reading group discussion questions, and a list of recommended further reading....

Amazon.com, Jan. 11



[Why didn’t Harry Potter just use Google?](#)

Lisa Jardine writes: “The first Harry Potter book, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone*, was published in June 1997. At a crucial point in the plot, Harry manages to



get into the restricted section of the Hogwarts school library in order to scour the books it contains for vital information on the alchemical origins of the philosopher's stone. Today any young reader would ask, as Harry Potter comes close to being discovered, 'Why didn't he just Google it?' Well, because Google wasn't founded until September 1998."...

BBC News, Jan. 6

[UK's Roald Dahl stamps honor children's author](#)

Quentin Blake's famous illustrations of *The Twits*, *Matilda* (right), and *Fantastic Mr. Fox* are all featured on a new [series of stamps](#) from the UK Royal Mail, issued to celebrate the work of Roald Dahl. Released January 10, the stamps also show James and the Giant Peach and *The Witches*, while a triumphant Charlie Bucket from *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* is brandishing a golden ticket on the new first-class stamp....

The Guardian (UK), Jan. 9



[The oldest book in the Smithsonian Libraries](#)

Lilla Vekerdý writes: "The oldest bound volume in the Smithsonian Institution Libraries is *De proprietatibus rerum* (On the Properties of Things) by Bartholomeus Anglicus and dates from circa 1280. Housed in the Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology, its Latin text is written in a meticulously fine hand on smooth parchment. Best described as an early encyclopedia, the book covers science and medicine, natural philosophy, natural history, and the nature of things in the world in general, as a 13th-century scholar saw it."...

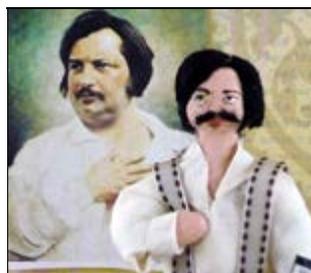
Smithsonian Libraries, Jan. 2



[Famous writers as handcrafted dolls](#)

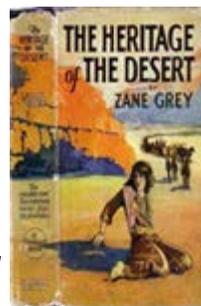
Caroline Stanley writes: "A treasure trove of handcrafted, miniature versions of some of your favorite authors are available for purchase on [Etsy](#). Just think, you can make a tiny Kurt Vonnegut chat up a pint-sized Flannery O'Connor. Joyce Carol Oates can have a deep conversation about heartbreak with Sylvia Plath. J. R. R. Tolkien and Isaac Asimov can arm wrestle to determine who is more popular. The possibilities are endless."...

Flavorwire, Dec. 8; UneekDollDesigns



[Edwardian first editions](#)

Only nine years in length, the Edwardian era (1901–1910) was short, and yet produced many famous books. [Journey back](#) to the first decade of the 20th century when adventure books were the height of fashion and *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm* was a



bestseller. First editions from this era are plentiful and easy to find. First editions, complete with dust jackets, from this era are scarce and more expensive....

Reading Copy Book Blog, Jan. 9

[A tribute to books](#)

One booklover in Toronto doesn't think books are obsolete, so he shot a beautiful [stop-motion tribute](#) (1:51) to books and the stores that sell them. Sean Ohlenkamp, an associate creative director at Toronto marketing agency Lowe Roche, shot the video over four nights with the help of more than 15 volunteers at Type Books, an independent bookstore in Toronto....

Huffington Post, Jan. 9; YouTube, Jan. 9

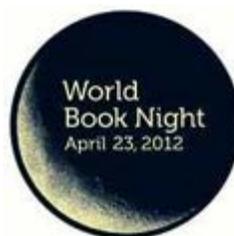


Actions & Answers

[Open letter to librarians](#)

Carl Lennertz writes: "Dear Librarians: Who better to pass along the joy of reading on [World Book Night](#), April 23, than you. I envision that at least a thousand of the 50,000 book givers that day will be librarians. And it's easy; just fill out an [online form](#), pour some of that book passion into your answers, and you're in. Get the word out to your colleagues through social media! And consider [being a location](#) for the book givers in your community to come pick up a box of free World Book Night books."...

World Book Night



[How Facebook can help you market your library](#)

According to Facebook statistics, more than [800 million users](#) have an active account. Facebook has taken social media interaction to a new level of communication. It provides an outlet to market your library for free, interact with your patrons or students, and share valuable information. Here is information on why creating a page will help your library, the benefits, and what steps to take next....

Tampa Bay (Fla.) Library Consortium

[10 ways to keep your Facebook fans following you](#)

Louis Rix writes: "Here are 10 ways to keep your Facebook page in your followers' news feeds—and in their minds. Number 1: Ask questions. Whether you're posting a status update, asking a question, or constructing a poll, people love to be asked what they think. Giving your followers a forum for their opinions will surely inspire some responses."...

All Facebook Blog, Jan. 10



[Google search gets even more personal](#)

Elinor Mills writes: "If I want to find out more information, for example, about Miranda July's quirky film *The Future*, I can go to Google.com and see the usual web [results](#). But with Google's new 'Search plus Your World' [feature](#). I can also opt in to see 'personal results' that will show me what people I know have said about it. If anyone in my Google+ circles has posted on the topic, their contributions will appear in the results. Any related images friends have posted in Picasa would show up as well." Turns out Twitter [isn't too happy](#) about the Google update....

CNET News, Jan. 10; Official Google Blog, Jan. 10; TechCrunch, Jan. 10

[Sifting the professional from the personal](#)



Randall Stross writes: "Among online networking sites, LinkedIn stands out as the one for professional connections only. By keeping professional identity pristinely separate from the personal, LinkedIn has grown to more than 135 million members. But challengers have arrived, in the form of apps. Independent software developers are trying to add a professional layer to Facebook and are hoping that users will accept a less-than-complete separation of the professional and the personal."...

New York Times, Jan. 7

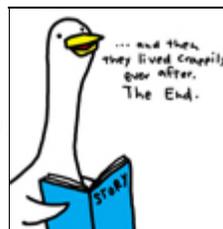
[Three library predictions for 2012](#)

Andy Woodworth writes: "In considering current trends and trying to read the library tea leaves, I opted for a few predictions for the year. Looking in my crystal ball, I think some things will stay the same (people complaining about ALA and lack of jobs; a whole lot of time will be wasted in committees, workgroups, and task forces while social politics trump their efforts). It's this lack of other trends that makes for few predictions when composing a list for this year."...

Agnostic, Maybe, Jan. 8

[Lessons learned in a year of story time](#)

Katie Ahearn writes: "It's been over a year since I started performing weekly story times in a library setting, and almost a year since I started doing them in the new branch library I work in now. Since I'm on my first story time break ever, I thought it would be the perfect time to reflect on some of what the past year has taught me. In no particular order, here are the 10 most significant lessons I have learned."...



Story Time Secrets, Dec. 29

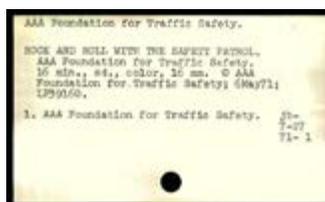
[Top 10 digital preservation developments of 2011](#)

Bill LeFurgy writes: "It's time to take stock of the most memorable digital preservation happenings of 2011. Here are 10 developments from 2011 that deserve special consideration because of their broad impact on the practical work of stewarding content, or on raising the awareness of how important this work is for our culture."...

The Signal: Digital Preservation, Jan. 6

[What do copyright records look like?](#)

Mike Burke writes: "There are about 70 million cards and record book pages among the pre-1978 copyright records at the Library of Congress. I thought it might be interesting to show some examples of these paper records. On the right is an example of a card in the Copyright Card Catalog. This is



the principal finding aid for titles, authors, claimants, and other names associated with the ownership of copyrights. Our vision is to create a data record from the content of these cards and make that available online for searching.”...

Copyright Matters: Digitization and Public Access, Jan. 6

[State agency databases activity report](#)

Daniel Cornwall writes: “Welcome to the first state agency databases activity report of 2012. We have a lot of activity to report from the [State Agency Databases Across the Fifty States Project](#). Here are a few highlights for 2011: There were 73,606 visits to state database pages and 10,325 visits to subject-based state database listings. The top five states by number of visits were Missouri, Florida, Alaska, California, and Ohio.”...

Free Government Information, Jan. 8

[Feds aim to revamp dot-gov](#)

Joseph Marks writes: “While the government is publishing more information than ever through some 18,000 websites, it has become increasingly difficult for agency information to reach the public. Older federal sites weren’t designed to work optimally with Google, so web searches today often list official government data well below less authoritative, outdated, or recycled sources. The Office of Management and Budget tried to rein in this web sprawl in June by ordering a freeze on new dot-gov sites and launching a program (watch the [video](#), 4:07) to slash the federal internet presence by one-fourth or more.”...



Nextgov, Jan. 3; YouTube, June 12, 2011

[ASERL creates collaborative journal archive](#)

The Association of Southeastern Research Libraries has created a cooperative journal retention program to assist research libraries in managing their collections of printed scholarly journals. More than half of ASERL’s 40 member libraries are contributing materials to this program, which will be stored for use through 2035. To date, more than 200,000 volumes have been committed for retention....

Collaborative Librarianship News, Jan. 9

[OCLC adds Books24x7 records to WorldCat](#)

OCLC is working with SkillSoft to add records for the Books24x7 digital book catalog to WorldCat. SkillSoft’s growing selection of more than 30,000 titles in a variety of subject areas will be represented in WorldCat with a link to the Books24x7 platform....

OCLC, Jan. 9

[Bibliographic framework: RDF and linked data](#)

Karen Coyle writes: “With the newly developed enthusiasm for RDF as the basis for library bibliographic data we are seeing a number of efforts to transform library data into this modern, web-friendly format. This is a positive development in many ways, but we need to be careful to make this transition cleanly without bringing along baggage from our past.”...

Coyle’s InFormation, Jan. 11

[Present a paper at IFLA](#)

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions has issued [calls for papers](#) on a variety of topics for its World Library

and Information Congress, to be held in Helsinki, Finland, August 11–17. The content of the IFLA program is organized by the different professional groups (sections, core programs, and special interest groups). Calls for papers are submitted through these groups. Papers should reflect the conference theme: “Libraries Now!—Inspiring, Surprising, Empowering.”...

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

[Why do library books have that smell?](#)

That musty smell is most likely cellulose decay. Since the mid-19th century, when papermakers began using groundwood pulp in place of cotton or linen, most paper has contained an unstable compound called lignin, which breaks down into acids and makes paper very brittle. Since 2001, the Library of Congress has treated at least 250,000 books every year with magnesium oxide. The chemical deacidifies paper and slows decay....

Popular Science, Jan. 6

[Cataloging coworkers](#)

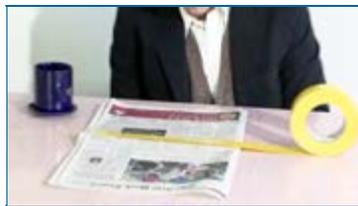
Will Manley writes: “What are some of the various categories of troublesome coworkers? Here are most notorious ones I worked with over a 37-year career: Prima Donna, Diva, Mover and Shaker, the Sycophant, the Spy, the Smartest Person in the Room, the Self-Proclaimed Technogeek.”...

Will Unwound, Jan. 11

[Brooklyn’s Rube Goldberg](#)

One of the newest gadgets in kinetic artist Joseph Herscher’s apartment in Brooklyn, New York, is what he calls the “[Page Turner](#)” (2:08), a Rube Goldberg device that will (after a while) turn the page of the newspaper you are reading. “I’m trying to make it as absurd and useless as possible,” Herscher said of his contraptions, which perform simple, energy-saving tasks in elaborately wasteful ways....

New York Times, Jan. 6; YouTube, Dec. 28



[Go back to the Top](#)

ALA PUBLISHING | AmericanLibraryAssociation

Sign up to receive *AL Direct* every Wednesday [here](#).
[American Libraries Magazine](#), 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611

American Libraries DIRECT

Contents

[American Libraries Online](#) | [ALA News](#) | [Booklist Online](#)
[Dallas Update](#) | [Division News](#) | [Awards & Grants](#)
[Seen Online](#) | [Tech Talk](#) | [E-Content](#) | [Books & Reading](#)
[Actions & Answers](#) | [Calendar](#)
[Great Libraries of the World](#) | [Digital Library of the Week](#)

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | January 18, 2012



American Libraries Online

Top 10 library stories of 2011

Facing natural disasters, technology issues, and privatization concerns, librarians responded with advocacy and innovation. These are the top library stories of 2011, as selected by *American Libraries* editors. Share your top 10 in the comments. Watch the [video](#) (2:47)....

American Libraries feature: AL Focus, Jan. 13



Emphasis on ebooks rocks Rockford

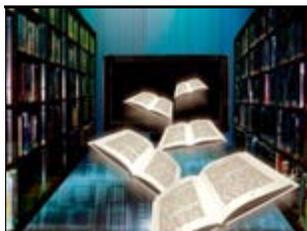
Area residents served by the Rockford (Ill.) Public Library are questioning a decision by the board of trustees to allocate 25.5%—or nearly \$303,332—toward the purchase of ebooks for the year. Protesters, including the local chapter of the NAACP, held a news conference at the main library January 13 to voice their opposition, stating that the increasing shift toward digital media will leave behind traditional users and those without money or access to new technology....

American Libraries news, Jan. 18

Threats to digital lending

Carrie Russell writes: "Check out your ebook licenses; if you think you own the ebooks that you paid for, think again. A thorough examination of the contract language may indicate that you are only renting the content, which would mean you have to pay the rent every year or risk losing all of your ebooks. State and local government officials might question what you have been doing with the money appropriated to fund your public library."...

American Libraries feature

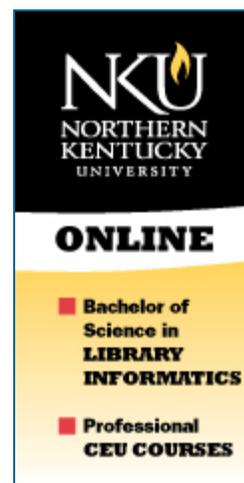


Ebooks and school libraries

Christopher Harris writes: "In their efforts to

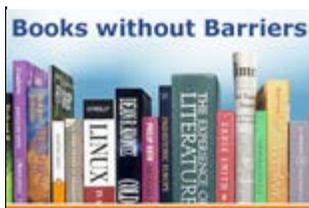


Be prepared for Midwinter with this Gale Cengage **shuttle bus schedule** ([PDF file](#)). And join the conversation from the exhibit floor or from your couch by following the Twitter hashtag [#alamw12](#).



implement ebooks, school libraries face a set of challenges that differ from those confronting their public and academic counterparts. In addition to the struggle they share with other types of libraries to offer current bestselling fiction ebooks, school libraries are also working to secure backlist fiction, curriculum-focused nonfiction, and multiple copies of books for group use.”...

American Libraries feature



[A publisher's perspective on ebooks](#)

Andrea Fleck-Nisbet writes: “It was a rainy afternoon just before Thanksgiving in 2007 when I stood on a New York City sidewalk clutching my first e-reading device. I had just come from Amazon’s press conference where Jeff Bezos announced the launch of Kindle. Publishers were skeptical. But in just a little over four years, the business of publishing has changed irrevocably.”...

American Libraries feature



[Union sues to block library outsourcing](#)

Just a month after the Simi Valley (Calif.) City Council voted to withdraw its city library from the Ventura County Library System, the union local that represents southern California library workers is suing to have the decision reversed. Filed January 10 in Ventura County Superior Court by Local 721 of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), the lawsuit charges that the city, in passing a resolution that went into effect immediately, failed to give the 30 days’ notice required....

American Libraries news, Jan. 18

[Using other sources](#)

Q. Today’s been tough. Kids are coming in with left-to-the-last-minute homework assignments for which they normally turn to Wikipedia. Do you have suggestions for teaching research skills? **A.** AASL and ACRL have developed statements and standards supporting information literacy. The ALA Library has developed a [pathfinder](#) to these resources that includes some sample content for a class on research skills....

AL: Ask the ALA Librarian, Jan. 18



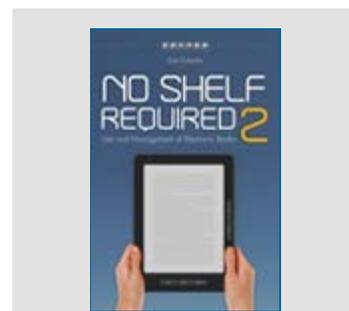
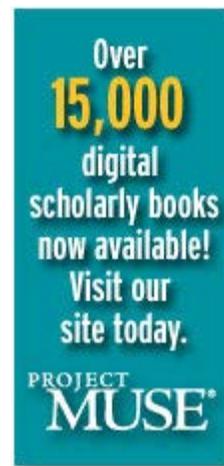
[Historic Houston landmark reopens](#)

An iron fence encircling the relandscaped front plaza and a Spanish Renaissance–styled interior highlight the \$32-million expansion and restoration of Houston Public Library’s Julia Ideson Library, home of the Houston Metropolitan Research Center. The library [reopened](#) in December....

AL Focus, Jan. 12; *Houston Lifestyles and Homes*, Jan.



[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

[ALA applauds SOPA blackout](#)

ALA applauds the numerous websites that have taken to the internet to protest two congressional bills—PIPA and SOPA—in a very public way. By either going dark or brandishing their website with a black box, sites such as Wikipedia, Reddit, Craigslist, Google, Tumblr, and many others, are demonstrating in a very real way the potential impact of these bills. ALA is [on the record](#) taking a strong stance in *opposition* to these bills; we also constructed the “PIPA, SOPA, and OPEN Act Quick Reference Guide” ([PDF file](#)). Add your voice through ALA’s [Legislative Action Center](#)....

District Dispatch, Jan. 18



[NetGalley: New ALA member benefit program](#)

ALA announced January 17 the official launch of a new member benefit program for members in partnership with NetGalley. Members who [sign up](#) to request digital galleys from NetGalley can now add their ALA member number to their profile, in order to speed request approval and access to upcoming titles. NetGalley’s catalog currently includes new titles from more than 140 publishers. In conjunction with this announcement, NetGalley is conducting a [survey](#) of librarian reading habits and use of digital devices. It will remain open until January 25....

Communications and Member Relations, Jan. 17



[ALA to unveil the best in children’s and YA books and media](#)

Children’s and young adult authors, illustrators, and publishing groups will wait in anticipation as ALA announces the top awards in children’s and young adult literature and media. The ALA Youth Media Awards, 7:45 a.m. Central time, January 23, in the Dallas Convention Center Theatre, will be presented during the ALA Midwinter Meeting. Recognized worldwide for the high quality they represent, the awards serve as a guide for parents, educators, librarians, and those interested in providing youth with the very best reading and viewing materials....

Public Information Office, Jan. 18



[What’s happening: A pre-Midwinter update](#) (PDF file)

The guide to all things Midwinter in Dallas has been posted in ALA Connect in the ALA Council community. This 30-page document by Mary Ghikas highlights what’s new, hot topics, get-acquainted sessions, interactive learning, and getting organized....

ALA Connect, Jan. 13

[Party hard guide to #alamw12](#)

PC Sweeney writes: “Here it is in all its glory: the ALA Think Tank’s Party Hard Guide to ALA

In [No Shelf Required 2](#), the sequel to her best-selling book of the same title, expert Sue Polanka dives even deeper into the world of digital distribution.

Contributors from across the ebook world offer their perspectives on what’s happening now and what to expect in the coming months and years.

NEW! From ALA Editions.

Great Libraries of the World



[Monastery of St. John the Theologian Library](#)

Pátmos, Greece. This Greek Orthodox monastery was established in 1088 by Hosios Christodoulos. Its library includes a wealth of Greek bound manuscripts, scrolls, early documents, printed books published between 1535 and 1845, the Golden Bull of Byzantine Emperor Alexios I Komnenos that established the monastery, and 33 leaves of the 6th-century [Codex Petropolitanus](#)

Midwinter 2012. Each of these links to an event in Facebook because they are not all on the official conference scheduler and they are not all official conference events. Take the time to socialize and meet everyone you can."...

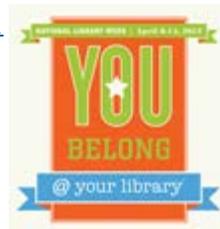
PC Sweeney's Blog, Jan. 13



[Ideas wanted for National Library Week](#)

Visit the Campaign for America's Libraries' exhibit space at the 2012 ALA Midwinter Meeting and submit your programming ideas for National Library Week. You could win a set of National Library Week themed promotional materials. Programming ideas will be featured on the National Library Week website as a useful tool to use the National Library Week theme, "You belong @ your library."...

Campaign for America's Libraries, Jan. 17



[ALA invites Obama on a school library tour](#)

ALA commends the First Family for its [service](#) to a school library on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 16. President Obama and the First Lady helped build bookshelves, paint the walls, and construct a reading corner for students in the Browne Education Center's school library in Washington, D.C. ALA sent a letter ([PDF file](#)) inviting the Obamas to tour an up-to-date, fully staffed, school library....

Washington Office, Jan. 17; CBS News, Jan. 16

[Share your Digital Learning Day activities](#)

The ALA Digital Literacy Taskforce is calling on all libraries to put a social media megaphone to their activities planned for [Digital Learning Day](#). February 1. As part of the taskforce's efforts to raise awareness of libraries' work in this arena, the taskforce asks library staff to tweet (hashtag [#DLDay](#)), blog, photograph, and videotape digital literacy activities and testimonials throughout the day. AASL and YALSA are serving as core partners. A [toolkit](#) is available from the Alliance for Excellent Education....

District Dispatch, Jan. 17; Alliance for Excellent Education



[Huron Street Press furthers ALA's mission to the public](#)

Taking ALA Publishing beyond its traditional market of library and information professionals, ALA announces the launch of a new publishing imprint, Huron Street Press. In line with ALA's mission to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all, Huron Street Press will publish a variety of titles designed to appeal to a broad consumer and library market. Its publications will harness the expertise of the Association, while encouraging library use among the public....

ALA Publishing, Jan. 17



[Start the conversation at the ALA Store in Dallas](#)

The ALA Store at the 2012 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas will be in the Exhibits Hall at Booth #1835,

[Purpureus.](#)



[Archbishop's Library.](#)

Kalocsa, Hungary. This diocesan library is located in the archiepiscopal palace near the city cathedral. Established by Archbishop Ádám Patachich in 1784 from his own book collection and the cathedral's medieval holdings, the library's reading room is surrounded by adjustable shelf units topped by 12 grisaille paintings by [Franz Anton Maulbertsch](#) showing the great thinkers of the ancient world. The library's oldest manuscript is the [St. Fulgentius Codex](#) dating from 1040, while the oldest in its rich collection of medical codices is a 1330 *Compendium medicinae*.

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.

ideal for easy access and convenient browsing. With plenty of new and bestselling items available, you'll want to make sure to carve out some time in your schedule to stop by. While there, enter drawings for signed READ posters and the chance to win a Professional Development Library....

ALA Publishing, Jan. 17



[America's Music programming](#)

The Public Programs Office, the Tribeca Film Institute, and the National Endowment for the Humanities have announced *America's Music: A Film History of Our Popular Music from Blues to Bluegrass to Broadway*, a six-week series of public programs featuring documentary film screenings and scholar-led discussions of 20th-century American popular music. Libraries related to music and music history may [apply](#) by March 14 to receive a \$2,500 grant to support the program series....

Public Programs Office, Jan. 10



[RDA Toolkit release](#)

A new release was pushed to the live site of RDA Toolkit on January 10. New releases are issued on the second Tuesday of the month. These typically contain updates to content and metadata, enhancements to RDA Toolkit functionality, and fixes to existing bugs. The next release is scheduled for February 14....

RDA Toolkit, Jan. 4

[IRRT supports Emerging Leader Valeria Gallo-Stampino](#)

The International Relations Round Table has announced that Valeria Gallo-Stampino has been selected as its 2012 candidate in ALA's Emerging Leaders program. She will receive a small award from IRRT to assist with program costs. Valeria currently works as a librarian at the Online Information and News Division in the busy Central Branch of the Vancouver (B.C.) Public Library....

International Relations Round Table, Jan. 17

[Librarian wardrobe: John Chrastka](#)

Nicole Pagowsky writes: "We have John Chrastka today. Although not an official librarian, John was a superstar at ALA as Director for Membership Development before moving on to his own consulting firm and is also currently involved with public libraries as a trustee and board president." Librarian Wardrobe will have [four photographers](#) at Midwinter and they might be asking to take your picture....

Librarian Wardrobe, Jan. 12, 17



[2011 Krug Memorial Fund Banned Book Week events](#)

Jonathan Kelley writes: "The six recipients of 2011 Banned Books Week grants from the Freedom to Read



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

Career Leads from JobLIST

[Department Head, Digital Library Services](#). Georgia State University seeks an enthusiastic, collegial, service-oriented and dynamic head of Digital Library Services who will provide leadership and management for web services, network and desktop systems, and digital initiatives. The Digital Library Services Department Head, reporting to the Associate Dean, Digital Library Services and Special Collections, leads a department consisting of two library faculty and five staff members, and serves on the library administrative team that provides overall direction for the library in fulfilling the research, teaching, and service mission of the University....





Foundation's Judith F. Krug Memorial Fund sent in clips from their many excellent activities—and we've compiled them in a new [video](#) (3:00). It features a montage of events from across the country."... OIF Blog, Jan. 17; YouTube, Jan. 17

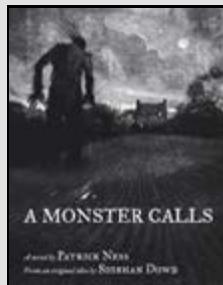
[Go back to the Top](#)

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

Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Youth fiction

Ness, Patrick. *A Monster Calls*. Sept. 2011. Illustrated by Jim Kay. 224p. Grades 7–10. Candlewick, hardcover (978-0-7636-5559-4). After the stylistic feats and dumbfounding originality of Ness's Chaos Walking trilogy, this follow-up effort comes as something of a surprise—an earthbound story concocted from a premise left behind by the late Siobhan Dowd. As Conor watches his mother succumb to cancer, he is pummeled by grief, anger, isolation, helplessness, and something even darker. At night, when he isn't trapped in a recurring nightmare too terrible to think about, he is visited by a very real monster in the form of a giant yew tree. The monster tells Conor three ambiguous, confusing stories, then demands a final one from the boy....



Top of the List interview

Ian Chipman writes: "The genesis of *A Monster Calls* is both sad and fascinating. After British writer Siobhan Dowd died in 2007, leaving behind the premise for what would have been her fifth novel, Patrick Ness was asked to write the book from her seedling idea. Ness, whose literary sf Chaos Walking trilogy made a three-peat appearance in *Booklist's* Editors' Choice lists, spoke to us about *A Monster Calls*, the 2011 Top of the List winner for Youth Fiction."...



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

Dallas Update

follow us on
twitter

@ [More jobs...](#)

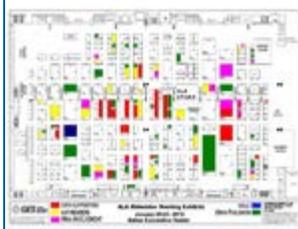
Digital Library of the Week



The [Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change](#) in Atlanta has made available online 200,000 papers belonging to the civil rights leader—the first step to bringing more than one million documents to the web. The documents give you a good glimpse of Dr. King's role as a scholar, father, pastor, and catalyst for change. Among the papers, you will find "speeches, telegrams, scribbled notes, patient admonitions, and urgent pleas." Notable documents worth visiting include King's [1964 Nobel Prize Acceptance Lecture](#), his [Eulogy for the Four Girls Murdered in Birmingham](#) (1963), and a draft of his world-changing "[I Have a Dream](#)"

[The concerned librarian's guide to the ALA Exhibit Hall](#)

Andy Woodworth writes: "With a number of issues floating around Libraryland at present, some social circles have been pondering what to do about library vendors who have expressed support for legislation with the potential to impede or block access to information. I thought the Midwinter Meeting would be a perfect opportunity for librarians to meet with company representatives to discuss their concerns about contentious legislation and ebook lending. Here is a list of exhibitors who support SOPA or RWA, as well as a list of exhibiting ebook publishers."...



Agnostic, Maybe, Jan. 12

[Go back to the Top](#)

Division News

[YALSA Academy launches on YouTube](#)

[YALSA Academy](#), a new online educational video initiative, launched January 17. The channel offers free training videos on popular, practical, professional development topics for school and YA services librarians, as well as other staff who work with teens in libraries. YALSA members and nonmembers are all eligible to submit a video. Those interested in posting a video should consult the [YALSA Academy website](#)....

YALSA, Jan. 17



[AASL turns White House petition into a teachable moment](#)

Utilizing Carl Harvey's petition for school libraries on WhiteHouse.gov as a teachable moment, the AASL Advocacy and Legislation committees have developed a [wiki site](#) for high school librarians to raise awareness of the historical roots of the petition process. The site contains resources on petitioning the government, school libraries, and the SKILLS Act, as well as a lesson plan, "Will you sign this petition?"....

AASL, Jan. 17

[Serving LGBTQ teens](#)

Navigating the transition from childhood to adulthood can be challenging enough, but for teens who identify as LGBTQ, adolescence can be an especially difficult time. Join Megan Honig for YALSA's Serving LGBTQ Teens [webinar](#) on February 16. Participants will learn to identify the common information needs of LGBTQ teens and how to develop strategies for supporting their safety and well-being in library spaces....

YALSA, Jan. 17

[Win a trip to PLA 2012](#)

Kathleen Hughes writes: "Create a 60-second video telling us about your library and what you would hope to get out of attending PLA 2012, March 13-17, and [email](#) it to us. One winner will receive a free registration, four nights in a hotel, and up to \$500

speech. Underwritten by J. P. Morgan Chase, the archive lets you navigate through documents by theme and by type of document. Or you can simply use a dedicated search engine.

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

"People will be doing research here, so we're going to discourage them from making phone calls. But if somebody wants to break into song, I guess that would be all right."

—Andy Leach, director of the newly opened Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum's Library and Archives in Cleveland, *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, Jan. 15.

@ [More quotes...](#)

ENJOY OUR
LATEST
CONTENT

['The Artist,' 'Hugo' Remind Us of Glories of Silent Movies, Cinema Past](#)

reimbursement for travel to and from the conference. If your library submits the video, only one person from the library can receive the prize. The top five videos (determined by members of the PLA board and staff) will be posted to our Facebook page for voting."...

PLA Blog, Jan. 16



[Winter e-learning from ACRL](#)

ACRL is offering a wide variety of online learning opportunities in winter 2012 to meet the demands of your schedule and budget. Full details and registration information are available on the [ACRL website](#). ACRL online seminars are asynchronous, multiweek courses delivered through Moodle. Registration for all online seminars and webcasts qualifies for the ACRL [Frequent Learner Program](#)....

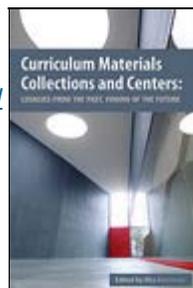
ACRL, Jan. 17

[Curriculum Materials Collections and Centers](#)

ACRL has released [Curriculum Materials Collections and Centers: Legacies from the Past, Visions of the Future](#).

Edited by Rita Kohrman, education resources librarian at Grand Valley State University, the book provides practical applications for curriculum material center operations that focus on the fundamental needs of students, faculty, and current teachers. This volume is essential reading for education liaison librarians, curriculum materials center collections and librarians, library schools, and general professional collections....

ACRL Insider, Jan. 18



[LITA National Forum call for proposals](#)

The 2012 LITA National Forum Committee seeks proposals for high-quality preconferences, concurrent sessions, and poster sessions for the 15th annual LITA National Forum to be held in Columbus, Ohio, October 3–7. [Submit](#) proposals by February 17....

LITA Blog, Jan. 17

[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, Jan. 17

[Upcoming ALCTS webinars and web courses](#)

ALCTS offers a wide variety of online continuing education opportunities through e-forums, webinars, and web courses. Here is a list of upcoming events for the winter and spring. Information on new courses, additional details, fees, and links to registration are available online....

ALCTS, Jan. 17



[History of the Youth Media Awards: Part 4, the Pura Belpré Award](#)

[Greetings from Los Angeles: Arts and Publics, 1950-1980](#)

[Connect with your kids: Celebrate the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.](#)

[Those Were the Days: Radio Broadcasts Illuminate History, Our Culture](#)

[Judy Blume, Library Advocate, Urges the Public to 'Get Involved' \(video\)](#)

[How to Get a Great Job: Getting Down to Brass Tacks](#)

[Win a Set of 2011 Caldecott Medal Books](#)



[Join Us on Facebook](#)

[Subscribe to our Newsletter](#)

@your library

made possible by:



Calendar

Jan. 23–25:

[Digital Book World](#),

Conference and Expo, Sheraton Hotel and Towers, New York City.

Feb. 1–2:

[Ambassadors of the Book: Competences for Heritage Librarians](#),

University of Antwerp, Belgium.

[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[New name for a Stonewall Award](#)

The ALA Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table has unveiled a new name for the newest Stonewall Book Award: the Stonewall Book Awards—Mike Morgan and Larry Romans Children's and Young Adult Literature Award. In recognition of a significant gift to the GLBTRT endowment, the name recognizes longtime round table member Larry Romans and his partner of more than 40 years, Mike Morgan....

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table, Jan. 17

[H. W. Wilson renews LIS scholarships](#) (PDF file)

The H. W. Wilson Foundation has announced continuation of its support of education in library and information science with a new round of scholarship grants. This year's scholarship program, its 14th consecutive, will deliver grants of \$10,000 to each of 58 schools, for a total of \$580,000. Grants will be distributed over four years (2012–2015). Each school will distribute its grant in accordance with its own scholarship criteria....

H. W. Wilson Foundation, Dec. 22

[Apply for a Libraries and Families Award](#)

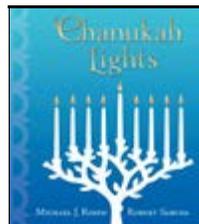
The National Center for Family Literacy is now accepting applications for the third annual Libraries and Families Award, made possible by Better World Books. Three library literacy programs that serve families will win \$10,000 each and scholarships to the National Conference on Family Literacy in 2012 and 2013. Applications are due February 6....

National Center for Family Literacy

[2012 Sydney Taylor Book Awards](#)

Michael J. Rosen and Robert Sabuda, author and artist of *Chanukah Lights*; Susan Goldman Rubin, author of *Music Was It: Young Leonard Bernstein*; and Robert Sharenow, author of *The Berlin Boxing Club* are the 2012 winners of the Association of Jewish Libraries' Sydney Taylor Book Award. The award honors new books for children and teens that exemplify the highest literary standards while authentically portraying the Jewish experience....

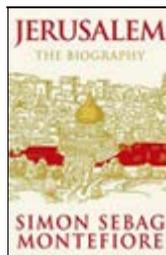
People of the Books Blog, Jan. 17



[National Jewish Book Awards](#)

The Jewish Book Council has selected Simon Sebag Montefiore's *Jerusalem: The Biography* (Knopf) as 2011 Jewish Book of the Year. The award honors the best nonfiction book with Jewish content written in English. The award ceremony in the spring will honor 17 winning books in other categories....

Jewish Book Council



[2012 Dolly Gray Children's Literature Awards](#)

The Dolly Gray Children's Literature Award will be presented January 19 at the Council for Exceptional Children's Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities international conference. The

Feb. 7–10:

[University of Toronto, Faculty of Information](#)

[iConference](#), Toronto Marriott Downtown Eaton Centre Hotel. "Culture, Design, Society."

Feb. 22–24:

[Intelligent Content](#)

Hotel Zoso, Palm Springs, California. "Strategies for Reaching Customers Anywhere, Anytime, on Any Device."

Feb. 29–

Mar. 2:

[WebWise Conference on Libraries and Museums in the Digital Age](#)

Baltimore. "Tradition and Innovation."

Mar. 21–23:

[Tennessee Library Association](#)

Annual Conference, Marriott Knoxville. "Libraries Transform."

Mar. 29–

Apr. 2:

[Art Libraries Society of North America](#)

Annual Conference, Sheraton Centre, Toronto. "Colouring Outside the Lines."

Apr. 11–13:

[New Mexico Library Association](#)

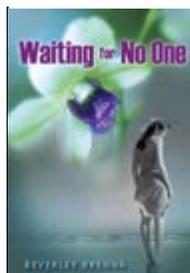
Annual Conference, Las Cruces Convention Center.

Apr. 17–20:

[Texas Library Association](#)

Annual Conference, George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston. "Relevant, Responsive, Revolutionary, Right Now."

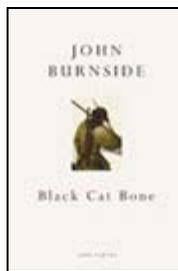
intermediate/YA award will be presented to Kathryn Erskine, the author of *Mockingbird*, and Beverley Brenna, author of *Waiting for No One*. In the picture book category, the awards go to Rebecca Elliott, author/illustrator of *Just Because*, and Holly Robinson Peete, Ryan Elizabeth Peete (authors), and Shane W. Evans (illustrator) for *My Brother Charlie*.... Council for Exceptional Children, Jan. 11



[T. S. Eliot Poetry Prize](#)

The Scottish poet John Burnside has won the T. S. Eliot Poetry Prize for a collection described as "haunting." Burnside took the £15,000 (\$22,980 US) prize for his 11th collection, *Black Cat Bone*. Burnside was presented with the check by Valerie Eliot, widow of the poet, at a ceremony in London. She has funded the prize itself since it was launched 18 years ago....

The Guardian (UK), Jan. 16



[Go back to the Top](#)

Seen Online

[The White House and SOPA](#)

The White House has finally given a detailed explanation of its stance on the Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA) and Protect IP Act (PIPA). In a [blog post](#) responding to a petition posted on the White House's website, the Obama Administration clearly laid out what it would and would not support. Any new legislation designed to combat online piracy "must guard against the risk of online censorship of lawful activity and must not inhibit innovation by our dynamic businesses large and small." Meanwhile, Wikipedia, Reddit, Boing Boing, the Internet Archive, and other online media (as many as [7,000](#)) are participating in a 24-hour [online blackout](#) January 18 to protest SOPA. More information on the piracy acts is [here](#); see how it might affect you [here](#). **Late-breaking news:** PIPA cosponsors [Sen. Marco Rubio](#) (R-Fla.) and [Sen. Roy Blunt](#) (R-Mo.) have withdrawn their support of the bill because of the outcry....

Mashable, Jan. 16; We the People, Jan. 16; *PC Magazine*, Jan. 18; *Huffington Post*, Jan. 16; *Swiss Army Librarian*, Jan. 12; *CNET News*, Jan. 18

[A song against SOPA](#)

Josh Constine writes: "On January 18, people took to the streets and blacked out the web to protest unfair piracy legislation. To the tune of Don McLean's 'American Pie' they sang 'The Day the LOLcats Died.' Created by comedy team LaughPong, the [video](#) (3:04) is silly enough to go viral but simple enough to make a difference. It urges viewers to fight back against SOPA/PIPA by finding their senators' phone number and



Apr. 18–20:

[Washington Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Tulalip Resort Casino. "One Tribe: Bringing Washington's Libraries Together."

Apr. 24–26:

[International Bielefeld Conference](#), Bielefeld, Germany. "Shaping Future INFO-Structures."

Apr. 25–27:

[Oregon Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Riverhouse Convention Center, Bend. "Oregon Libraries: Right at the Heart of Things."

Apr. 25–27:

[Utah Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City. "From Telegrams to Tweets: 100 Years of Connecting Utah Librarians."

May 22–25:

[Substance Abuse Librarians and Information Specialists](#), Annual Conference, University of Nevada, Reno. "Stepping Out of Our Silos: Creating Partnerships, Building Capacity, Delivering Information."

May 31–

June 1:

[Rhode Island Library](#)

telling them how they feel.”...

TechCrunch, Jan. 17; YouTube, Jan. 17

[Rep. Holt promotes WILL and SKILLS acts](#)

Rep. Rush Holt (D-N.J.) stopped at the East Brunswick (N.J.) Public Library January 12 to talk about his effort to try to pass the Workforce Investment through Local Libraries (WILL) Act, which he said would help local libraries assist in the nation’s economic recovery by integrating them in job training efforts. Earlier, Holt stopped at the Oak Tree Elementary School library in Monroe to announce the Strengthening Kids’ Interest in Learning and Libraries (SKILLS) Act, which would bolster support for school libraries with additional resources and funding....

Bridgewater (N.J.) Courier News, Jan. 12

[Budget cuts force US biodiversity program to close](#)

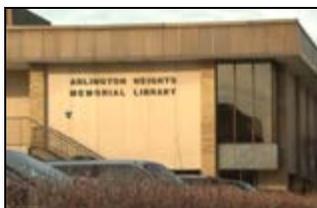
Budget cuts have forced a key biodiversity database to close, leaving scientists and researchers without a unified tool to access biological data from across state and federal agencies. The US Geological Survey’s National Biological Information Infrastructure program and its popular website shut down on January 15 due to the elimination of the program’s 2012 federal budget. The program’s closure follows a series of drastic cuts that reduced its budget to zero in 2012 from \$7 million in 2010....

Chronicle of Higher Education, Jan. 12

[Homeless persons turn to social media at the library](#)

Marcus Leshock writes: “She found herself alone, on the streets of Arlington Heights, Illinois, with nowhere to turn. Today, AnnMarie Walsh has a [Twitter following](#) 6,000 strong. Her online diary, [@PadsChicago](#), has spread all over the country, offering an intimate portrait into a world many know little about. How does a homeless person tweet? At the public library. AnnMarie was a frequent visitor to the Arlington Heights Memorial Library, using its computer stations to update all of her internet endeavors.”...

WGN-TV, Chicago, Jan. 11; Mashable, Jan. 5



[Schoolbook censorship emerges in Arizona](#)

At the beginning of the school year, as the Dysart Unified School District was preparing to buy more than 1,000 novels for its libraries and classrooms, Arizona Rep. Jack Harper (R-Surprise) posted to an online message board a list of books he thought the district was considering buying that he found objectionable. He said they may contain gay, anti-Christian, transsexual, and pro-Islam references. Arizona schools are also now prohibited from [teaching ethnic studies](#). If a book never makes it into a school library because of public pressure, does it constitute censorship? ALA thinks so....

Phoenix Arizona Republic, Jan. 14; Salon, Jan. 13

[60 Minutes / Vanity Fair poll on library visits](#)

Slide #4: “In general, how often do you visit your local public library? As for visits to one’s local public library, they fairly drip long-gone-era . . . and two-thirds of us partake no more than once or twice a year.”...

Vanity Fair, Jan.



Association. Bryant University, Smithfield. “RI Libraries: Enriching Individuals, Strengthening Communities.”

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries
Direct

ALA American
Library
Association

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

[UK public libraries agree on digital standards](#)

The heads of more than 4,000 public libraries across the UK have agreed to national digital standards, which include providing free internet access in every library, and the ability to join a library and renew and reserve items online. The Society of Chief Librarians said that the National Digital Promise will set the minimum standard for online services provided by public libraries in Wales, England, and Northern Ireland....

The Guardian (UK), Jan. 17

[Anna and the librarian](#)

Adam Arenson writes: "Did Anna Ella Carroll (right) save the Union, or just destroy an aging librarian's career? A fervent Unionist from Baltimore, Anna Ella Carroll was an active pamphleteer who knew many of the Republican Party's leaders. As the months-old Civil War intensified, Carroll embarked on a series of trips across the border states. In an 1886 article, Carroll gives an extensive account of how she turned the white-bearded director of the St. Louis Mercantile Library, Edward William Johnston, into a key source."...

New York Times: Opinionator, Jan. 11



[Trove of checks signed by presidents found](#)

Dozens of personal checks—some 150 to 200 years old and signed by the likes of Abraham Lincoln, Charles Dickens, George Washington, and Thomas Edison—have been unearthed by the Huntington bank in Columbus, Ohio. Some of the historic checks, all signed by US presidents, are on display at Huntington's newest branch in Brooklyn, Ohio. The checks had been in storage since 1983, but an employee noticed the historic signatures in 2011....

Cleveland Plain Dealer, Jan. 11

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Consumers prefer websites and mobile sites over apps](#)

Alicia Eler writes: "Welcome to the connected consumer. This person most likely has a tablet and smartphone, and is constantly connected to friends via Facebook. Today, more than 60% of 25–34 year-olds (Generation Y) own a smartphone. One in three online consumers will [buy a tablet](#) by 2014. That's a lot to digest at once, right? A new survey ([PDF file](#)) from Zmags investigates the connected consumer and digital habits."...

ReadWriteWeb, Nov. 22, Jan. 16



[Now there's a Congressional Record app for that](#)

Andrew Weber writes: "January 18 marks the launch of the [Congressional Record app](#) presented by the Library of Congress, an initiative of the House leadership under the guidance of the Committee on House Administration. The goal of this [new free app](#) is straightforward—to easily read the daily edition of the *Congressional Record* on your iPad (and maybe



To advertise in American Libraries Direct, contact:



Doug Lewis:
dglewis@mindspring.com



Katie Bane:
kbane@ala.org

Send feedback:
aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:
americanlibrariesmagazine.org/aldirect

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

Sign up to receive *AL Direct* every Wednesday [here](#).

American Libraries
50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X

save a few trees in the process). It has been a lot of fun to watch this project move from the conceptual mockups to a working iPad app.”...

In Custodia Legis, Jan. 18; Library of Congress, Jan. 18

[19 websites with free fonts](#)

Julie Greller writes: “Free is always good. And when it comes to fonts, there are so many out there, why pay for them? This list should keep graphic design teachers and other creative sorts busy. One thing to remember: The downloads are in a zip file, so your school might block this action.”...

A Media Specialist's Guide to the Internet, Jan. 17



[Tablet ergonomics: How to hold your devices correctly](#)

Whitson Gordon and Adam Dachis write: “While it’s hard to use tablets in the same way you’d use a computer, the risks of injury are the same: Repeated motion, unnatural postures, and bright screens can all cause injury if you aren’t careful. The problem with smartphones and tablets is that you can literally use them in a million different positions—most of which probably aren’t very good for your body.” Franklin Tessler has more [detailed information](#). Watch the [video](#) (0:56)....

Lifehacker, Jan. 17; InfoWorld, Jan. 11



[Go back to the Top](#)

E-Content

[Major Apple announcement on e-publishing January 19](#)

Chris Foresman writes: “Apple is set to announce a new product that will improve the use of technology in education at a [special media event](#) on January 19. While speculation has so far centered on digital textbooks, some sources suspect that Apple will announce tools to help create interactive ebooks and that will be distributed to iPhone and iPad users.” John Biggs [calls it](#) “a system for authoring and selling ebooks that is so simple that even the benighted publishing industry will admit that these Apple fellows are onto something with this whole ebook business.”...

Ars Technica, Jan. 16; TechCrunch, Jan. 17



[JSTOR tests free, read-only access](#)

Jennifer Howard writes: “It’s about to get a little easier for users without subscriptions to tap JSTOR’s enormous digital archive of journal articles. In coming weeks, JSTOR will make available the beta version of a new program, [Register & Read](#), which will give researchers read-only access to some journal articles, no payment required. All users have to do is to sign up for a free MyJSTOR account.”...

Chronicle of Higher Education: Wired Campus, Jan. 13



[The Midwinter awards bump](#)

Toby Greenwalt writes: “So much of what libraries do to fuel the engine of book discourse is intangible by nature. It’s a sad irony that we’re unable to document just how much we’re able to contribute to book sales, be they e- or p-. Here’s my cockamamie idea: I’d like to

get a snapshot of where the award-winning books in each category currently stand saleswise, and then compare that to its sales after the award announcements at Midwinter.”...

TheAnalogDivide, Jan. 16

[Growing an ebook library](#)

Carolyn Foote writes: “OverDrive has many limitations, but it’s the major player in the ebook market for 1:1 iPad devices. It’s fairly costly, only offers certain publishers, is an annual subscription (again costly), and using it with Kindles or Nooks is a bit complex. But with the iPad app, it’s a pretty easy implementation once the actual collection is built. I learned some lessons during our implementation process.”...

Not So Distant Future, Jan. 15

[Douglas County Libraries ebook purchasing agreement](#)

Jamie LaRue writes: “This is a draft ‘Statement of Common Understanding for Purchasing Electronic Content’ produced for the Douglas County (Colo.) Libraries with the assistance of Mary Minow of librarylaw.com. We propose to start using it—and to encourage other libraries to start using it, too. Your comments are welcome. See also our ‘[Dear Publishing Partner](#)’ letter.”...

myliblog, Jan. 17

[Libraries struggle to stock their virtual shelves](#)

Christian Davenport writes: “Kindles, Nooks, and iPads can do many amazing things, but they can’t bump you ahead in line at the Reston (Va.) Regional Library. In fact, if you want to borrow a book, it may be quicker to put down your sleek new device and head into the stacks. Checking out ebooks without having to leave home might be the fastest-growing segment in the library business these days. But the experience is often far from the on-demand satisfaction people have come to expect from their laptops, tablets, and smartphones.”...

Washington Post, Jan. 14

[Amazon authors see 449% royalty growth](#)

Mystery writer Carolyn McCray earned \$8,250 in December from having her ebooks checked out from the Kindle Owners’ Lending Library. Amazon reported January 12 that its top 10 KDP Select authors earned more than \$70,000 in December for their participation in the library, which lets readers check out books for free. Royalties for these authors grew 449% month-over-month from November to December....

GalleyCat, Jan. 12

[Go back to the Top](#)

Books & Reading

[Like *Downton Abbey*? Here is a reading list](#)

The British melodrama [Downton Abbey](#) is already the darling of American public television. Now the PBS *Masterpiece* series has become a marketing tool for booksellers and publishers hoping to tap into the passion of the show’s audience. Publishers are rushing to print books that take readers back to Edwardian and wartime England: stories about the grandeur of British estates, the recollections of a lady’s



maid, and World War I....

New York Times, Jan. 11

[The soundtrack of our books](#)

Sharon Steel writes: "Publishers and authors have begun to experiment more with audio as a natural step in the promotion of their books. Listening to music has always been an organic piece of literary consumption—anyone who has queued up a favorite record of sad ballads while reading a heartbreaking novel, in order to up the emotional catharsis, can attest to that. But recent trends suggest that readers are looking for even more direct ways to incorporate music into the reading experience."...

The Millions, Jan. 5



[Go back to the Top](#)

Actions & Answers

[Facebook deletes UNR's history project](#)

Nick DeSantis writes: "The two students brought back to life on Facebook by a University of Nevada at Reno librarian have been returned to the history books for violating the social network's terms of service. Facebook shut down the historical profiles of Joe McDonald and Leola Lewis January 11 for providing 'false personal information.' However, Facebook 'pages' have now been created for the students, rather than profiles, which are permissible under Facebook rules. McDonald can be found [here](#), and Lewis is [here](#)."...

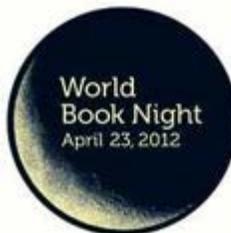
Chronicle of Higher Education: Wired Campus, Jan. 11



[Germany joins World Book Night](#)

World Book Night is continuing its international spread, with Germany now set to join the US and UK in staging a one-million-book giveaway on April 23. The event will be carried out in association with the Friends of Reading campaign, which is launching in Germany as part of the German World Book Day....

The Bookseller (UK), Jan. 17



[Creating the library of tomorrow](#)

Laurie Putnam writes: "All around the world, today's libraries are serving their communities in new and different ways. But is that enough for tomorrow's library? We *do* need to promote modern, relevant services in our current libraries, says Rob Bruijnzeels, founder and rector of the [Dutch LibrarySchool](#) in Amsterdam. For the long term, however, Bruijnzeels believes that libraries need rethinking, and they need librarians who think differently."...

Mind/Shift, Jan. 12



[Milwaukee campaign spoofs social media](#) (PDF file)

The Milwaukee Public Library has captured the interest of bibliophiles the world over through the promotion of



three billboard ads for its literacy campaign. Using social media logos as inspiration, the three outdoor billboards put a clever spin on Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter. The billboards will run until January 22 in Milwaukee County. But David Lee King [thinks](#) the message is misguided....

Milwaukee Public Library, Jan. 13; David Lee King, Jan. 17

[Becoming a departmental liaison](#)

Wayne Bivens-Tatum writes: "Many academic librarians end up becoming the library liaison to one or more academic departments, including librarians who don't normally work in public services. A good liaison is more than a contact for the academic department. Good liaisons become a resource faculty choose to contact first about any library issues. Here is some general advice on how to become an effective liaison based upon my experience."...

Letters to a Young Librarian, Jan. 12

[Classifying games and gamers](#)

Welcome to Gamer Classification Week. This week, Jacob A. Ratliff and Diane Rasmussen Neal are providing a five-part series on the categorizations related to gamers and gaming. Understanding these aspects of gaming is essential to helping you understand games, gamers, and the information with which we collide. Make sure you catch up with [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#), [Part 3](#), and [Part 4](#)."...

tl;dr, Jan. 13

[Health Literacy Challenge video contest](#)

The ¡VIVA! Peer Tutors of the South Texas Independent School District are conducting a nationwide health literacy challenge. Students enrolled in US schools in grades 6–12 can submit a video promoting the website MedlinePlus.gov from February 1 through March 23. Winners will be announced on April 16....

Vital Information for a Virtual Age

[Pick your poison: Wimp or dictator?](#)

Will Manley writes: "There are basically two types of library directors: wimps and dictators. Oh I know what you are going to say. There is a golden middle. Actually there's really not. There are dictators who masquerade as wimps and there are wimps who talk tough. Typically, a library director is either on the wimp side or the dictatorial side. Deep down you know that's true."...

Will Unwound, Jan. 17

[Library supercut](#)

The Greene County (Ohio) Public Library staff used video clips and music from 33 movies and TV shows to create a fun [montage](#) (5:24) of libraries in the media. It is well-edited and anchored by a *Sesame Street* episode with Cookie Monster in the library....

YouTube, Dec. 9



[Go back to the Top](#)

ALA PUBLISHING | AmericanLibraryAssociation

Sign up to receive *AL Direct* every Wednesday [here](#).
[American Libraries Magazine](#), 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611

american libraries DIRECT

Contents

[American Libraries Online](#) | [ALA News](#) | [Booklist Online](#)
[Division News](#) | [Round Table News](#) | [Awards & Grants](#)
[Seen Online](#) | [Tech Talk](#) | [E-Content](#) | [Books & Reading](#)
[Actions & Answers](#) | [Calendar](#)
[Great Libraries of the World](#) | [Digital Library of the Week](#)

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | January 25, 2012



American Libraries Online

[ALA 2012 Midwinter Meeting](#)

Challenges to school libraries and all library budgets were popular topics at the 2012 Midwinter Meeting, held January 20–24 in Dallas. This year's event drew 6,236 attendees and 3,693 exhibitors, compared to 7,549 attendees and 2,561 exhibitors in San Diego for the 2011 Midwinter Meeting, and 8,526 attendees and 2,569 exhibitors for Boston in 2010....

Public Information Office, Jan. 24

[The librarians of Occupy Wall Street](#)

Five librarians associated with the Occupy Wall Street movement's People's Library offered their views on democracy, protest, and the difficulties of providing reader's services under radically different circumstances at "A Library Occupies Wall Street" January 21. All five spoke of their personal experiences as part of a working group to support a viable library in New York City's Zuccotti Park from September 17 through November 15, 2011, when police evicted the Occupy Wall Street protesters and confiscated the library's books, tents, and computers. A portion of their presentation is [here](#)....

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 21; Occupy Wall Street Library blog, Jan. 24



[The value of quiet in a loudmouth world](#)

One out of every two or three Americans is an introvert, said Susan Cain (right), author of *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking*. Cain addressed a crowd of roughly 300 people on January 21. She noted that many people in the US hide their introversion because we see ourselves as a nation of extroverts: "bold, alpha, and comfortable in the spotlight."...

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 21



[ALA Midwinter Meeting](#) in Dallas, Texas, January 20–24, 2012.



Visit the ALA [YouTube channel](#) to see coverage of the Midwinter Meeting.

[Harwood keynotes President's Program](#)

Author and philanthropist Richard C. Harwood (right) spoke at the ALA President's Program January 22 on how libraries can improve America's communities. He focused his talk on why libraries are needed today more than at any other time, and he looked at what it will take for libraries to be more significant in the lives of their communities....

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 24



[John Green: Fighter for free speech](#)

"Librarians adopted our social media presence way before anyone else," said *New York Times* bestselling young adult author and vlogger extraordinaire John Green (right), who was at the Midwinter Meeting to promote his new book, *The Fault in Our Stars*. Wildly popular in the profession, Green addressed a crowd of approximately 600 people January 22 about how librarians can reach patrons through inventive social networking....

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 23



[Honoring a legacy that still inspires](#)

With a voice that echoed the melodious tone in sermons and speeches delivered by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Rev. Dr. Lewis V. Baldwin, an ordained minister, addressed the theme "Honoring a Legacy That Still Inspires" during the annual King Sunrise Celebration on January 23. Baldwin said he had many deep recollections of "a man righteous in his generation; a man who walked across the stage of history and left a legacy of achievement that will endure."...

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 24



[Jamal Joseph discusses life as a Black Panther](#)

Support and education for today's youth is the key to liberation. That was the overall message delivered by Jamal Joseph (right), author of the newly released *Panther Baby: A Life of Rebellion and Reinvention* (Algonquin Books), who delivered the 13th annual Arthur Curley Lecture January 21, in honor of the late former ALA president and Director of Boston Public Library. Joseph told the story of his involvement with the Black Panther Party and how those experiences helped to groom him into a writer, producer, activist, poet, and educator....

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 24



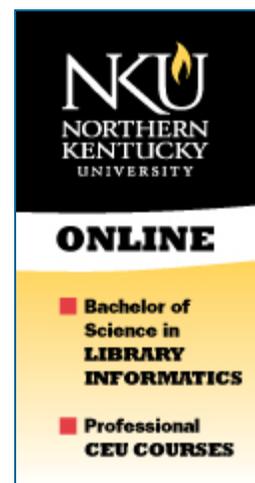
[Lynn Novick explains Prohibition](#)

For its 22nd customer appreciation breakfast on Sunday, Alexander Street Press invited as

Check out the ALA Midwinter [Flickr photostream](#).

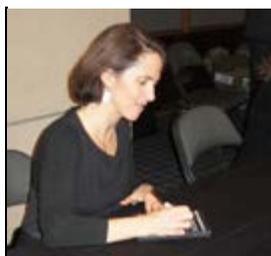


Keep track of Midwinter events and photos at the *American Libraries* [#alamw12 feed](#).



keynote speaker Lynn Novick (right), codirector and coproducer with Ken Burns of the *Prohibition* documentary series. Novick provided some insight into the life of a documentary filmmaker and showed a clip from the series that featured home movies of flappers and speakeasies taken in the Roaring 20s....

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 22



Reimagining the Dallas Public Library

Dallas Public Library is moving to a more community-based, content-driven approach “not necessarily owning stuff anymore, but providing access to information,” DPL Interim Library Director Corinne Hill (right) told the audience attending the “Reimagining the Public Library in a Post-Recession Economy” program January 21. One of its newly-planned branches will have an artsy design with gallery space for artists, who in turn will provide children’s programming....

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 22



[Go back to the Top](#)



ALA News

Raphael speaks up for Dallas libraries

America’s libraries are stretching their resources to their limit in the face of extraordinary budgetary challenges. This is especially true of the Dallas Public Library system, which has made the most of its dwindling funds. In this opinion piece, ALA President Molly Raphael (right) urges Dallas officials to support their public library system....

Public Information Office, Jan. 21



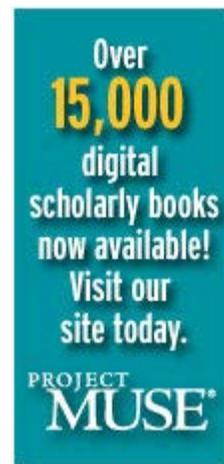
Librarians hear messages of empowerment

Andrew Albanese writes: “When Molly Raphael became ALA President in 2011, she unveiled an agenda that focused on empowerment—and at the ALA 2012 Midwinter Meeting in Dallas, ‘empowerment’ has been an overarching theme. The Midwinter program has revealed a palpable desire for librarians to seize more control of their destiny, whether on legislative matters, their community presence, issues in scholarly communication, or the ever-complex ebook question.”...

Publishers Weekly, Jan. 23

Presidential Candidates Forum

2012 ALA Presidential Candidates Gina J. Millsap and Barbara K. Stripling respond to audience questions at the [Presidential Candidates Forum](#) (43:42) during the Midwinter Meeting



This [Teen Tech Week poster](#) from YALSA invites you to Geek Out @ your library on March 4–10. This year’s theme encourages libraries to throw open their physical and virtual doors to teens and showcase the outstanding technology they offer, from services such as online

in Dallas. ALA members in good standing as of January 31 can vote in the election beginning March 19....

AL Focus, Jan. 24

[ALA Council](#)

In its second session on January 23, ALA Council approved programmatic priorities in line with the ALA "Ahead to 2015" strategic plan and in preparation for the FY 2013 budget. Treasurer Jim Neal (no relation) provided an update on the \$7 million Neal-Schuman Publishing acquisition. [Council III](#) covered such issues as discriminatory practices by publishers and the support of intellectual freedom in the Tucson Unified School District's elimination of its Mexican-American studies program in a January 24 session that ended nearly two hours early....

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 24

[Empowering Voices, Transforming Libraries](#)

Buffy J. Hamilton writes: "The highlight of ALA Midwinter Day 2 for me was the first session of 'Empowering Voices, Transforming Libraries' with David Lankes, author of the *New Atlas of Librarianship*. Lankes kicked off the session with his talk, 'Expect More: Our Most Important Conversation.' Then small groups participated in conversations centered around exploring the inspirational goals of our communities." Watch the [video](#) (6:58) and an [interview](#) with Lankes (2:11).

ALA Membership Blog, Jan. 24



[Carl Harvey on the White House petition](#)

AASL President Carl Harvey (right) explains ([YouTube](#), 3:08) the petition before the Obama administration to ensure that every child in America has access to an effective school library program by providing dedicated funding as part of the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The [petition](#) may be signed by anyone 13 and older; it needs to have 25,000 signatures by February 4. ALA President Molly Raphael discusses the petition in this [AL Focus video](#) (4:30)....

ALA Membership Blog, Jan. 23; YouTube, Jan. 23



[Libraries, meet Boing Boing](#)

Frances Jacobson Harris writes: "Boing Boing is one of the coolest places on the internet. It's edgy, irreverent, collaborative, and hugely popular. And guess what—Boing Boing has agreed to [partner](#) with ALA to help promote libraries. On January 21, I attended a brainstorming session at the Networking Uncommons to discuss how ALA members will [contribute content](#) to this effort. The result should drive lots of Boing Boing traffic to library blogs and news sources."...

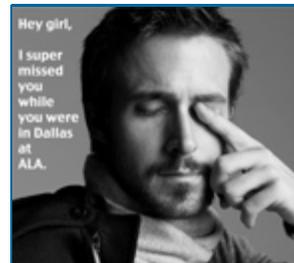
AL: E-Content, Jan. 21; Boing Boing, Dec. 15

[Lisa Loeb's ALA sing-along](#)

Pop musician and children's recording artist Lisa Loeb entertained nearly 400 people at the Wrap Up/Rev Up closing session January 23. The Grammy-nominated singer performed nine songs during the course of the closing session, including her popular "Stay," "I Do," several songs from her children's sing-along books such as "The Disappointing Pancake," and a couple of camp songs. Loeb is well-

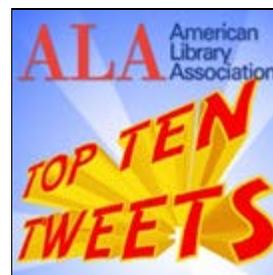
homework help and digital literacy-focused programs to resources like e-books, movies, music, audiobooks, databases and more.

NEW! From ALA Graphics.



Top Midwinter Tweets

from the [ALA Membership blog](#)



Laurie Borman:

Overheard in Dallas: I told ya those librarians were comin. They're here.

FakeLibStats: What colleagues do while you're at #alamw12: Enjoy quiet, get stuff done, move everything in your office one inch to the left.

@peepstone: PSA: Don't piss off groups of librarians. We have elephantine memories and a penchant for letter writing.

@politelibrarian: It is impolite to ask an #alamw12 attendee what insecurities their

known for her cat-eyed glasses, which many fans refer to as her "sexy librarian look."...

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 23

Advocacy without assumptions

Jennifer Martin, senior associate provost and dean of the Graduate School at Texas Woman's University, offered her perspective as a nonlibrarian advocate for the university's library at the Advocacy Institute Workshop on January 20. "I see libraries making a difference in the development of human capital, and I think we need to think about it in that way," she declared....

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 20

Four cutting-edge library programs

The Office for Information Technology Policy and LITA have selected programs at Contra Costa County (Calif.) Library, New Canaan (Conn.) High School Library, New York Public Library, and Scottsdale (Ariz.)

Public Library as the winners of the Association's third annual contest to honor cutting-edge technologies in library services. This year's winners represent creative engagement with technology trends, including QR codes, open source software, social media, GIS, and mobile applications....

Office for Information Technology Policy, Jan. 23



DeKalb County wins gaming gear from DEMCO

On January 20 in the exhibits hall, the Stonecrest branch of the DeKalb County Public Library in Lithonia, Georgia, was named the winner of DEMCO's Gaming Gear Package for ALA's 2011 National Gaming Day @ your library. Stonecrest will receive a DEMCO Triple Play Kiosk, a 42-inch LCD TV, and an Xbox 360 Kinect Bundle, a package valued at \$3,000....

ALA Membership Blog, Jan. 22



An Emerging Leaders sampler

Here are three short interviews with ALA Emerging Leaders Jovanni Lota, John Jackson, and Yuan Li (right). They share their thoughts on their bright futures as librarians....

AL Focus, Jan. 23



Community connections at the Unconference

Nicole Pagowsky writes: "One of the major themes at this conference is community connections. This is being explicitly talked about in such sessions as David Lankes's presentations and discussion, and it popped up in the Unconference January 20 as well. This theme is also going on within the community of librarians. This conference feels energetic and optimistic."...

ALA Membership Blog, Jan. 21



Sights from a sunrise jog

excessive nametag ribbons are masking.

Erica Reynolds: Next year, let's have an ILS and discovery interface vendor roller derby. I will start training now.

Andromeda Yelton: Am so moved by the creativity, enthusiasm, and intelligence I have seen at #alamw12. Let us match it with tenacity #andtakeovertheworld.

Bobbi Newman: You can't do more with less. You can do less with less. I really want librarians to stop implying otherwise.

Dan Suchy: Dear #alamw12 attendees: Remember that your #totebag will hold exactly 12 beers and 2 cats. Or so I heard.

Danielle Johnson: I pulled some kind of ligament or tendon getting off the bull at the Elsevier reception. Sometimes being a librarian is dangerous.

Joe Murphy: Ain't no party like a library party. Librarian graffiti in Dallas. instagr.am/p/j19on/

Matthew Cizek: I just want to hear Jim Rettig say "boing boing" again!

Todd Carpenter: Upon reflection, I wonder how many librarians were packing heat at #alamw12. Is this a regular thing I didn't know about?

Katie Risseuw: One

More than 100 Midwinter attendees met at Dallas's Reverchon Park before dawn for the 5K Fun Run. Part of the Think Fit initiative, the Fun Run returned to the ALA lineup after a hiatus of several years. It was moved to Midwinter from its traditional Annual spot in hopes of making it easier for attendees to participate. The winners this year were Eric Forte (right) and Nancy Fawley. The Fun Run is sponsored by Innovative Interfaces. Watch highlights on the [video](#) (4:26)....



ALA Membership Blog, Jan. 21

[OIF offers eight recorded webcasts](#)

The Office for Intellectual Freedom is offering eight recorded webcasts on vital topics in intellectual freedom. OIF's "Intellectual Freedom Summer School" offered a series of five online learning programs for public, academic, and school librarians in August 2011. In November 2011, OIF and the IFLA Committee for Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression cosponsored "Intellectual Freedom across the Globe," a series of three webinars on international issues. All are now available for [purchase](#) and viewing....

Office for Intellectual Freedom, Jan. 19

[ALA and De Gruyter partner on German RDA](#)

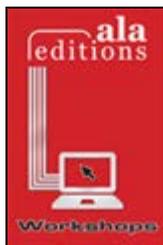
Berlin-based publisher De Gruyter announced the collaboration between themselves and ALA Publishing on the publication and distribution of a German-language version of RDA: Resource Description and Access. In addition to selling licenses for the RDA Toolkit in German-speaking countries, De Gruyter is licensed to sell the print version of the German-language RDA, scheduled for release later this year....

RDA Toolkit blog, Jan. 20

[Create presentations that don't put people to sleep](#)

ALA Editions is offering a new workshop, "[Creating Presentations that Don't Put People to Sleep.](#)" with Maurice Coleman on March 29. Learn how to banish that barrage of yawns, whether presenting to patrons, staff or the board of directors. Registration is available on the ALA Store at both the individual and group rates....

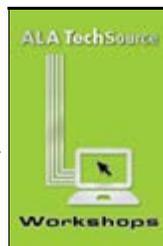
ALA Editions, Jan. 24



[Manage your electronic resources](#)

ALA TechSource has a new two-part workshop, "[Managing Electronic Resources in Public Libraries.](#)" with Michael Santangelo on March 7 and 14. With sound management of electronic resources, you will make better purchasing decisions and offer more content to your community. Registration is available on the ALA Store at both the individual and group rates....

ALA TechSource, Jan. 24



[Ebook workshop with Sue Polanka](#)

ALA TechSource will hold another session of its bestselling two-part workshop, "[Integrating Ebooks and E-Readers into Your Library.](#)" with Sue Polanka on April 4 and 11. Polanka will provide practical guidance on how to begin purchasing ebooks to lend electronically and how to purchase e-reader devices for patron use. Registration is available on the ALA Store at both the individual and group rates....

of the most important parts of ALA conferences is figuring out which hotels have the best bathrooms.

Stephanie Chase: Waiting for our flight. It keeps getting delayed. Plus, I am surrounded by children's librarians.

Kate: I'm hoping a bag full of ALA swag will make my coworkers who didn't go to #alamw12 despise me just a little bit less.

TiffanyE: I cheered, I cried, I made a general fool of myself. Sad that it's over. MUST be there in person next year!

Great Libraries of the World



[Ervin Szabó Library.](#)

Wenckheim Palace, Budapest, Hungary. Budapest's central library is housed in the former Baroque Revival Wenckheim Palace built in 1887 by architect Arthur Meinig. The palace was converted to a library in 1927 after the city council acquired it. The living spaces were turned into stacks and offices and the large ballroom was converted to a reading

ALA TechSource, Jan. 24

[Free Midwinter tech wrapup](#)

ALA TechSource will continue its free, conference-wrapping webinars with the "[2012 ALA TechSource Midwinter Tech Wrapup](#)" on January 30. Our expert panel (Jason Griffey, Marshall Breeding, Sue Polanka) will present their observations and analysis of the top technology trends from the conference, as well as what they see as the implications for libraries. [Register](#) now....

ALA TechSource, Jan. 24

[Go back to the Top](#)

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

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Youth media](#)

Kraus, Daniel. *Rotters*. Read by Kirby Heyborne. July 2011. 9hr. Listening Library, CD (978-0-307-94182-4).

Kraus's disturbingly haunting tale combines coming-of-age angst with a unique—and unsettling—family relationship. Following the death of his mother, 16-year-old Joey Crouch travels by train from Chicago to a small town in Iowa to live with the father he has never met, who is less than welcoming when Joey arrives at his dad's dilapidated, smelly cabin. Immediately shunned, ridiculed, and bullied by classmates who chide him for being the odiferous son of the mysterious "Garbage Man," Joey soon realizes that the revolting miasma of his new home results from the tools and plunder of grave robbing, the family trade, which first repels, then attracts the teen as he becomes an apprentice to his father....



[The 10 manliest books of 2011](#)

David Wright writes: "Well, I've seen just about every other kind of 10 best list, so why not this? Not the best, or the most popular, but, pound for pound, the 10 most testosterone-drenched titles of 2011. Care to differ? Let's take it outside. When the going got too tough for John Wayne, Kirk Douglas, and Burt Reynolds, they all turned to mythic he-man Hal Needham, whose chiseled mug smiles out in triumph from the cover of *Stuntman!*, despite its being engulfed in flames."...



[Best books for women, 2011](#)

Kaite Mediatore Stover writes:



room, which features stucco ornamentation with gold tracery, enormous chandeliers, and finely worked wooden staircases. The library is named for social reformer Ervin Szabó, the city librarian from 1911 to 1918, who modernized library services along American lines. A major renovation in 1998–2001 added two more connecting buildings.



[Pannonhalma Archabbey Library,](#)

Pannonhalma, Hungary. This neoclassical Benedictine library holds the 11th-century founding charter of the Tihany Abbey, which features the earliest written sample of the Hungarian language.

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.

"Women carry around the same question in the back of their minds every day: What does it mean to be a woman? Readergal looked over some of the books she's read this past year and reaffirmed something she's always known. Books may never answer that Big Question, but along the way, they will deliver a good story, a few laughs, and some insight."...

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

Division News

What's next for YA?

Buffy Hamilton writes: "One of the highlights of my first day at ALA Midwinter 2012 was attending the YALSA Research Forum, 'What's Next for YA?' This session focused on the YALSA research agenda, the first update published since 1994, that was unveiled last October. The purpose of this research agenda is to help librarians serving young adults provide the best possible service as well as provide data to advocate for funding for services and materials for young people."...
ALA Membership Blog, Jan. 23

Are school libraries endangered?

AASL has released the [second set](#) of video podcasts in its "30-Second Thought Leadership: Insights from Leaders in the School Library Community" series. The set features school librarian experts delivering brief and practical advice based on the themes of *Knowledge Quest* issues....

AASL, Jan. 24



AASL opens sixth year of "School Libraries Count!" study

AASL has launched the sixth year of its longitudinal study, "School Libraries Count!" A survey will gather basic data about the status of school library programs across the country; AASL will then use this information to develop advocacy tools to support school library programs at the local, state, and national levels. The survey is available [online](#). The deadline is March 15....

AASL, Jan. 24

PLA 2012 Virtual Conference

Registration for the PLA 2012 [Virtual Conference](#) is now open. On March 15-16, PLA will share a condensed, live, and online [PLA Conference](#) with public librarians and public library workers who can't make the trip to Philadelphia. Registration closes on March 2....



Career Leads from **JobLIST**

Access Services Librarian

North Dakota State College of Science, Wahpeton. Will manage the daily operations of the circulation unit of the library to include customer service, updating records, and other circulation issues, in addition to scheduling and supervising staff and students in this area. In addition will develop and provide library outreach and instruction, including conducting orientations and tours for individuals and groups, tutorials, social media, and library guides to resources....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library

PLA, Jan. 19

[New scholarship to attend PLA Conference](#)

PLA is offering a scholarship to one library school student to attend the PLA 2012 Conference, March 13–17, in Philadelphia. The scholarship covers conference registration, four nights in a hotel, and up to \$500 travel reimbursement. The deadline to [submit](#) a qualifying essay is February 1....

PLA, Jan. 24

[Enter a video contest to win a trip to Philadelphia](#)

If you plan on attending the PLA Conference in Philadelphia March 13–17, you can enter a contest by [submitting](#) a 60-second (or less) video telling PLA what you hope to get out of attending. One winner will receive a free registration, four nights in a hotel, and up to \$500 reimbursement for travel to and from the conference. The deadline is February 1....

PLA, Jan. 22

[Go back to the Top](#)

Round Table News

[NMRT's résumé review service](#)

Nicole Pagowsky writes: "On Sunday I did a résumé reviewer shift for the New Member Round Table in the [ALA JobLIST Placement Center](#). At every conference, NMRT offers this [service](#)—free—to anyone who would like their résumé (and sometimes also cover letter) reviewed. It's an opportunity to talk about the job market and interviews with people who can share some good tips and info for those seeking employment."...

ALA Membership Blog, Jan. 23



[Go back to the Top](#)

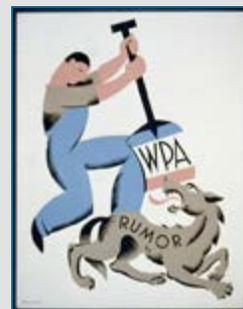
Awards & Grants



[Youth Media Award winners](#)

ALA announced the top books, videos, and audiobooks for children and young adults—including the Caldecott, Coretta Scott King, Newbery, and Printz awards—at its Midwinter Meeting in Dallas. The

of the Week



The Library of Congress [Work Projects Administration Poster Collection](#)

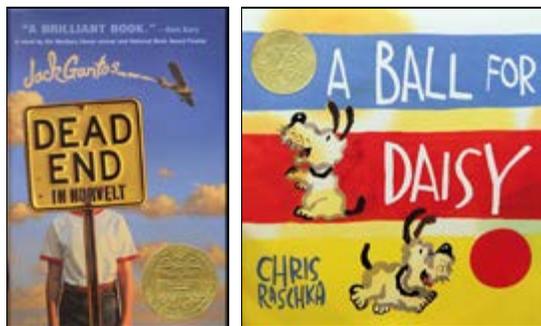
consists of 907 posters produced from 1936 to 1943 by various branches of the WPA. Of the 2,000 WPA posters known to exist, the Library of Congress's collection of more than 900 is the largest. The posters were designed to publicize exhibits, community activities, theatrical productions, and health and educational programs in 17 states and the District of Columbia, with the strongest representation from California, Illinois, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. The results of one of the first US government programs to support the arts, the posters were added to the Library's holdings in the 1940s.

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

Public Perception

announcement was [webcast](#) for those who could not attend. Winners are posting their reactions to the awards on the [YMA YouTube channel](#)....

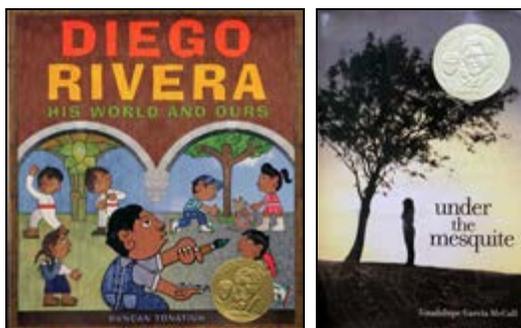
Public Information Office, Jan. 23



[Newbery and Caldecott winners](#)

Jack Gantos, author of *Dead End in Norvelt*, and Chris Raschka, illustrator of *A Ball for Daisy*, are the 2012 winners of the John Newbery and Randolph Caldecott medals. The Newbery and Caldecott medals honor outstanding writing and illustration of works published in the United States during the previous year....

ALSC, Jan. 23



[Tonatiuh, Garcia McCall win Pura Belpré Awards](#)

Duncan Tonatiuh, illustrator of *Diego Rivera: His World and Ours*, and Guadalupe Garcia McCall, author of *Under the Mesquite*, are the 2012 winners of the Pura Belpré Illustrator Award and Author Award, which honor Latino authors and illustrators whose work best portrays, affirms, and celebrates the Latino cultural experience in children's books....

ALSC, Jan. 23



[Nelson, Evans win Coretta Scott King Awards](#)

Kadir Nelson, author of *Heart and Soul: The Story of America and African Americans*, and Shane W. Evans, illustrator of *Underground: Finding the Light to Freedom*, are the winners of the 2012 Coretta Scott King Book Awards honoring African-American authors and

How the World Sees Us

"America's librarians, in town for a big conference, had descended on the downtown cantina in force, and the waiting area was a dense sea of lovable nerd. The dining room was loud and packed, too, and the staff looked like they'd been hit by a really well-read tsunami."

—Joe Tone, "[The Librarians of America Just about Destroyed Wild Salsa Saturday Night.](#)"
Dallas Observer, Jan. 23

"Education will be more about how to process and use information and less about imparting it. This is a consequence of both the proliferation of knowledge—and how much of it any student can truly absorb—and changes in technology. Before the printing press, scholars might have had to memorize *The Canterbury Tales* to have continuing access to them. This seems a bit ludicrous to us today. But in a world where the entire Library of Congress will soon be accessible on a mobile device with search procedures that are vastly better than any card catalog, factual mastery will become less and less important."

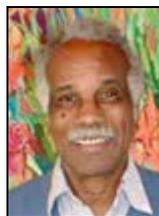
—Former president of Harvard University and former secretary of the Treasury Lawrence H. Summers, "[What](#)

illustrators of outstanding books for children and young adults....
Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table, Jan. 23

[Bryan wins CSK–Virginia Hamilton Award](#)

Author, folklorist, poet, and illustrator Ashley Bryan (right) is the winner of the Coretta Scott King–Virginia Hamilton Practitioner Award for Lifetime Achievement. In 1962, he became the first African American to both write and illustrate a children's book....

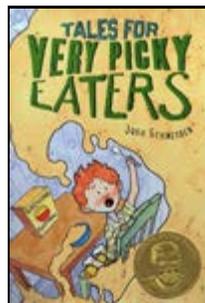
Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, Jan. 23



[Josh Schneider wins Geisel Award](#)

Author and illustrator Josh Schneider is the 2012 recipient of the Theodor Seuss Geisel Award for *Tales for Very Picky Eaters* (Clarion). Each of the five chapters recounts James's refusal to eat yet another disgusting, smelly, repulsive, lumpy, or slimy food. The Geisel Award is given to the author(s) and illustrator(s) of the most distinguished American book for beginning readers published in English in the United States....

ALSC, Jan. 23



[Where Things Come Back wins Printz Award](#)

Where Things Come Back, written by debut author John Corey Whaley, published by Atheneum Books for Young Readers, has won the 2012 Michael L. Printz Award for Excellence in Young Adult Literature. Witty, sardonic Cullen Witter agonizes over the disappearance of his stiflingly dull Arkansas town thrills to the apparent return of a long-extinct woodpecker. The title was also named the winner of the 2012 [William C. Morris Award](#), which honors a book written for young adults by a previously unpublished author....

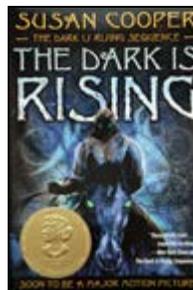
YALSA, Jan. 23



[Susan Cooper honored with Edwards Award](#)

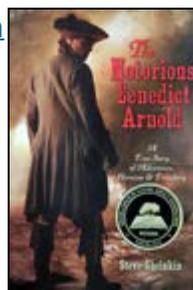
Susan Cooper is the recipient of the 2012 Margaret A. Edwards Award that honors her significant and lasting contribution to YA writing for *The Dark Is Rising Sequence*. In one of the most influential epic high fantasies in literature, Cooper evokes Celtic and Arthurian mythology and masterly world-building in a high-stakes battle between good and evil, embodied in the coming-of-age journey of Will Stanton....

YALSA, Jan. 23



[YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction](#)

The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism, and Treachery, written by Steve Sheinkin and published by Flash Point/Roaring Brook Press, has been named the 2012 winner of the YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults. This cradle-to-grave biography emphasizes the political, social, and military issues within the Colonial army and how Arnold ambitiously maneuvered his own career through grit and determination. The award honors the best nonfiction book published for young adults (ages 12–18) during a



[You \(Really\) Need to Know..](#)
based on a speech at the
*New York Times Schools for
Tomorrow* conference, *New
York Times*, Jan. 20.

@ [More quotes...](#)

ENJOY OUR
LATEST
CONTENT

[ALA's 2012 Youth Media Awards: The Best Books and Media for Children and Young Adults](#)



[Winners of 2012 Youth Media Awards Posting Their Reactions on YouTube](#)

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

[At Last--Etta James and Chess Records](#)

[History of the Youth Media Awards: Part 5, the Stonewall Awards](#)

[New Work by Photographer Annie Leibovitz](#)

[One-Man Shows Featuring Historic Figures Continue to be Popular](#)

 [Join Us on Facebook](#)

[Subscribe to our Newsletter](#)

@your library

made possible by:



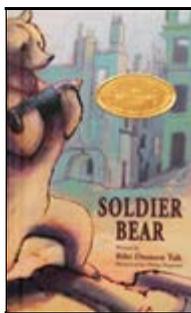
Calendar

Feb. 1–2:
[Handheld Librarian.](#)

November 1–October 31 publishing year....
YALSA, Jan. 23

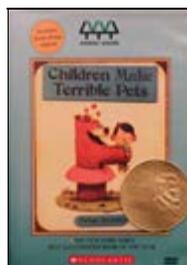
[Batchelder Award honors Eerdmans Books](#)

Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, an imprint of William B. Eerdmans Publishing, is the winner of the 2012 Mildred L. Batchelder Award for *Soldier Bear*, the most outstanding children's book originally published in a foreign language and subsequently translated into English for publication in the United States. Originally published in Dutch in 2008 as *Soldaat Wojtek*, the book was written by Bibi Dumon Tak, illustrated by Philip Hopman, and translated by Laura Watkinson....
ALSC, Jan. 23



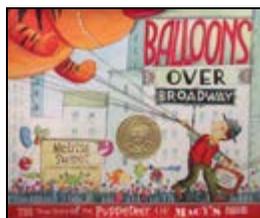
[Carnegie Medal goes to Children Make Terrible Pets](#)

Paul R. Gagne and Melissa Reilly Ellard of Weston Woods Studios, producers of *Children Make Terrible Pets*, are the 2012 recipients of the Andrew Carnegie Medal for excellence in children's video. In this whimsical reversal of "Can I keep him?", Lucy Bear finds a little boy in the forest and takes him home against her mother's advice. Although she and Squeaker become best friends, Lucy soon discovers that taking care of her cute critter is not all fun and games. The narration is by Emily Eiden....
ALSC, Jan. 23



[Melissa Sweet wins 2012 Sibert Medal](#)

Melissa Sweet, author and illustrator of *Balloons over Broadway: The True Story of the Puppeteer of Macy's Parade* (Houghton Mifflin), was named the winner of the 2012 Robert F. Sibert Medal for the most distinguished informational book for children published in 2011. The book tells the story of Tony Sarg, the artistic inventor who conceived of the huge balloons that float through New York City each Thanksgiving....
ALSC, Jan. 23

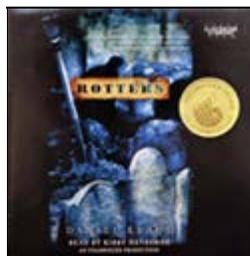


[2012 Alex Awards](#)

YALSA has selected 10 adult books with special appeal to teen readers to receive the 2012 Alex Awards. The awards, sponsored by the Margaret A. Edwards Trust, were created to recognize that many teens enjoy and often prefer books written for adults, and to assist librarians in recommending adult books that appeal to teens....
YALSA, Jan. 23

[Odyssey Award goes to Listening Library](#)

Listening Library, producer of the audiobook *Rotters*, has won the 2012 Odyssey Award for Excellence in Audiobook Production. The Odyssey Award is given to the producer of the best audiobook produced for children and/or young adults. *Rotters*, written by *Booklist* editor Daniel Kraus and narrated by Kirby Heyborne, tells the strange tale of Joey, a 16-year-old whose mother has died. His struggle begins as he is dropped into the isolated world of his father, a grave robber....



Online Conference.
"Mobile Solutions for Libraries that Work."

Apr. 17–20:
[Texas Library Association](#), Annual Conference, George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston.
"Relevant, Responsive, Revolutionary, Right Now."

May 30–June 1:
[Society for Scholarly Publishing](#), Annual Meeting, Marriott Crystal Gateway, Arlington, Virginia.
"Social, Mobile, Agile, Global: Are You Ready?"

June 7–10:
[North American Serials Interest Group](#), Annual Conference, Sheraton Music City, Nashville.

June 10–14:
[Joint Conference on Digital Libraries](#), George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
"#preserving #linking #using #sharing."

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

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct



AL Direct is a free electronic

YALSA, Jan. 23

[2012 Fabulous Films for Young Adults](#)

YALSA has announced its [2012 Fabulous Films for Young Adults](#). The list identifies a body of films relating to a theme that will appeal to young adults ages 12–18 and is presented annually at the ALA Midwinter Meeting. This year's list includes 25 titles based on the theme "Song and Dance."...

YALSA, Jan. 24

[2012 Great Graphic Novels for Teens](#)

YALSA announced its [2012 Great Graphic Novels for Teens](#). The list of 56 titles, drawn from 78 official nominations, is presented annually at the ALA Midwinter Meeting. The books, recommended for ages 12–18, meet the criteria of both good-quality literature and appealing reading for teens....

YALSA, Jan. 24

[2012 Amazing Audiobooks for Young Adults](#)

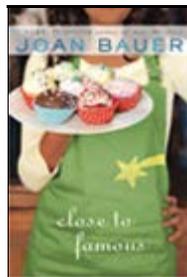
YALSA announced its [2012 Amazing Audiobooks for Young Adults](#) list. The list for ages 12–18 is drawn from the previous two years of spoken-word releases and presented annually at the ALA Midwinter Meeting....

YALSA, Jan. 24

[2012 Schneider Family Book Awards](#)

Winners of the Schneider Family Book Award, which honors authors and illustrators for the for the artistic expression of the disability experience for children's and adolescent audiences, were announced at the ALA Midwinter Meeting. *Close to Famous* by Joan Bauer was the winner in the middle school category; and *The Running Dream* by Wendelin Van Draanen was the winner in the teen category....

Public Information Office, Jan. 23



[Michael Morpurgo to deliver 2013 Arbuthnot Lecture](#)

Children's Laureate Michael Morpurgo will deliver the 2013 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture. Each year, an individual of distinction in the field of children's literature is chosen to write and deliver a lecture that will make a significant contribution to the world of children's literature. The lecture is delivered in April and subsequently published in *Children and Libraries*....

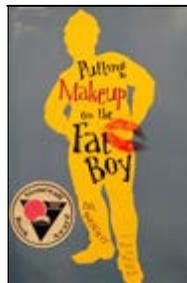
ALSC, Jan. 23



[2012 Stonewall Book Awards](#)

The Stonewall Book Awards are given annually to English-language works of exceptional merit relating to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender experience. The winners are Bil Wright, *Putting Makeup on the Fat Boy* (Simon & Schuster); Wayne Hoffman, *Sweet Like Sugar* (Kensington); and Jonathan D. Katz and David C. Ward, *Hide/Seek: Difference and Desire in American Portraiture* (Smithsonian)....

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table, Jan. 23



[2012 Over the Rainbow list](#)

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



Katie Bane:

kbane@ala.org

Send feedback:

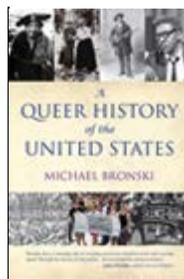
aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:

[americanlibrariesmagazine](#)

The [2012 Over the Rainbow booklist](#), sponsored by the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table, features quality fiction and nonfiction books for adults that are recognized for their authentic expression of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender experiences. This year's list includes 74 titles published between July 1, 2010, and December 31, 2011....

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table, Jan. 23



aldirect.org

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

[2012 Rainbow Books list](#)

The [2012 Rainbow Books list](#), a joint project of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table and the Social Responsibilities Round Table, was announced at the ALA Midwinter Meeting. The bibliography features recommended fiction and nonfiction titles for young readers, from birth through age 18, noted for their significant and authentic GLBTQ content. This year's list includes 32 titles....

Social Responsibilities Round Table, Jan. 24



Sign up to receive *AL Direct* every Wednesday [here](#).

[American Libraries](#)

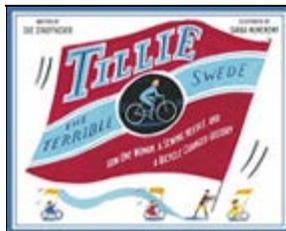
50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X

[2012 Amelia Bloomer List](#)

The Amelia Bloomer Project, a product of the ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table's Feminist Task Force, has announced the 2012 Amelia Bloomer List, which consists of well-written and well-illustrated books with significant feminist content, intended for young readers from birth to 18 years old. This year's list includes 78 titles published between July 1, 2010, and December 31, 2011....

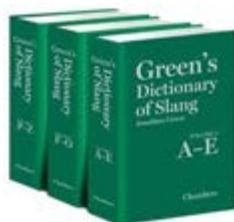
Social Responsibilities Round Table, Jan. 23



[Slang collection wins Dartmouth Medal](#)

RUSA has selected *Green's Dictionary of Slang* (Chambers) as the winner of its 2012 Dartmouth Medal, an annual award for a reference work of outstanding quality and significance. The dictionary was selected for its comprehensive and inclusive scholarship for slang in the United Kingdom, United States, Canada, Australia, and other English-speaking countries....

RUSA, Jan. 22



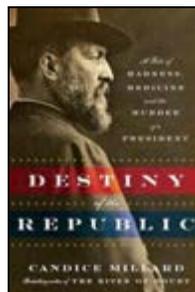
[Outstanding Reference Sources](#)

RUSA has announced its selections for the 2012 Outstanding Reference Sources. This list of titles identifies the most important reference publications for small and medium-sized public and academic libraries published in a given year....

RUSA, Jan. 22

[Notable Books List](#)

RUSA has announced its selections for the 2012 Notable Books List—a source for very good and very important fiction, nonfiction, and poetry for the nation's adult readers. The winners were selected by the Notable Books Council, a group of RUSA members and readers' advisory experts from around the country. Since 1944, the council has annually selected a list of about 25 important books for adults....



RUSA, Jan. 22

[RUSA's inaugural Listen List](#)

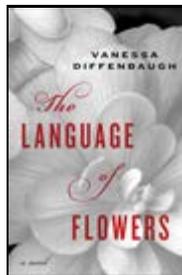
RUSA has made its selections for the 2012 Listen List: Outstanding Audiobook Narration juried list. The Listen List recognizes and honors the narrators who create extraordinary listening experiences meriting special attention by general adult listeners and the librarians who work with them....

RUSA, Jan. 22

[Reading List of genre fiction](#)

RUSA has announced the selections for its 2012 Reading List, which annually recognizes the best books in eight genres: adrenaline (including suspense, thrillers, and adventure), fantasy, historical fiction, horror, mystery, romance, science fiction, and women's fiction. This year's list includes novels that will please die-hard fans, as well as introduce new readers to the pleasures of genre fiction....

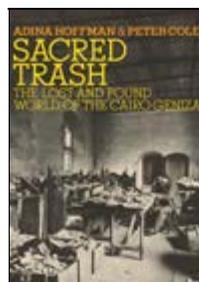
RUSA, Jan. 22



[2012 Sophie Brody Medal for Jewish literature](#)

Sacred Trash: The Lost and Found World of the Cairo Geniza by Adina Hoffman and Peter Cole (Schocken Books) was chosen by RUSA for this year's Sophie Brody Medal, given to encourage, recognize, and commend outstanding achievement in Jewish literature published in the US. The book recounts the discovery and retrieval of worn-out Jewish documents from the Cairo Geniza that render a fascinating view of a 900-year span of a vibrant Mediterranean Jewish culture....

RUSA, Jan. 22



[Morris wins 2012 Zora Neale Hurston Award](#)

Vanessa Irvin Morris (right), assistant teaching professor at Drexel University, is the 2012 recipient of RUSA's Zora Neale Hurston Award. The award honors librarians who have demonstrated leadership in promoting African-American literature. Morris was selected for her work in advocating collection building and readers' advisory services for African-American literature....

RUSA, Jan. 22



[Sarah L. Johnson wins 2012 Louis Shores Award](#)

Sarah L. Johnson (right), professor of library services at Eastern Illinois University and author of the blog [Reading the Past](#), is the 2012 winner of the RUSA Louis Shores Award. The award recognizes an individual reviewer, group, editor, review medium, or organization for excellence in book reviewing and other media for libraries. The awards committee praised her book reviews, blog and social media postings, readers' advisory books, and review columns that serve as valuable tools for both readers and readers' advisors....

RUSA, Jan. 22



[BWI/YALSA collection development grants](#)

Erik Carlson, teen librarian at the White Plains (N.Y.) Public Library,

and Cynthia Shutts, teen librarian at the Romeoville, Illinois, branch of the White Oak Library District, have won 2011 BWI/YALSA Collection Development Grants....

YALSA, Jan. 24

Robert B. Downs Intellectual Freedom Award

The faculty of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign have awarded Marianna Tax Choldin the 2011 Robert B. Downs Intellectual Freedom Award for her extensive contributions to intellectual freedom. A reception to honor Choldin took place at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas on January 21....

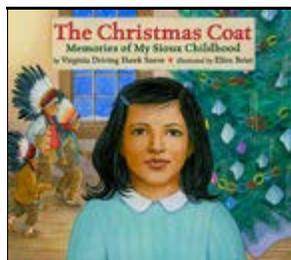
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign GSLIS, Dec. 14



2012 American Indian Youth Literature Awards

The American Indian Library Association has selected *The Christmas Coat: Memories of My Sioux Childhood* (2011), written by Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve and illustrated by Ellen Beier; *Free Throw* (2011) and *Triple Threat* (2011), both written by Jacqueline Guest; and *Pipestone: My Life in an Indian Boarding School* (2010), written by Adam Fortunate Eagle, as winners of the fourth American Indian Youth Literature Awards....

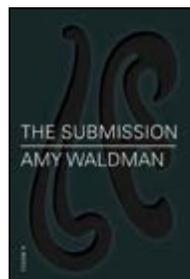
Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, Jan. 23



2012 APALA Awards

The Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association has selected five books as winners of its 2012 Asian/Pacific American Awards for Literature. The awards honor and recognize individual works with exceptional literary and artistic merit about Asian/Pacific Americans and their heritage. The awards are given in five categories: adult fiction, adult nonfiction, children's literature, young adult literature, and picture book....

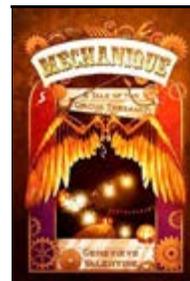
Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, Jan. 23



2012 William L. Crawford Fantasy Award

Genevieve Valentine was named winner of the 2012 William L. Crawford Fantasy Award for her novel *Mechanique: A Tale of the Circus Tresaulti* (Prime). The award, which includes a cash prize, is presented annually at the International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts, and is designated for an exceptionally promising writer whose first fantasy book was published the preceding year....

Locus, Jan. 24



[Go back to the Top](#)

Seen Online

SOPA protest had an effect

On January 18, some of the internet's largest entities blacked out their websites, including Wikipedia, in a protest against the SOPA and PIPA antipiracy bills. Wikipedia reported that 8 million US readers

took Wikipedia's suggestion and looked up their congressional reps from the site. Google reported that at least 4.5 million people had signed its petition asking lawmakers to reject the bills. Twitter said that 2.4 million SOPA-related tweets were sent in the first 16 hours of the day. Lawmakers in Congress have [delayed](#) further committee and voting action on both bills....

Los Angeles Times, Jan. 19; *HuffPost Detroit*, Jan. 24

[Proposed reorganization angers Harvard library workers](#)

Administration plans to reduce the size of the Harvard University Library workforce drew criticism January 24 from library workers and the Harvard Union of Clerical and Technical Workers. Library officials informed employees of the university's exploration of a range of both voluntary and involuntary options in a series of January 19 town hall meetings. Library employees also expressed confusion over the details of the plan....

Harvard Crimson, Jan. 25

[Appeals court: Sex offenders have a right to enter libraries](#)

A federal appeals court ruled January 20 that a policy barring registered sex offenders from public libraries in Albuquerque, New Mexico, was unconstitutional, a decision that could have reverberations across the nation. "The First Amendment includes a fundamental right to receive information," a three-judge panel of the Denver-based 10th US Circuit Court of Appeals wrote....

Reuters, Jan. 20

[Google announces rigid privacy policy](#)

Google said January 24 it will require users to allow the company to follow their activities across email, search, YouTube, and other services, a radical shift in strategy that is expected to invite greater scrutiny of its privacy and competitive practices. Consumers will have no choice but to accept the changes. The policy will take effect March 1 and will also impact Android mobile phone users....

Washington Post, Jan. 24

[Europe weighs tough law on online privacy](#)

Europe is considering a sweeping new law that would force internet companies like Amazon.com and Facebook to obtain explicit consent from consumers about the use of their personal data, delete that data forever at the consumer's request, and face fines for failing to comply....

New York Times, Jan. 23

[Tucson students protest school district's folly](#)

Hundreds of students walked out of their Tucson schools January 23 in a coordinated protest against the banishment of the district's acclaimed Mexican-American Studies Program. In recent days, administrators and board members have issued a series of conflicting and inaccurate statements and carried out the extreme actions of confiscating books in front of children. The ALA Council [passed a resolution](#) January 24 that condemns the restriction of access to ethnic materials in schools, emphasizes the value of school libraries, and reiterates the Association's professional commitment to intellectual freedom....

Huffington Post, Jan. 23; *OIF Blog*, Jan. 24



[Has Mayor Emanuel met his match with Chicago librarians?](#)

Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel has backed off on a cost-cutting move to close libraries on Mondays, despite the library union's refusal to make concessions. Somehow on January 21 he found more than \$2 million to do almost what they want: Rehire some of the employees who had been laid off and reopen the branches on Monday afternoons starting February 6. Still, library workers [gathered](#) January 23 to demand full reinstatement of Monday hours. Library workers [say](#) Monday mornings are usually a very busy time in the branches....

WBBM-TV, Chicago, Jan. 23; WBEZ-FM, Chicago, Jan. 23; *Chicago Sun-Times*, Jan. 24



[Chicago Commissioner Mary Dempsey resigns](#)

Chicago Public Library Commissioner Mary Dempsey has resigned and will be replaced in March by Brian Bannon, chief information officer for the San Francisco Public Library. Dempsey apparently was [unwilling](#) to preside over the dismantling of a library system she helped build, but agreed to postpone her departure to minimize the impact of the cuts....

Chicago Tribune, Jan. 25; *Chicago Sun-Times*, Jan. 25

[Occupy Cal library protest ends](#)

Campus officials and faculty leaders reached an agreement January 21 with a group of Occupy Cal protesters who had been conducting a study-in for three days to protest a change in library hours at the Anthropology Library on the University of California, Berkeley, campus. The agreement, signed by University Librarian Tom Leonard, calls for restoring the fall 2011 hours, which were trimmed due to the unexpected retirement of a staff member in December....

University of California, Berkeley, Jan. 22



[Library unveils world's largest football bracket](#)

With the Super Bowl quickly approaching, the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library decided to celebrate the event by unveiling the "World's Largest Football Bracket" on January 20. The bracket stretches about 120-by-54-feet wide on the Central Library Atrium's north glass wall. The display includes QR Code technology that can link users of smartphones to up-to-the-minute news articles related to both the AFC and NFC playoffs. Watch the [video](#) (0:59)....

Hendricks County (Ind.) Flyer, Jan. 23; YouTube, Jan. 20



[West Virginia librarian faces up to 30 years](#)

Former Taylor County (W.Va.) Library Director Marli Jenkins (right) pled guilty in county circuit court January 18 to felony embezzlement, falsifying accounts, and fraudulent use of an access device. Each count carries with it a sentence of not less than one year and not more than 10 years' time served. Jenkins admitted using three library



credit cards for personal use. She may also be required to make a restitution of more than \$275,000....

Grafton (W.Va.) Mountain Statesman, Jan. 20

[School librarian tries out for *Ammo & Attitude*](#)

Stephanie Antley Herrmann, a 44-year-old librarian in the Union Parish School District in Farmerville, Louisiana, will be one of six contestants on *Ammo & Attitude*, an NBC Sports Network reality show that challenges women in outdoor adventure scenarios. To prepare, Herrmann has been immersing herself in a variety of new activities and skill sets, including archery, horseback riding, hunting, and shooting....

Monroe (La.) News-Star, Jan. 21



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Top Technology Trends](#) (PDF file)

Brad Martin writes: "The LITA Top Technology Trends panel on January 22 explored issues that included on-demand 'retro converting' of digital files, the ultimate demise of the integrated library systems, the importance of web analytics, the benefits of new digital tools for instruction, and looming 'platform wars' in the digital content arena of competing devices and content." Watch the (partial) [video](#) (32:05)....

Cognotes, Monday, p. 5; UStream, Jan. 22



[Code Year librarians geek out](#)

One of the quickly organized conversations at Midwinter this year was the Code Year Meetup, which took place January 23 in the Networking Uncommons. Code Year is a free online Javascript course offered by Codecademy. Andromeda Yelton formed a [group](#) in ALA Connect so participants can support each other as they progress through the course. She also secured signatures on a petition to form an interest group within LITA, possibly cosponsored with ALCTS....

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 23

[Why librarians don't share code](#)

Many librarians love to use open-source software, but are reluctant to contribute their code back to the community. At LITA's Drupal4Lib Interest Group discussion January 21, Chair Nina McHale presented the results of a survey of librarians that tried to find out why. Only 15% of respondents said they had contributed code back to open-source communities....

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 21

[World's first battery-free wireless mouse](#)

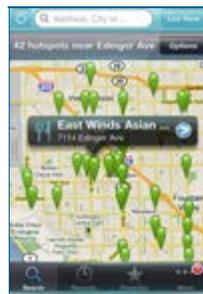
Genius just took a big step forward for computer peripherals by launching the world's first wireless [battery-free mouse](#). The mouse eschews wasteful AAAs and heavier lithium-ion batteries in favor of an electric double-layer ultracapacitor that requires just a quick three-minute charge each day. The Genius DX-Eco runs on a 2.4 Ghz connection and is rated to last for 100,000 charges....



Inhabitat, Jan. 24

[Eight essential apps for library conferences](#)

Ellyssa Kroski writes: "ALA Midwinter has kicked off the 2012 library conference season and soon we'll be looking forward to Computers in Libraries, PLA, and ALA Annual Conference, among others. Here are eight phone apps that will come in handy at all of these events. One is [Free Wi-Fi Finder](#), which uses your iPhone's GPS and network triangulation capabilities to instantly locate free Wi-Fi internet hotspots wherever you are in the world, online or offline."...



iLibrarian, Jan. 24

[Nine things you didn't know about Twitter \(maybe\)](#)

TOPSY

Paul Boutin writes: "Twitter has been augmented with a virtual appliance store of simple, utilitarian features, widgets, and services that let users find interesting posts, create photo albums, or search Twitter more efficiently. Yet unlike, say, Facebook or Microsoft Office, Twitter's power tools are easy to find and easy to figure out. With the time you'll save with these tricks, you'll be able to grab something a lot longer than 140 characters to read."...

New York Times: Personal Tech, Jan. 18

[Go back to the Top](#)

E-Content

[ALA to meet with ebook publishers](#)

Christopher Harris writes: "The first meeting of the new ALA Digital Content and Libraries Working Group on January 21 featured lively discussion about topics including accessibility, publishing, and licensing models. ALA will meet in late January with ebook publishers Simon & Schuster, Macmillan, and Penguin. ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels is looking forward to these meetings as a chance to push back against the three major publishers that are not offering ebooks to libraries." Read an [in-depth interview](#) with Fiels on the upcoming meeting....

AL: E-Content, Jan. 22; *Publishers Weekly*, Jan. 24

[Voguing in Dallas](#)

Ann Arbor-based electronic publisher ProQuest held a special event in Dallas January 23 to introduce its customers to a new digital product launched in December—an archival set of *Vogue* magazine consisting of more than 400,000 pristine, full-color pages from 1892 to the present that includes all covers, images, ads, and fold-outs. Keynote speaker of the evening was Ivan Shaw, *Vogue's* director of photography since 1999....



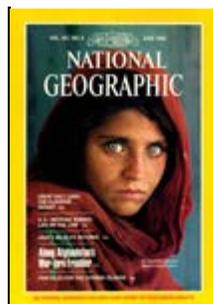
AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 24

[Gale to provide National Geographic online archive](#)

Reference publisher Gale and National Geographic agreed January 19 to provide an online archive of more than 100 years of *National Geographic*

magazine. Available to libraries this spring, the [National Geographic Magazine Archive, 1888–1994](#), will include all issues of the magazine in a fully searchable and intuitive interface....

eSchool News, Jan. 23



[And Gale goes 19th century](#)

Christopher Harris writes: "Though the Gale booth at Midwinter had all the trappings of the 21st century, its new products are going old school with a 19th century focus. The [Nineteenth Century Collection](#) offers a broad look at everything from the 1800s including newspapers, books, and maps. The collection will debut online a bit later this year, and will ramp up to full capacity throughout the summer."...

AL: E-Content, Jan. 24



[How Kansas owned its ebooks](#)

In the well-attended "Do I Own These Ebooks or Not?" session on January 21, Kansas State Librarian Jo Budler spoke to the ALA Washington Office's Carrie Russell about her experiences when the Kansas Digital Library Consortium's ebook contract was up for renewal. The vendor proposed a 700% cost increase and eliminated the consortium's ownership of the content it had purchased, changing it to a subscription. Budler recently [secured](#) the consortium's right to transfer most of its ebooks to a new platform....

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 21

[Discovering digital collections](#)

Cornell University Library Social Media Coordinator Gwen Glazer: "I have a fantasy about a traveling digitization van (called perhaps the Scooby Van) filled with tech-savvy librarians and tons of equipment that goes from place to place to demonstrate the value of digital collections in libraries. My other fantasy is a reality-TV show in which archivists live in the van and are videotaped 24 hours a day like the *Big Brother* series. And if they make digital mistakes, they get kicked off the van like in *Survivor*. What a way to expose viewers to the wonders of libraries."...

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 22



[Panel tells librarians to go forth and digitize](#)

Andrew Albanese writes: "Despite recent lawsuits over e-reserves, digital archives, and orphan works, at a two-hour program January 21, panelists urged librarians to go forth and digitize, that they already have the sturdy legal cover they need to proceed: fair use. So, why then are so many librarians still hesitant to assert fair use and move forward with digitizing collections, especially their archival, special collections? In a word, risk."...

Publishers Weekly, Jan. 23

[eReaderLookup.com](#)

VividTree writes: "[eReaderLookup.com](#) is basically an e-reader database and comparison engine. Its sole purpose is to allow people to quickly find and compare e-readers according to one's needs.

There is a fairly user friendly (according to feedback I've gotten so far) filter form on the home page that allows you to play with various e-reader parameters, and as you adjust it the list of e-readers that match updates on-the-fly. You can then select the readers you like and compare them side-by-side."...

MobileRead, Jan. 21

[Tablet and e-reader ownership nearly doubles](#)

Larra Clark writes: "The Pew Research Center's Internet and American Life Project [announced](#) that tablet and ebook reader ownership nearly doubled over the holidays. Overall, 29% of US adults now own at least one of these devices. This is the first report in a series funded in part by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, with an advisory group of library representatives—on which I serve on behalf of ALA."...



District Dispatch, Jan. 23; Pew Internet and American Life Project, Jan. 23

[Apple e-textbooks are a massive hit](#)

John Paczkowski writes: "Apple's new [textbook initiative](#) appears to be gaining lots of momentum—and quickly, too. Within days of its debut, Apple's iBooks textbook store had already racked up a significant number of downloads. Same thing with the company's textbook authoring tool. More than 350,000 textbooks were downloaded from the company's iBooks Store within the first three days of availability."...

All Things D, Jan. 23

[BilBary from the source](#)

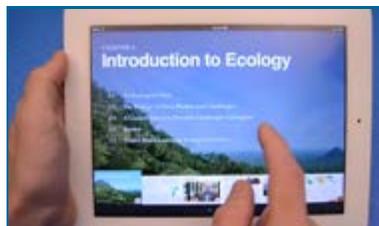
Christopher Harris writes: "The ALA Office of Information Technology Policy received an update January 20 from [BilBary](#) founder Tim Coates on the upcoming ebook service. In brief, the service will create an international marketplace for ebooks—with some twists. Coates wants to lend books in addition to selling them."...

AL: E-Content, Jan. 20

[iBooks 2 introduces interface changes](#)

Apple announced iBooks 2 on January 19, targeting the education market with an upgrade to the iBooks app for iOS.

Though the updated ebook reader is advertised in the App Store as iBooks 2,



users who currently have the first iBooks app will just see it as an update. Using iBooks Author, educators and other publishers will be able to create interactive ebooks for the iBooks app. E. O. Wilson's *Life on Earth* is the only title freely available right now; watch the [demo video](#) (3:54)...

Ars Technica, Jan. 20; YouTube, Jan. 19

[Christmas toy story](#)

Will Manley writes: "In 1945 the big toy for Christmas was the Slinky. In 2011 it was the e-reader, and now librarians everywhere are paying the price. 'I got this thing for Christmas and my daughter said that it would change my life because I can make the print bigger. But she didn't show me how it works and now she's gone back to Milwaukee. She suggested I come to the library.'"...

Will Unwound, Jan. 24

[Go back to the Top](#)

Books & Reading

[Excitement builds for World Book Night 2012](#)

The concept of World Book Night, April 23, 2012, is simple. Just sign up by February 1 as a volunteer to give away 20 copies of a popular book to new or reluctant readers in your community to encourage reading. Carl Lennertz (right), former publisher and now executive director of World Book Night, spoke January 22 to librarians about their role in the event, which has ALA as a partner. Watch the [video](#) (5:56)...



AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 22

[PopTop Stage hosts a day of romance](#)

Even though the romance genre has a popular focus, the four authors in the "From Sweet to Sexy: What's Happening in Contemporary Romance" panel on January 22 asserted that it can still have life-changing value. Jane Graves said she incorporates humor into many of her books, and after the September 11 attacks, a reader wrote to her and said that reading one of her novels was the first time she had laughed since the tragedy....



AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 22

[High tea and authors](#)

Booklovers ended yet another Midwinter Meeting January 23 sipping tea and dining on finger sandwiches, listening to a group of authors tell stories and read from their works, then lining up for autograph copies at the Gala Author Tea hosted by ALTAFF. Former *American Libraries* Editor Leonard Kniffel shared anecdotes and behind-the-scenes tidbits based on his compilation of interviews during his editorship (*Reading with the Stars: A Celebration of Books and Libraries*, ALA, 2011)....

AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 25

[Social issues and fiction](#)

Social issues and fiction were the overall themes of the Exhibits Round Table/*Booklist* Author Forum January 20 that featured authors Helen Schulman (right) and Hillary Jordan and was moderated by *Booklist* Adult Books Editor Brad Hooper. Hooper noted that Schulman's novel *This Beautiful Life* and Jordan's book *When She Woke* are both stories about family....



AL: Inside Scoop, Jan. 21

[Business, book haziness, and brainstorming](#)

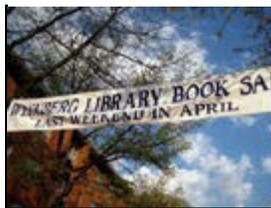
Eva Mitnick writes: "What's the difference between ALA Annual and Midwinter? I think of Annual as being all about celebration and inspiration. Midwinter, on the other hand, is all about business and books. This is when the committees, boards, and councils meet—and we're all walking around in a Book Haze, drunk on the thought of the awards about to be announced. I may be drunk on books, but I'm also fired up and ready to go back to work and roll up my sleeves."...

ALSC Blog, Jan. 22

[A rare book collector's guide to the college book sale](#)

Rebecca Rego Barry writes: "As both a reader and a book collector, I'm a big fan of college library book sales. Held annually or biannually at colleges and universities across the country, these sales convert library discards and unwanted donations into desperately needed funds. Uncluttered by the kinds of books that glut public library sales, the college library book sale paints an interesting picture of town-gown reading habits."...

The Millions, Jan. 18



[Go back to the Top](#)

Actions & Answers

[Librarian in Black goes to Washington](#)

Sarah Houghton writes: "I am writing from Washington, D.C., where I just toured the White House and met with the US Chief Technology Officer Aneesh Chopra, and tonight will be live-tweeting the State of the Union from next door to the White House and then having a Q&A session with senior officials from the Obama Administration. You can follow the tweets of our whole group all day at [#whtweetup](#). Our tweets about the State of the Union tonight will also be tagged with [#sotu](#)." Read [part 2](#)....

Librarian in Black, Jan. 24-25



[Toronto library fashionistas](#)

This week in the biggest-ever Uniform Project, photographer Sarah Blais tiptoes into the world of books to get the back cover on what Toronto librarians are wearing—and, of course, reading. (Luckily, only one patron shushed her during these interviews.) Downstairs at the University of Toronto's Robarts Library is Kathleen Anne Scheaffer (right), who coordinates events and instruction of academic and social nature in order to engage members of the community....

Toronto Standard, Jan. 21



[Librarian wardrobe #alamw12](#)

Cynthia writes: "Greetings from Dallas! Today I ran into Jade Albuero at Pioneer Plaza, right outside of the Dallas Convention Center. Jade is the librarian for Southeast Asian and Pacific Islands Studies at UCLA in Los Angeles, California. Happy conferencing!"...

Librarian Wardrobe, Jan. 22



[Dallas Public Library's rubber stamp exhibit, 1982](#)

Larry Nix writes: "In 1982, the Design and Exhibits staff at the Dallas Public Library put on an exhibit titled 'Their Indelible Mark: Rubber Stamps and Libraries.' Jonathan Held, who served as curator of the exhibit, wrote about it in the December 1982 issue of *American Libraries*. After the idea for the exhibit of library rubber stamps was conceived, the

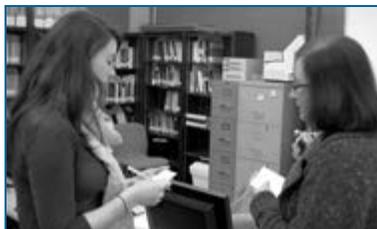


Dallas library staff issued a call to the library community to send them rubber stamps no longer in use. They received 5,000."...

Library History Buff Blog, Jan. 24

Archival training workshops

The Archival Training Collaborative serves the tristate area of Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi in providing inexpensive workshops for the management and preservation of historical materials. In November, ATC encouraged Casey E. Davis, the project's graduate assistant, to go ahead with her idea to create a promotional YouTube video. SLIS student and film director Travis Hedges Williams created a promotional [video](#) (2:28) reminiscent of promotional pieces done in the 1950s....



YouTube, Jan. 4

[Go back to the Top](#)

ALAPUBLISHING | AmericanLibraryAssociation

Sign up to receive *AL Direct* every Wednesday [here](#).
[American Libraries Magazine](#), 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611