

american libraries DIRECT

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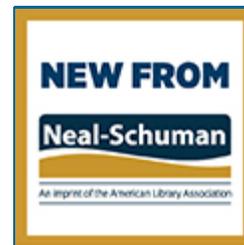
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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | August 7, 2013

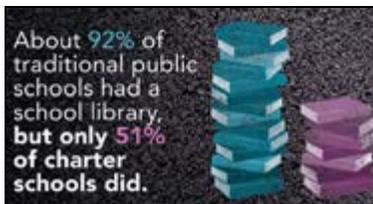


American Libraries Online

The void in charter schools

Maria R. Traska writes: "Charter schools in the District of Columbia are typical. 'In D.C., most charter schools don't have libraries—they don't have the space for them,' said parent and activist Peter MacPherson of the Capitol Hill Public Schools Parent Organization, a D.C.-based parents group. While a number of schools have been physically modernized recently, their libraries have not, he says. Anacostia High School, which just underwent a complete \$63 million rehab, reopened without a single book in its library and has functioned that way for most of this school year. No money was designated for the initial collection."...

American Libraries feature



Dispatches from the Field: Ebook business models

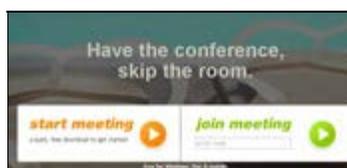
Mirela Roncevic (right) writes: "Dealing with business models and understanding the multitude of pricing options available is the most complicated part of ebook acquisition. It requires a constant monitoring of policies and business practices that continually change because of industry mergers and technological advances that enable companies to frequently upgrade their purchasing plans. Pricing options are usually not explained at length on vendor websites, so librarians need to take a proactive approach and explore viable alternatives."...

American Libraries column, June



In Practice: Need help? Join.me online

Meredith Farkas writes: "When librarians first began offering chat reference, most envisioned it as a medium to answer quick



Follow @amlibraries

2014 Midwinter Meeting

Philadelphia, January 24–28.

Registration and housing will be open October 1.

2014 Annual Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada, June 26–July 1.

Registration and housing will be open January 14.

(**Bundle registration** for 2014 Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference opens September 9.)



INNOVATIVE'S LATEST HAPPENINGS

and simple questions. Involved research questions were best answered in person. Somehow, our patrons didn't get the memo on this, and many chat interactions are just as involved as face-to-face reference sessions. What complicates these chat-based interactions is that the patron can't see the librarian's screen."...

American Libraries column, June

[Did you miss last week's AL Live session?](#)

Not to worry. The archived session (1:01:31), "Discovery Services: The Future of Library Systems" with Marshall Breeding (Library Technology Guide), Andrew Nagy (Serials Solutions), Brad Jung (Innovative Interfaces), and Anya N. Arnold (Orbis Cascade Alliance), is available on the [AL Live website](#)....

AL Live, Aug. 1



[Go back to the Top](#)



ALA News

[Digital Inclusion Survey launches in September](#)

The ALA Office for Research and Statistics and the University of Maryland Information Policy and Access Center will begin capturing information about the vital roles public libraries play in supporting digital inclusion. The [Digital Inclusion Survey](#), which will go live September 3, will take the pulse of public library service in the areas of digital literacy, economic and workforce development, civic engagement, educational support, health information, and public access to the internet....

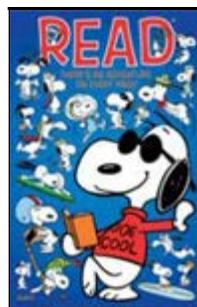
Office for Research and Statistics, Aug. 7



[ALA Graphics fall catalog](#)

ALA Graphics has released its Fall 2013 catalog, featuring 48 pages of exciting [new products](#) that will inspire and excite readers in schools and libraries across the nation. Gracing the cover of the catalog is the ensemble cast of the hit CBS show [The Big Bang Theory](#) on a Celebrity READ poster. A coordinating bookmark is also available. Snoopy fans can choose from several [Snoopy products](#) including a poster (right), bookmarks, and stickers. The catalog is available online in [PDF format](#)....

ALA Graphics, Aug. 5



[Become a career development facilitator](#)

If you are a library staffer who works with patrons seeking employment, you're probably seeing many more who are requesting resources for guidance in their job search. You're probably also hearing from



from CEO
Kim Massana
blog.iii.com
Innovative

TSQ
Changing the way the world thinks about transgender issues
Coming in 2014, a new journal from
DUKE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

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MAGAZINES
FOR LIBRARIES!
POPULAR SCIENCE
THE BIO

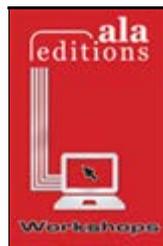
more individuals who are underemployed. How do you answer all their questions? The Career Development Facilitator program may be the answer. The training consists of 14 weeks of self-paced online coursework from September 10 to December 10. Contact [Caitlin Williams](#) to register...

Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment, Aug. 6

[Serving children with autism spectrum disorder](#)

ALA Editions will host "[Serving Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder](#)" with Lesley Farmer, a new workshop that will take place in two 90-minute sessions on November 13 and 20. Farmer will take you through the basics of autism, explaining the forms the condition can take and how diagnosed children tend to be unique. Registration is available through the ALA Store....

ALA Editions, Aug. 6



[Making data-based decisions](#)

ALA TechSource will host a new 90-minute workshop, "[Gathering and Using Community Data: Making the Best Decisions for Your Library](#)" with Marie Pyko and Thad Hartman, on November 6. This workshop will teach you how to gather data about your community to assess patrons' needs and desires and then use it to help guide library services. The instructors will use their experience at the Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library as an illustration....

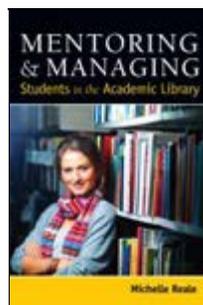
ALA TechSource, Aug. 6



[Mentoring and managing college students](#)

Most academic libraries could not operate without a host of part-time student workers. But employing students is different from filling a professional position with an experienced worker; often their library employment will be their first job experience. Since many student positions make them the public face of the library, effective mentoring of such student employees is vital. [Mentoring and Managing Students in the Academic Library](#), written by Michelle Reale and published by ALA Editions, explores the challenges and opportunities involved in recruitment....

ALA Editions, Aug. 1



[Developing electronic collections](#)

The complex issues associated with developing and managing electronic collections deserve special treatment, and library collection authority Peggy Johnson rises to the challenge with a book sure to become a benchmark for excellence. Providing comprehensive coverage of key issues and decision points, [Developing and Managing Electronic Collections: The Essentials](#), published by ALA Editions, offers advice on best practices for developing and managing these important resources for libraries of all types and sizes....

ALA Editions, Aug. 5



[The future of the catalog](#)

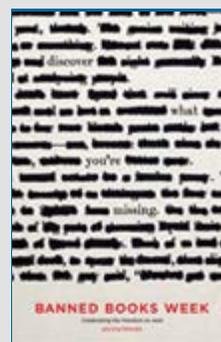


- No holds
- No checkout periods
- No maximum quantities

FREE tech support

View through a browser or with an app

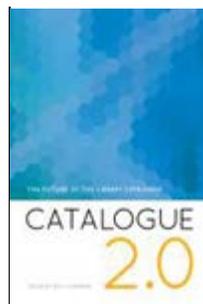
1-877-828-2833 **RBdigital**



Celebrate the freedom to read in your school or library during [Banned Books Week](#), September 11–28, with this [new poster](#) encouraging you to "discover what you are missing." Use this poster to help

New digital technologies, the internet, and user expectations have changed the role of the catalog in libraries considerably in recent years. [Catalogue 2.0: The Future of the Library Catalogue](#), edited by Sally Chambers, takes into account developments that influence catalog potential and patrons' needs. Such key leaders as Karen Calhoun, Lorcan Dempsey, Emmanuelle Bermès, and Marshall Breeding discuss cutting-edge issues....

ALA Neal-Schuman, Aug. 6



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Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Youth fiction](#)

Yancey, Rick. *The Final Descent*. Sept. 2013. Grades 9–12. Simon & Schuster, hardcover (978-1-4424-5153-7).

It can now be said with assurance that The Monstrumologist series is a landmark of modern YA fiction. Even given the remarkable Printz Honor–winning first book, who could have predicted the haunting, profound developments of the subsequent titles, none more so than this penetrating, devastating coda. Yes, there is a monster: the *T. cerrejonensis*, a dangerous reptilian creature thought to be extinct for 100 years. But the true monster is Will Henry himself, now 16 and becoming “the most aberrant of aberrant life forms.”...



[Talking with Rick Yancey](#)

Rick Yancey's celebrated Monstrumologist series wraps up in August with *The Final Descent*. *Booklist's* Daniel Kraus spoke to him about completing this ambitious four-part saga. Yancey reveals: “Here’s how it began: ‘Hey, monster hunters! That would be cool!’ I had no clue, not a smidgeon, where the story might go from that simple premise. By the middle of the third book, my concern for Will Henry became acute as the terminus of his journey started to come into focus. I knew where he would end, where Warthrop would end, where monstrumology would end. Going back to the first book, I discerned clues there—and I realized the seeds were planted without my knowledge. In short, I hadn’t consciously planned it, but something deep down had determined the outcome.”...



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

emphasize the importance of the First Amendment and the power of uncensored literature. **NEW!** From ALA Graphics.

Libraries on Film



[The War of the Worlds](#) (1953). Sylvia Van Buren (Ann Robinson) is a library science teacher at the University of Southern California.



[A Warrior's Heart](#) (2011). Ashley Greene as Brooklyn Milligan and Kellan Lutz as lacrosse player Conor Sullivan flirt in the prep school library.



[Washington Merry-](#)

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Division News

[Bill Morris invitational seminar](#)

ALSC is now accepting applications for its third biennial "Bill Morris Seminar: Book Evaluation Training," to be held on January 24 prior to the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia. This invitational seminar supports and honors William C. Morris's dedication to connecting librarians and children with excellent children's books. Apply by September 20. Information and the application form are available on the [ALSC website](#)....

ALSC, Aug. 1



[Submit a ConverStation](#)

The deadline to submit a ConverStation proposal for the PLA 2014 Conference in Indianapolis, March 11–15, is fast approaching. ConverStations at PLA Conference are unique, interactive sessions that enable attendees to discuss a public library issue or topic and learn from each other. Session facilitators typically introduce a topic for 5–10 minutes, then moderate the discussion. The deadline to [submit proposals](#) is August 16....

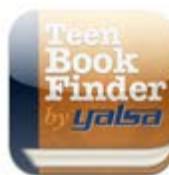
PLA, Aug. 6



[Updated Teen Book Finder app](#)

YALSA has launched an updated version of its free [Teen Book Finder app](#) that now includes all titles that appeared on YALSA's 2013 lists of recommended reading or that were honored by one of YALSA's six young adult literature awards. The app is free to download through the Apple Store. An android version of the app is planned for release in 2014....

YALSA, Aug. 6



[YALSA and Soho Teen promote Teen Read Week](#)

YALSA is partnering with [Soho Teen](#) in promoting Teen Read Week, October 13–19. Any individual hosting Teen Read Week events at schools, public libraries, or afterschool programs who joins the [online community](#) will be eligible to receive a Soho Teen Shelf of approximately 10 hardcover books. A total of four Soho Teen Shelves will be given away....

YALSA, Aug. 6



[Digitization Capture Recommendations](#)

At the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, the ALCTS board endorsed "[Minimum Digitization Capture Recommendations](#)." A task force of the ALCTS Preservation and Reformatting Section's Preservation Standards and Practices Committee was commissioned to develop minimum standards for the digital capture or reformatting of documents for preservation purposes. These were developed as guidelines for libraries intending to produce sustainable digital products that will not need to be redigitized....



[Go-Round](#) (1932).

Lee Tracy as Congressman Button Gwinnett Brown goes to the Library of Congress to research a bill and discovers that it is fraudulent, meant to honor a man who stole land from Native Americans.



[The Watermelon Woman](#) (1996).

Cheryl Dunye (playing herself) goes to the fictional CLIT Institute, an all-volunteer lesbian archives, to research a gay African-American actress from the 1930s. The archivist (Sarah Schulman) is careless with rare, primary materials.

This *AL Direct* feature describes hundreds of films (and some TV shows) in which libraries and librarians are featured, from 1912 to the present. The full list is a [Web Extra](#) associated with [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart and published by ALA Editions. You can browse the films on our [Libraries on Film Pinterest board](#).

ALCTS, Aug. 6

[Webinar on social media success](#)

LITA is offering a webinar, "[All Aboard: The Party's Starting! Setting a Course for Social Media Success.](#)" presented by Mary Anne Hansen, Doralyn Rossmann, Angela Tate, and Scott Young of Montana State University Library on August 20. Participants will take home a template for creating a comprehensive plan for social media usage and assessment, with an emphasis on creating a meaningful voice and a compelling personality....

LITA, Aug. 6

[21st-century access services](#)

ACRL has published [Twenty-First-Century Access Services: On the Front Line of Academic Librarianship](#), edited by Michael J. Krasulski Jr. and Trevor A. Dawes. Today's access services departments are expanding their portfolios to include electronic reserves (e-reserves), increased cooperative and shared services, facilities management, assessment initiatives, ebook lending initiatives, and copyright management. The 10 chapters in this book highlight these services and discuss the role access services departments will continue to play in the success of the academic library....

ACRL, Aug. 1



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Awards & Grants

[Hongjie Wang receives Fulbright grant](#)

University of Connecticut Health Center medical librarian Hongjie Wang (right) has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture in China during the upcoming academic year. Wang will teach two graduate courses on medical information management at Sichuan University in Chengdu and conduct guest lectures at various institutions in China throughout his Fulbright Scholar tenure, which ends January 2014....

UConn Today, Aug. 2



[Hastler wins CEO award](#)

Harford County (Md.) Public Library Director Mary Hastler (right) was presented with a Brava! Award from Baltimore SmartCEO on July 10, recognizing her as one of the top 25 female CEOs in the Baltimore area.



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

Career Leads from
JobLIST

[Ebook Trainer / Coordinator](#)

Reading Across Illinois Library System, Burr Ridge. The Illinois Statewide E-Book Project is a two-year grant project funded by the Illinois Secretary of State's Office. The project will increase access to ebooks for Illinois residents and grow ebook expertise among library staff, library system staff, and Illinois residents. It includes ebook collections and software platforms for Illinois Heartland Library System and Reaching Across Illinois Library System member libraries, research into a self-hosted model, training, a list of free ebook resources, a website, communication to libraries, and assistance to libraries in promoting the project to their patrons....





Hastler was selected for the award for her leadership in expanding the library system's public service role by introducing innovative literacy programs, product expansions, record-breaking fundraising events, and cutting-edge technology....

Harford County (Md.) Public Library, July 31

[2013 Swets Annual Charleston Conference Scholarship](#)

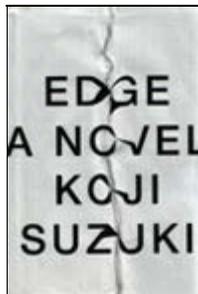
For the sixth year in a row, Swets is holding a \$1,000 scholarship contest to allow the winning applicant to attend the 2013 Annual Charleston Conference, November 6–9. Applicants must complete an essay of no more than 1,000 words on a specified topic. Submit an [email](#) including your essay and brief curriculum vita by September 3....

Swets, Aug. 1

[2012 Shirley Jackson Award winners](#)

The 2012 Shirley Jackson Awards were presented on July 14 at Readercon 24, the Conference on Imaginative Literature, in Burlington, Massachusetts. The awards are given for outstanding achievement in the literature of psychological suspense, horror, and the dark fantastic. The winner in the Best Novel category was Koji Suzuki's *Edge* (Vertical). The best Single-Author Collection award went to Jeffrey Ford's *Crackpot Palace* (William Morrow)....

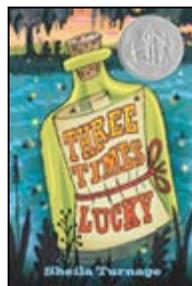
Shirley Jackson Awards, July 15



[2013 SIBA Book Awards](#)

The Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance announced its 2013 awards for the best books that are Southern in nature or by a Southern author. The winner in the children's category was *The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore* by William Joyce (Atheneum Books for Young Readers), and the winner in the young adult category was *Three Times Lucky* by Sheila Turnage (Dial Books for Young Readers)....

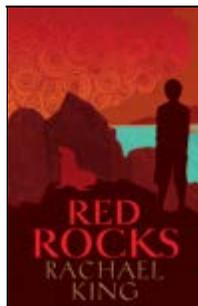
Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance, July 4



[2013 LIANZA Children's Book Awards](#)

Tina Matthews was presented with the Russell Clark Medal for Illustration at the LIANZA Children's Book Awards ceremony in Wellington, New Zealand, on August 5 for her picture book *A Great Cake*. The book tells the story of young Harvey, who learns a few lessons along the way as he eventually makes his perfect cake. Rachael King was awarded the coveted Esther Glen Medal for her novel *Red Rocks*, a story in which the rugged South Coast of Wellington comes alive for the reader....

Beattie's Book Blog, Aug. 5



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Digital Library of the Week



The [Ball State University Digital Media Repository](#) in Muncie, Indiana, provides online access to a variety of primary source materials, including photographs, oral history interviews, artwork, video and film footage, cartographic resources, architectural drawings, publications, and 3-dimensional objects. The repository, a collaborative project of the BSU libraries, offers collections in African-American studies, apparel and accessories, architecture, education, fine arts, maps, journalism, local history, and military history.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#)

Libraries in the News

[Chicago suburb has library district, but no library](#)

Ford Heights, Illinois, has a library district that collects about \$20,000 a year from taxpayers who live in one of the poorest communities in the state. But it has no library. The district was forced to close its free-standing library about 20 years ago when it couldn't come up with the money to maintain the building. A library in neighboring Glenwood took its place for a while but canceled services to Ford Heights residents in 2009 after the village fell behind on payments by about \$50,000....

Chicago Tribune, Aug. 4

[Flint library cuts staff](#)

The Flint (Mich.) Public Library board of trustees voted unanimously on August 1 to lay off two full-time librarians, two assistant librarians, and two clerks, finishing staff cuts first approved in a June budget meeting. In addition to staff cuts, which will be effective September 1, the library will also be rolling back its hours of operation. Library Director Kay Schwartz noted that a \$275,000 deficit still remained....

Flint (Mich.) Journal, Aug. 1



[Weekend rally for Miami-Dade](#)

Hundreds braved a rainy weekend to rally to save Miami-Dade libraries, clearly disproving Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Gimenez's [claim](#) that the Age of the Library is probably ending. On August 2–4, protesters gathered outside the branches slated for closure, flashing signs that read: "Only closed minds close libraries" and "Libraries are fundamental. Mayors are replaceable." County administrators have since revised the mayor's closure plan, narrowing it to 14 branch closures, down from the original 22....

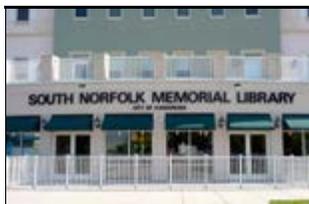
The Huffington Post, July 17, Aug. 5



[School–public library partnership in Seattle](#)

Students at Seattle's Sanislo and Roxhill elementary schools will benefit from expanded literacy programs and library resources this school year, thanks to a partnership with the Seattle Public Library. The one-year pilot project is funded by a \$91,000 grant from the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation. The grant allows SPL to loan books and materials to the students, provide special library cards to school teachers and librarians, and introduce a Raising a Reader program....

Seattle Public Library, Aug. 6



[Chesapeake's newest branch](#)

Chesapeake (Va.) Public Library's newest branch, initially perceived by residents as second-rate when the city's original plans changed, is now considered something special, thanks to the efforts of recently retired library

Noted and Quoted

"Libramnesia is a highly common but undertreated social condition that causes its sufferers to completely forget about libraries or, even worse, believe libraries are irrelevant.

Personally, I know all about

Libramnesia because I once suffered from this debilitating disease for almost 10 years. My particular case was caused by the trauma of spending countless overnights on the first floor of Bird Library throughout my four years at Syracuse. Once I handed in my last paper of my college career, I did not step foot into a library again until nearly a decade later. My first visit back to the library was prompted by another debilitating condition I was also suffering from at the time called unemployment."

—Thea Montanex, ["New Case of Libramnesia Confirmed in Miami."](#) The Huffington Post Blog, July 25.

@ [More quotes...](#)

Calendar

director Betsy Fowler and her staff. The city scrapped its plans for a \$6.4 million standalone facility, opting instead to utilize vacant retail space inside the Gateway at SoNo condominium development to prevent its foreclosure. From that, and with a little do-it-yourself ingenuity, Fowler created the vibrant, modern South Norfolk Memorial branch at a cost of \$2.1 million....

Norfolk (Va.) Virginian-Pilot, Aug. 4

[Sneak peek at new Cedar Rapids Public Library](#)

Cindy Hadish writes: "The new Cedar Rapids (Iowa) Public Library doesn't open until later in August, but I had the opportunity to tour the building and got a sneak peek. Indoor space feels much larger than that at the former library, which was flooded in 2008, but it's the outdoor space that most entices me. A reading terrace overlooks Greene Square Park and the green living and learning roof provides spectacular views of Cedar Rapids."...

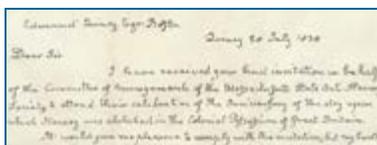
HomegrownIowan.com, Aug. 5



[Plainfield archivist finds John Quincy Adams letter](#)

Taking up precisely a full page with neat, handwritten script, former President John Quincy Adams politely and eloquently declined an invitation to attend a Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society event on July 28, 1838, citing his flagging health during a sweltering heat wave. No one might have ever known it, if not for Plainfield (N.J.) Public Library Archivist Jeff Wassen, who said he knew the letter was part of the library's huge collection of historic archives, but forgot about it before recently rediscovering it. The letter probably was given to a Plainfield resident by the recipient, Edmund Quincy....

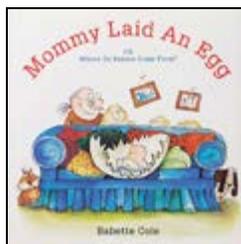
Newark (N.J.) Star-Ledger, Aug. 2



[Mommy Laid an Egg upsets Lodi grandmother](#)

When 9-year-old Daidree Diacon was picking out books at the Lodi (Calif.) Public Library to read over summer vacation, one hardback by Babette Cole with cute, colorful illustrations caught her eye. The cover features a broken eggshell on a couch with a baby inside and a family of four looking on. "She thought it was funny, because it says *Mommy Laid an Egg*," explained her grandmother, Patty Garcia, who wants the book reshelved out of the reach of children....

Lodi (Calif.) News-Sentinel, Aug. 2



[The New Bodleian's renovation](#)

Oxford University is undertaking a major renovation of the New Bodleian Library, which will reopen to readers and researchers as the Weston Library in October 2014. An official public opening is planned for March 2015. The Weston Library will become the new home of the Bodleian's [special collections](#). The renovation will create high-quality storage for the collections, which include rare and unique manuscripts, books, and maps that the Bodleian preserves for the international world of scholarship....

Bodleian Libraries



Aug. 15–

Sept. 5:

[Art and Crafts for Youth Librarians](#), online workshop.

Sept. 4–6:

[4th International Symposium on Information Management in a Changing World](#),

Limerick Strand Hotel, Limerick, Ireland.

Sept. 26–28:

[European Information Architecture Conference](#), Sheraton Grand Hotel and Spa, Edinburgh, Scotland.

Oct. 13–14:

[Code4Lib Midwest](#), conference, John Pappajohn Business Building, University of Iowa, Iowa City.

Oct. 16–18:

[Michigan Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Radisson Hotel, Lansing Center.

Oct. 17–19:

[Colorado Association of Libraries](#), CALCON13, Loveland. "Full Steam Ahead."

Oct. 28–30:

[Internet Librarian 2013](#), Monterey Conference Center, California.

Nov. 1:

[Brick and Click Libraries Symposium](#), Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville.

Nov. 1–6:

[Fire at the French national library](#)

A fire broke out August 5 on the roof of the old Bibliothèque Nationale building on the Rue de Richelieu in Paris. Some 100 square yards of the roof were damaged in an area that was undergoing asbestos removal. Eight library workers were evacuated, but there was apparently no impact on the collections. Watch the [video](#) (1:08)....
Le Figaro (Paris), Aug. 5; YouTube, Aug. 5



[Muhammad Rehbar, Hunza librarian](#)

Muhammad Rehbar is a teacher and a librarian in the Hunza Valley of Pakistan with an insatiable thirst for words. His love for learning made him collect old newspaper clippings when he couldn't afford the luxury of books. Apart from serving as a school teacher for 34 years, Rehbar is also responsible for setting up the first library in the area and is considered an institution by the locals....
The Express Tribune (Pakistan), Aug. 1



[Go back to the Top](#)

Issues

[What you can do during your summer vacation](#)

Lynne Bradley writes: "Congress is now in a five-week recess. Now is the time, when your representatives and senators are back home for recess, to contact them about important surveillance issues. By calling their respective district or regional offices, you can find out about town hall meetings and other events where you can ask them to support serious reforms to the country's surveillance laws and practices ([PDF file](#)). With so many bills introduced, and likely more in September, a generalized message is appropriate."...
District Dispatch, Aug. 5

[School web filtering needs extreme makeover](#)

Meris Stansbury writes: "During a recent symposium on the Children's Internet Protection Act, experts agreed that though the law backed by the FCC has good intentions, school web-filtering software and practices need a major overhaul. According to Deborah Stone, deputy director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom, many of the lawsuits over the last 10 years involving schools and CIPA deal with issues in constitutional access to information."...
eSchool News, Aug. 2



[A user guide to the Marrakesh Treaty](#)

On June 27, a diplomatic conference of the World Intellectual Property Organization held in Marrakesh, Morocco, adopted the "Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled." The Library Copyright Alliance has issued a new "User Guide to the Marrakesh Treaty" ([PDF file](#)) by Jonathan Band. The [treaty](#) is intended to

[Association for Information Science and Technology.](#)

Annual Meeting, Centre Sheraton, Montreal, Quebec. "Beyond the Cloud: Rethinking Information Boundaries."

[Nov. 7-10: American Society for Theatre Research / Theatre Library Association.](#)

Joint Conference, Fairmont Dallas Hotel, Texas. "The Post-Thematic Conference."

[Dec. 6-7: 4th Annual Symposium on Computing for Development.](#)

University of Cape Town, South Africa.

[Apr. 16-19: Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association.](#)

Annual Conference, Marriott Chicago Downtown Magnificent Mile.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct



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

promote the making and distribution of copies of books and other published materials in formats accessible to people with print disabilities....

Association of Research Libraries, Aug. 7; ARL Policy Notes, Aug. 6

[Reversing the summer slide](#)

"Lower-income kids in our research are basically treading water in the summer months," said Karl Alexander, a researcher at Johns Hopkins University who has done extensive work into the setbacks for children without summer educational opportunities, known as the "summer slide." For two decades, Alexander [followed](#) a group of 800 students in Baltimore, beginning in 1982. Only about 4% of the children from lower-income households went on to earn a bachelor's degree. Alexander suspected it had something to do with the time they were out of school....

NPR: *All Things Considered*, Aug. 4; Henry A. Murray Research Archive

[Academic libraries in the developing world](#)

Raising awareness of how the library supports teaching and research staff is key to demonstrating library value in developing countries, concludes a new report published August 6. The findings are the result of a six-month research study with 12 developing-country institutions conducted by SAGE. *Library Value in the Developing World* ([PDF file](#)) reports that developing-country librarians are beginning to recognize the importance of evaluating their value for research and teaching staff....

STM Publishing News, Aug. 6



[Copyright hearings continue](#)

The House Judiciary Committee continues to move forward with hearings addressing Chairman Bob Goodlatte's (R-Va.) [call for a comprehensive review](#) of US copyright law. On July 24 and August 1, the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet held two hearings regarding copyright and the role it plays in innovation. Congress will go on recess for most of August. It is expected there will be more copyright hearings in the fall....

District Dispatch, Aug. 2

[Is online privacy a right?](#)

David Sirota writes: "'Keep Calm, and Encrypt.' This slogan, a play on Britain's World War II posters, is the privacy-seeker's new motto in the age of mass surveillance and data mining. The idea is that even with the expansion of surveillance, some data can still be kept away from eavesdroppers, as long as it is properly encrypted. After all, even with the NSA's impressive codebreaking abilities, secure encryption still works."...

Salon, July 29

[The long-suffering librarian](#)

Andy Woodworth writes: "I'm thinking that one of the common bonds between librarians is a taste for suffering. While we as a profession find common cause in working towards justice in its social, economic, and educational forms, it is our nature at enduring suffering that builds the bonds between us faster than an open bar at a vendor social event. Right now, you don't have to travel very far to get antagonized."...

Agnostic, Maybe, Aug. 6



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Tech Talk

[How to buy a scanner](#)

M. David Stone and Tony Hoffman write:

"Finding the right scanner can be a challenge. Most can scan just about anything, but they come in a variety of types and sizes that are fine-tuned for different purposes. Here are the key questions to ask to help make sure you pick the right scanner—or scanners—for your needs." The 10 best are [listed here](#). The [Flip-Pal mobile scanner](#) is one of the best for on-the-go scanning, while the [HP Scanjet Pro 3000 s2 Sheet-feed Scanner](#) is an excellent desktop scanner for any size office. The [Atiz BookDrive Mini](#) (right) is designed exclusively for scanning books....

PC Magazine, July 31



[One Week, One Tool, many lessons](#)

Meghan Frazer writes: "Last week I helped develop [Serendip-o-matic](#), a tool that introduces serendipity to research, as part of a 12-person team attending [One Week | One Tool](#) at the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media at George Mason University. In this blog post, I'll take you through the serendipitous story, from the convening of the team to the selection and development of the tool."...

ACRL TechConnect Blog, Aug. 7



[3D printing at DCPL](#)

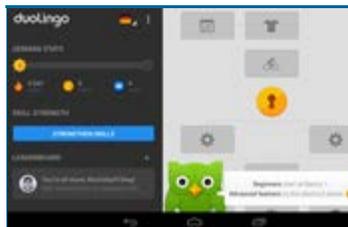
Andrea Peterson writes: "Nicholas Kerelchuck, manager of the recently opened Digital Commons at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library in Washington, D.C., calls their 3D printer the rock star of the space. The library runs two to three 'intro to 3D printing' programs per day, and plans to purchase another unit soon. Kerelchuck describes the 3D printer's popularity as a boon to the library, but also a substantial benefit for library patrons."...

Washington Post: The Switch, Aug. 1

[The 12 best Android tablet apps](#)

Max Eddy writes: "When we talk about mobile and mobile apps, we often lump tablets and smartphones in together. But while they both use apps from the same store, tablets often fill a different niche than smartphones, and great apps for phones aren't always great apps for tablets. Also, developers don't always have tablets in mind when they create their applications, and sometimes the feel of an app can get lost in translation. We've created this brief list of Android apps that are not only good, but look and feel perfect on tablets."...

PC Magazine, Aug. 2



[Increase your Windows laptop's battery life](#)

Chris Hoffman writes: "We often fixate on [smartphone battery life](#), but most laptops still don't have all-day battery life. Rather than always

administrator of that site.

[American Libraries](#)

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Chicago, IL 60611
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X



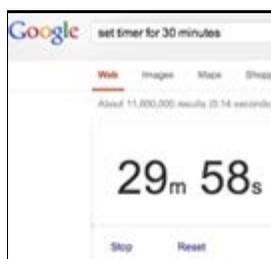
using your laptop tethered to an outlet, here are some ways to squeeze more life from your laptop's battery. None of these tricks will turn a laptop without much stamina into an all-day workhorse, but they'll help you go without an outlet for longer. Pay particular attention to your laptop's display—that's the big battery sucker."...

How-To Geek, Apr. 13, Aug. 7

[Use Google as a timer](#)

Thorin Klosowski writes: "You can set a quick timer by typing, 'set timer X minutes' into Google. Once you hit enter, the timer will count down and then sound off when the time expires with an obnoxious, possibly never-ending tone. If a countdown doesn't do it for you, then you can also use the command, 'set timer for X time.'"...

Lifehacker, Aug. 1



[Save this timeline](#)

Terry Heick writes: "In 2013, technology has become not just a tool, but a standard and matter of credibility. While learning does not require technology, to design learning without technology is an exercise in spite—proving a point at the cost of potential. And it's difficult to forget how new this is. Here are 30 incredible ways that technology will change education by the year 2028."...

TeachThought, Mar. 19



[Go back to the Top](#)

E-Content

[Ebooks, libraries, and publishers](#)

NPR's Lynn Neary discusses how ebooks have strained the relationship between public libraries and publishers. Her guests were State Librarian of Kansas Jo Budler and Douglas County (Colo.) Libraries Director Jamie LaRue. She comments: "After much negotiation, the publishers are experimenting with new ways of doing business. Some libraries are already looking to bypass the high prices and restrictions that publishers place on ebooks."...

NPR: *Morning Edition*, Aug. 5

[Why writers should stand up for libraries](#)

Cory Doctorow writes: "Earlier this summer, I worked with ALA on its [Authors for Library Ebooks](#) project, which is asking authors to call on their publishers to offer ebooks to libraries at a fair price. Right now, libraries pay several times more for ebooks than people off the street: up to six times more. I recorded this [video](#) (4:19) explaining why libraries and authors are natural allies."...

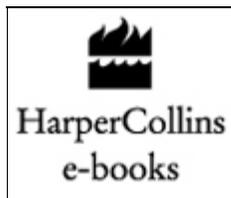


Boing Boing, Aug. 6; YouTube, July 31

[The end of the HarperCollins boycott, and an analysis](#)

Brett Bonfield writes: "On February 24, 2011, Joe Atzenberger broke the news that HarperCollins would begin distributing self-destructing ebooks through OverDrive. This was not welcome news. Gabriel Farrell and I got together and created a [website](#) to let the world know that many people were going to boycott HarperCollins until it changed its policies. Although we still believe in our reasoning, and even though HarperCollins has not changed its policy, we think the time has come to end the boycott. One reason is this: The boycott has not worked."...

In the Library with the Lead Pipe, Aug. 7



[What Jeff Bezos might do with the Washington Post](#)

Lydia DePillis writes: "Alan Mutter, who knows the media business and the tech world better than most, thinks there are many ways in which buying a legacy newspaper makes all the sense in the world for the Seattle-based billionaire. Bezos hasn't talked yet about his future plans for the company, but from what we know, it's fair to speculate a bit. So what's going to happen? A few ideas."...

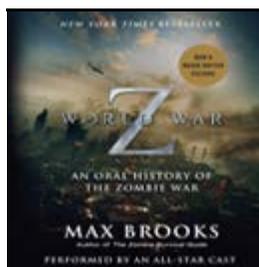
Washington Post: Wonkblog, Aug. 5



[The new explosion in e-audiobooks](#)

Alexandra Alter writes: "Cory Wilbur, a 25-year-old software engineer in Boston, never used to read much. He barely cracked a book in college and would read one or two a year on vacation, at most. But in the past year, he's finished 10 audiobooks. The digital revolution may have dealt a heavy blow to print, but it is boosting literacy in other unexpected ways by fueling the explosive growth of mass-market audiobooks."...

Wall Street Journal, Aug. 1



[University of California system goes open access](#)

Jennifer Howard writes: "After years of discussion, the University of California's Academic Senate has [adopted](#) an open-access policy ([PDF file](#)) that will make research articles freely available to the public through [eScholarship](#), California's open digital repository. The new policy, to be phased in over the next few months, applies to all 10 of the system's campuses and will affect as many as 40,000 research papers a year."...

Chronicle of Higher Education, Aug. 2

[CRL to audit CLOCKSS](#)

The Digital Distributed Community Archive (the CLOCKSS Archive) has engaged the Center for Research Libraries in Chicago to undertake an in-depth audit of the CLOCKSS preservation archive. CLOCKSS (Controlled LOCKSS) is a not-for-profit joint venture between the world's leading academic publishers and research libraries to ensure the long-term survival of web-based scholarly publications....

Center for Research Libraries, Aug. 5



[Follett and Random House offer popular titles](#)

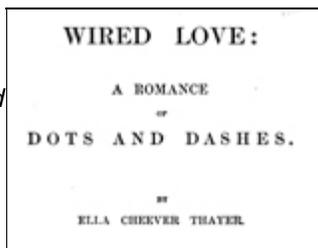


Follett is partnering with Random House to offer new and popular ebook titles to school libraries. Follett's ebook customers are now able to purchase Random House ebooks and lend them to students. The partnership gives librarians the opportunity to enhance their collections with many sought-after titles, such as Rachel Hartman's *Seraphina* and Christopher Paul Curtis's *The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963*....

Follett Corporation, Aug. 2

[Access barriers to online public-domain texts](#)

Jonathan Rochkind writes: "You can get *Wired Love: A Romance of Dots and Dashes* (1880) by Ella Cheever Thayer from [Project Gutenberg](#) in ASCII. But to read something that long, I'd really prefer a properly typeset copy, say in PDF, so I can easily read it on my laptop or iPad. Google Books has the [full text](#) freely available to read online in its page scroller. But if Google Books still offers free PDF or ePub downloads for out-of-copyright works, I can't figure out how."...



Bibliographic Wilderness, July 31

[Custom book scanning](#)

Juli Monroe writes: "I know many ebook readers who virtually stop reading paper books once they discover ebooks. But that leaves the question of how to replace beloved favorites. When Mark Burger of [Custom Book Scanning](#) contacted me and offered me a free trial of his service, I was interested. I've had this one book on my shelf for years that I've been wanting to have digitized. Pricing is based on the length of the book, and starts at \$9.95 for a 100-page or less book."...



TeleRead, Aug. 1

[Dresden library ebook program now includes all of Germany](#)

The [Dresden Municipal Libraries](#) announced August 2 that they are expanding their digital library program. Any resident of Germany can now register online for a library card and check out ebooks, music, and video. The cost is €10 per year, and in addition to music and videos a library patron can check out ebooks. The library offers 7,000 ebook titles at the moment, and they can be checked out for 2 weeks....



The Digital Reader, Aug. 2

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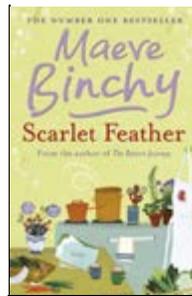
Books & Reading

[15 essential Irish novels](#)

It is difficult to dispute the place of James Joyce among the pantheon of all literary greats, but Ireland has much more to offer than his modernist virtuosity. Not only is it the ancestral home of Jonathan Swift, Oscar Wilde, and George Bernard Shaw, but many of

the finest active writers have a firm footing on the contemporary fiction scene. Here are some of the finest works from the post-Joycean era....

OwikLit, Aug. 3



Adult anxieties over YA fiction

Maren Williams writes: "Every once in a while, some blogger or columnist garners a lot of pageviews by rekindling the simmering debate as to whether young adult fiction has become 'too dark.' Many adults profess to believe that YA books dealing with such topics as sex, violence, bullying, drugs and alcohol, rape and abuse, or suicide and self-harm *encourage* those behaviors rather than simply reflect their existence in the lives of many teens. However, trying to protect youth by condemning or even banning books does nothing to change this reality."...

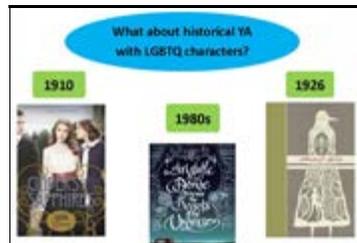
Comic Book Legal Defense Fund, July 24



A guide to YA novels with LGBTQ characters

Molly Wetta writes: "A growing number of young adult novels feature characters that are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. They are moving beyond traditional coming-out stories. It's more common to see them in fantasy or sci-fi, or in stories featuring characters with ambiguous identities. The following guide will give you an overview of the diversity within queer YA fiction for readers looking to explore these stories."...

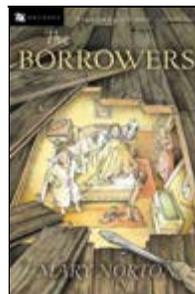
YALSA The Hub, Aug. 6



NPR's ultimate backseat bookshelf

In June, some 2,000 National Public Radio listeners belonging to [NPR's Backseat Book Club](#) responded to a request to nominate their favorite books for children 9–14. NPR then turned to its expert panel of six (including school librarian Travis Jonker), who combined audience favorites with their own choices to come up with a curated list of 100 must-reads. The final list has a little bit of everything....

NPR Books, Aug. 5



Classic wilderness survival chapter books

Summer Anne Burton writes: "We had so many crazy adventures as kids, all of them while hiding under the covers with a flashlight after bedtime. Here are 12 classic wilderness survival chapter books worth revisiting." Among them is *Swallows and Amazons* (1930) by Arthur Ransome: "The summer adventures of two families of children who sail, camp, fish, and pirate together in the Lake District of England. Inspired by the stories of *Robinson Crusoe* and *Treasure Island*, the



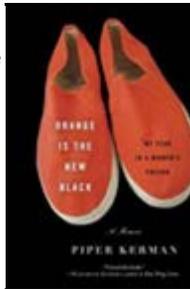
kids make an enemy out of their uncle James Turner, nicknaming him Captain Flint.”...

Buzzfeed, Aug. 2

[Orange Is the New Black: A reading list](#)

Stevie Feliciano writes: “*Orange Is the New Black* is the latest series from Netflix based on Piper Kerman’s memoir of the same name (right). Piper and other characters such as Tastyee, Red, and Alex are seen reading or referencing various books throughout the series. I decided to watch *Orange Is the New Black* a second time in order to compile a list of the books that are visible in a scene or explicitly referenced.”...

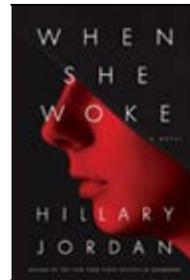
New York Public Library blogs, Aug. 6



[The brave new world of dystopian fiction](#)

Kelly Dickinson writes: “Dystopian fiction: It’s everywhere. There have been exciting dystopian tales appearing on adult fiction shelves that are as thrilling and thought-provoking as their young adult counterparts. So whether readers are suffering from futuristic fiction fatigue or are desperate for a fresh fix of dystopian adventure, one of these titles is sure to please.”...

YALSA The Hub, Aug. 1



[25 best websites for literature lovers](#)

Jason Diamond writes: “The literary world occupies a decent-sized space on the web. Readers, writers, publishers, editors, and everybody in between are tweeting, Tumblr-ing, blogging, and probably even Vine-ing about their favorite books. In case the demise of Google Reader threw your literary internet browsing into a dark void, here’s a list of 25 book sites to bookmark.”...

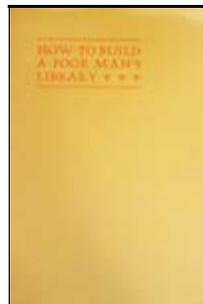
Flavorwire, Aug. 5



[My books about libraries](#)

Jerry Morris writes: “Could I have been a librarian in a previous life? That would explain why I have so many books about libraries. I will display the front covers of some of my books, and if you click on the links above the images, you will find out more about them, including, in some cases, provenance information. From some of the books I will post passages I think you might find interesting.”...

My Sentimental Library, July 31



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tips & Ideas

[Rethinking what we do: Library cards](#)

Linda W. Braun writes: “The physical library card has changed, but have the policies and procedures that relate to cards done the same? How long has it been since you reviewed those policies with the teens you serve in 2013 in mind? I would guess that for some it’s



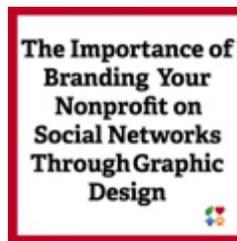
been a very long time. Here are two scenarios to consider when thinking about teens, the library card application process, and related policies.”...

YALSA Blog, Aug. 5

[Branding on social networks](#)

Heather Mansfield writes: “Internet users of 2013 expect polish and professionalism across all your online channels, not only in their appearance but in how they are managed. A good content strategy requires time and skill to execute, and the successful management of your social networks requires training. Quality graphic design for your social networks is also not free unless you are fortunate enough to have a staff person or volunteer skilled in Photoshop.”...

Nonprofit Tech for Good, Aug. 7



[DPL Connect: Denver's new pedal-powered library](#)

Zac Laugheed writes: “Over the past few months, the Denver Public Library has been developing a new service to connect the library to the community outside of our physical locations. We wanted to literally take our services to the streets, so we created DPL Connect, a pedal-powered mobile library and Wi-Fi hotspot. DPL Connect is making its inaugural ride on August 7. It will be stocked with a rotating collection of books tailored to the bike's location.”...

Denver Public Library, Aug. 5



[How to enable Do Not Track](#)

Thorin Klosowski writes: “Do Not Track, the feature in web browsers and websites that asks advertisers and data miners not to track your browsing habits, is a relatively new service. It's also typically an opt-out feature. So here's a listing of places where you can enable Do Not Track so advertisers can't snoop in on your habits.”...

Lifehacker, Aug. 5



[Discover in-depth articles on Google](#)

Pandu Nayak writes: “To understand a broad topic, sometimes you need more than a quick answer. Our research indicates that perhaps 10% of people's daily information needs fit this category—topics like stem cell research, happiness, and love, to name just a few. That's why over the next few days we'll be rolling out a new feature to help you find relevant in-depth articles in the main Google Search results.”...

Google Inside Search, Aug. 6



[Six non-crappy ways to find song lyrics](#)

Yaara Lancet writes: “The search term 'lyrics' is super popular on Google, and the amount of websites offering song lyrics is endless. Many of these websites are strewn with endless ads, while the actual lyrics, obviously not the most important element on the page, get buried between confusing banners and dubious links. Is there a way out? Of course!”...



MakeUseOf, Aug. 6

[Explore the CDC Stacks](#)

CDC Stacks is a free digital library of scientific publications produced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. It includes peer-reviewed articles and CDC guidelines and recommendations. Users can search the full text of all documents, browse entries by public health subject, examine historical data, and explore the curated collections of more than 11,000 publications. The collection is updated weekly....

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



[Making STEM programs work in the library](#)

Angela Critics writes: "STEM is certainly the new buzzword in library programming for children. That means a rush to create and promote STEM programming. The problem is that STEM is an educational initiative and most of the available literature is geared towards classroom activities. As yet, there is no set of best practices for STEM programming in libraries."...

Literacy in a Digital Age, June 21

[After-school STEM at Chicago's Level UP](#)

Brian Heater writes: "Level UP is located in the basement beneath the food court of the Ford City Mall on Chicago's south side. Jackie Moore has devoted this space and her life to teaching kids how to build

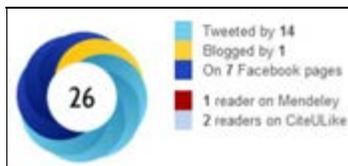


robots. Moore and other concerned parents formed Agape Werks, a name stenciled on various pieces of equipment scattered about the Level UP space. Agape gave birth to the Chicago Knights, a team of high school-aged roboticists who travel the country, taking part in competitions like the autonomous Botball and FIRST Robotics. And Level UP became the team's home base."...

Engadget, Aug. 6

[Article-level metrics: A bad idea](#)

Jeffrey Beall writes: "Many are excited about innovative measures that purport to quantify scholarly impact at a more granular level. Called article-level metrics or ALMs, these measures depart from time-honored computations of scholarly influence such as the journal impact factor. Instead, they rely on data generated from popular sources such as social media and other generally nonscientific and meager venues. I can promise you that any system designed to measure impact at the article level will be gamed, rendering the metrics useless and invalid." Bonnie Swoger offers [some background](#) on ALM....

Scholarly Open Access, Aug. 1; *Scientific American*: Information Culture, Aug. 3

[New retirement toolkit](#)

The US Department of Labor, the Social Security Administration, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services have partnered to publish a Retirement Toolkit ([PDF file](#)). This toolkit includes links to publications and to interactive tools that can help your patrons plan their retirement. It includes a timeline for retirement, information to



help individuals decide at what age they want to retire, and information on how to avoid paying a Medicare Part D late enrollment penalty....

Pasco County (Fla.) Library System Senior Services Blog, July 27

[Serving at-risk daycares](#)

Sarah Hathaway writes: "As the Money Smarts programmer for the Columbus (Ohio) Metropolitan Library, I have the opportunity to work extensively with daycares in many at-risk and impoverished areas. Due to a variety of factors, including food security issues at home, children in these neighborhoods often spend their entire day in a child care location. Working with daycares in at-risk areas is essential since it is often the only way these children will experience the library in their young lives. Here are some of the barriers daycare children and caregivers face."...

ALSC Blog, Aug. 3



[Latino librarians: Guardians of culture](#)

Roberto Haro writes: "There are numerous public librarians who can be singled out for the outstanding contributions to their respective communities. Elizabeth Martinez, director of the Salinas (Calif.) Public Library, comes to mind immediately. She was responsible for introducing Rodolfo 'Corky' Gonzalez, the author of the epic poem *I Am Joaquin* (1967), to an audience of rapt listeners at an ALA conference. Others following in Elizabeth's steps are Ben Ocon in San Mateo, Luis Herrera in San Francisco, and Carmen Martinez (above) in Oakland."...

Somos en escrito, July 19



[How Andrew Carnegie turned his fortune into libraries](#)

Susan Stamberg writes: "Andrew Carnegie was once the richest man in the world. Coming as a dirt poor kid from Scotland to the US, by the 1880s he had built an empire in steel, and then gave it all away: \$60 million to fund a system of 1,689 public libraries across the country. Carnegie libraries are still the best buildings in many towns. Over the years some have been expanded or torn down. And, in addition to books and computers, Carnegie libraries find new ways to serve the community."...

NPR: Morning Edition, Aug. 1



[Whimsical sea monsters](#)

Chet Van Duzer writes: "While researching and writing *Sea Monsters on Medieval and Renaissance Maps*, just published by the British Library, one of the things I discovered is that cartographers generally used the most recent authoritative sources available to them for the sea monsters on their maps. Despite this tendency, there are cases in which the mapmakers did simply invent creatures, and those monsters can be delightfully whimsical. Here are examples of whimsical sea monsters from the second half of the 16th century."...

British Library: Maps and Views Blog, Aug. 2



[How to land a library job](#)

Brian Kenney writes: "Although the economy is slowly climbing out of its sinkhole, don't expect finding a library position to get easier any time soon. State funding is under pressure, and local funding—which now makes up nearly the entire budget of your typical public library—remains flat at best. Although there are more job openings in 2013 than in previous years, there is also more competition for those positions. Jobseekers, especially those looking for their first librarian positions, need to have their game faces on."...

Publishers Weekly, Aug. 2

[Librarians as college recruiters](#)

Jessica Olin writes: "Not everyone realizes it, but prospective students and their parents do take the library into account when making a decision about colleges. After I talked the admissions department up, I made my big move and revealed the reason I had wanted to connect with them in the first place. And that was this: I offered to come up with a list of talking points about the library for the admissions counselors and the student tour guides. If you're curious, here are the points I made."...

Letters to a Young Librarian, Aug. 6



[Order in the Library](#)

[Order in the Library](#), a game that teaches pre-college students how to correctly shelve books using the Dewey Decimal system, was developed by four teams of software engineering students at the University of Texas in 2002–2004. The product was based on specifications the teams received from Susan Sanders, an elementary school librarian at Zavala Elementary in Austin. The project was developed in Flash and has enjoyed great popularity thanks to the simplicity of its design and its usefulness....

University of Texas at Austin School of Information



[Adventures in shelf-reading](#)

Kathryn Lybarger writes: "This summer, our circulation department is doing a large shelf-reading project in the stacks. I got to shelf-read around PR 6000 (English literature — 1900–1960 — Individual authors). I didn't have any major problems as I worked through Joseph Conrad, then Noël Coward, and A. J. Cronin, through what I thought was the end of the C's, when suddenly there was half a shelf of books in random order, including a bunch of Joseph Conrad and Noël Coward. What in heck happened?"...

Problem Cataloger, Aug. 1



[Where to find public-domain images](#)

Richard Byrne writes: "On a fairly regular basis I'm asked for suggestions on places to find public domain images. I have a handful of go-to sites that I usually recommend."...

Free Technology for Teachers, Aug. 6

[Constitution Day poster contest](#)

K–12 students are invited to participate in the 2013 Constitution Day poster contest. Constitution Day will be celebrated on September 17. Entrants must create a poster that demonstrates how the freedoms



embodied in the US Constitution affect their daily lives. Entries ([PDF file](#)) will be judged on both artistic merit and relevance to the US Constitution and must be postmarked by October 1. Each winner will receive a \$50 US savings bond, with the Grand Prize winner receiving a \$200 savings bond. The contest is cosponsored by Constitution Facts and the Gov Doc Kids Group....

Constitution Facts

New York's City Hall Library

Stephen Farrell writes: "Nothing on the street outside says that it is there. First-time visitors must push through a revolving door of a court building in Lower Manhattan on faith, and hear their footsteps echo across a vast marble



lobby before they finally glimpse a set of wooden double doors near a staircase leading down to a goblin-dark basement. This is the entrance to the City Hall Library, open to all yet known to relatively few." Watch the [video](#) (3:09)....

New York Times: City Room, Aug. 5

Psy in the library

Roger Tagholm writes: "For one of the scenes in '[Gentleman](#)' (3:54), his follow-up song to 'Gangnam Style' released this past April, Psy chose Seoul's splendid Metropolitan Library, recently refurbished and reopened to the public. He can be seen dancing on the sweeping steps by the impressive, five-meter-high wall of books that links the two General Collection floors—thereby giving the library some extraordinary publicity. The video has now been viewed more than 507 million times, which may explain why these steps were so crowded when I visited."...



Publishing Perspectives, Aug. 5; YouTube, Apr. 13

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ALA PUBLISHING | AmericanLibraryAssociation

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

american libraries DIRECT

Contents

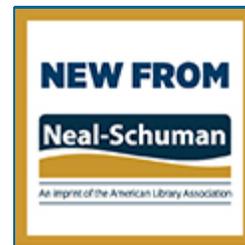
[American Libraries Online](#) | [ALA News](#) | [Booklist Online](#)

[Division News](#) | [Awards & Grants](#) | [Libraries in the News](#)

[Issues](#) | [Tech Talk](#) | [E-Content](#) | [Books & Reading](#) | [Tips & Ideas](#)

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | August 14, 2013




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American Libraries Online

Libraries weigh accepting paid advertisements

Beverly Goldberg writes: "With the Great Recession still affecting public service budgets nationwide, libraries continue to pursue new funding avenues. The latest foray into fiscal triage, undertaken by at least two libraries—Toronto (Ont.) Reference Public Library and the Port Chester–Rye Brook (N.Y.) Library—is to allow commercial enterprises to advertise their products and services in the library. In both cases, the libraries have accepted a quid pro quo from ad placement companies."...

American Libraries news, Aug. 12

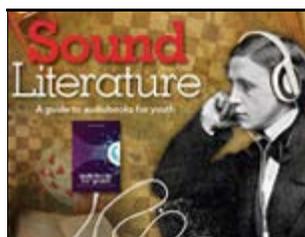
MILLIONS see your ad for less than a penny an exposure

The WORLD'S BUSIEST urban public library...
The Toronto Public Library
gets **19 MILLION** visits annually

A guide to audiobooks for youth

Mary Burkey writes: "The act of reading is evolving. Today's readers can experience the same story as they toggle between audiobooks in the car, ebooks on the iPad, and paperbacks at home, and young people in particular are naturals in this transmedia world. As families, classroom teachers, and library workers consider expanding their collections of literature in the 21st century, evolving formats provide challenges to developing and maintaining them."...

American Libraries feature



Youth Matters: The whole library approach

Linda W. Braun writes: "It's probably no surprise to you that sometimes library staffers prefer to work with one age group over another. Children's services staff members may love working with kids but may not be so crazy about working with teens or adults; young adult staffers may be wild about teenagers, but preschoolers and adults may be another story; and adult services staffers might love adults and teens, but not children. Still, all staff members in a public



Follow @amlibraries

2014 Midwinter Meeting

Philadelphia, January 24–28.

Registration and housing will be open October 1.

2014 Annual Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada, June 26–July 1.

Registration and housing will be open January 14.

(**Bundle registration** for 2014 Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference opens September 9.)



HUNDREDS OF DIGITAL MAGAZINES FOR LIBRARIES!



library should be ready, willing, able, and trained to work with all ages."...

American Libraries column, June

[Go back to the Top](#)



ALA News

[Cory Doctorow supports library ebook lending](#)

In a [video](#) (4:19) released July 31 by the ALA Campaign for America's Libraries, bestselling author Cory Doctorow (right) lends his public support for fair and equitable ebook lending practices for libraries. Doctorow, a long-time champion for libraries and reader privacy, is a member of [Authors for Library Ebooks](#), a new ALA initiative that asks authors to stand with libraries in their quest for equitable ebook access. Developed by the ALA's Digital Content and Libraries Working Group, the campaign encourages authors to sign on to a statement of shared values.... Campaign for America's Libraries, Aug. 12; YouTube, July 31



[Iowa teens gain News Know-how](#)

Between newspaper and magazine columns and TV and radio commentary, it is always easy to find pundits from both ends of the political spectrum freely airing their views. The audience must determine whether the opinions have a basis in fact, and whether they are presented with integrity and credibility. That's what Grinnell, Iowa, high-school students Dana Brown and Joshua Randolph did as part of the [News Know-how](#) news-literacy program this summer. Both have [blogged](#) about their evolution into "news media watchdogs."...



Office for Intellectual Freedom, Aug. 13

[Volunteer to serve on a committee](#)

ALA President-Elect Courtney L. Young encourages members to volunteer to serve on ALA and Council committees for the 2014–2015 term beginning July 1, 2014. Serving on a committee provides members with leadership training, networking opportunities, and experience in working on specific Association topics. The online committee [volunteer form](#) is available through November 1....

Office of ALA Governance, Aug. 13

[Diverse contributors revisit CIPA 10 years later](#)

Marijke Visser writes: "The Office for Information Technology Policy and Office for Intellectual Freedom hosted a symposium July 29–30 to look at how libraries have implemented the requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act since the US Supreme Court upheld the law's constitutionality in 2003. The midway point in a larger project on CIPA (funded by Google), the symposium brought together 35 experts representing



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**INNOVATIVE'S
LATEST
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from CEO
Kim Massana

school, public, and academic librarians, as well as representatives from educational associations, education technology, IT networking, and nonprofit policy organizations and think tanks." Watch the July 30 Google Hangout presentation ([Part I](#) and [II](#))....

District Dispatch, Aug. 9

[Join the national conversation about mental health](#)

Nancy Kranich writes: "Libraries across the US are invited to join a national conversation about mental health over the coming months. These dialogues will bring people together at large forums, in small-group discussions, in city-wide deliberations, and online. Launched at the White House in early June, this [Creating Community Solutions](#) conversation intends to increase understanding and awareness about mental health, with a particular focus on young people."...

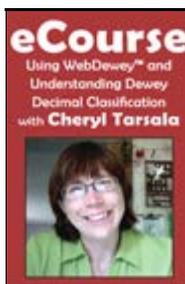
Programming Librarian, Aug. 13



[Using WebDewey and understanding DDC](#)

Expert cataloging teacher Cheryl Tarsala will serve as the instructor for the five-week facilitated eCourse, "[Using WebDewey and Understanding Dewey Decimal Classification](#)," which will begin on November 4. This eCourse will teach how to assign DDC numbers with correct meaning in hierarchy, build numbers using tables, and apply numbers that help patrons browse, as well as offer guidance in building complex numbers, in using Table 3 for literature, and ideas for more effective use of the DDC system....

ALA Editions, Aug. 13



[Getting babies into books](#)

In those moments when a baby relaxes and cuddles in your lap as you read them a book, a wonderful thing is happening: That baby is learning that books contain words, pictures, and stories that are captivating. You can start teaching early literacy skills to babies before they can even speak with the help of the popular eCourse, "[Getting Babies into Books with Early Literacy Programs](#)," which begins on November 4, and is taught by Kathy Kirchoefer (right)....

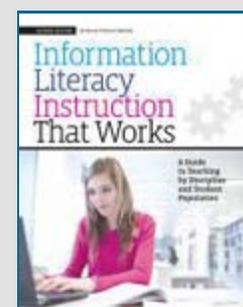
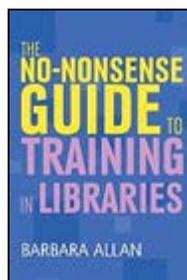
ALA Editions, Aug. 13



[No-nonsense guidance on training in libraries](#)

In order to make an impact with users, library staff must be well trained and up-to-date. Barbara Allan's [The No-Nonsense Guide to Training in Libraries](#), published by Facet Publishing, uses case studies and examples of best practices from public, school, academic, special, and government libraries to help library and information workers deliver excellent training. For experienced trainers as well as those who are still developing their skills, Allan's book offers guidance on the design and delivery of effective training courses....

ALA Neal-Schuman, Aug. 13



Information literacy and library instruction are at the heart of the academic library's mission. But how do you bring that instruction to an increasingly diverse student body and an increasingly varied spectrum of majors?

[Citizen Science Guide for Families](#)

Defining citizen science and providing an overview of

the social and community aspects behind the idea, [Citizen Science Guide for Families: Taking Part in Real Science](#), by former *American Libraries* Associate Editor Greg Landgraf, shows people of all ages and backgrounds how to contribute to real scientific research. Organized by topic, it features links to library resources and book descriptions, as well as a section detailing ongoing citizen-science programs so families can identify projects appropriate to their interests, abilities, commitment levels, and locations....

Huron Street Press, Aug. 13



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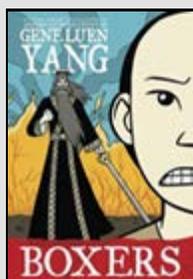


Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Graphic novels for youth](#)

Yang, Gene Luen. *Boxers*. Sept. 2013. Grades 7–11. 336p. First Second, hardcover (978-1-59643-359-5).

In *American Born Chinese* (2006), Yang spoke to the culture clash of Chinese-American teen life. In *Boxers*—the first volume in a two-book set, concluding with *Saints* (2013)—about the Boxer Rebellion at the end of the 19th century in China, he loses twin voices in harmony and dissonance from opposite sides of the bloody conflict. *Boxers* follows a young man nicknamed Little Bao, who reacts to religious and cultural oppression by leading the uprising from the provinces to Peking, slaughtering “foreign devils” and soldiers along the way....



[Featured review: Graphic novels for youth](#)

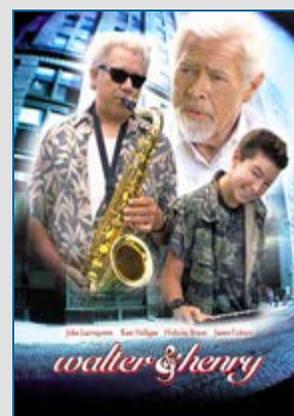
Yang, Gene Luen. *Saints*. Sept. 2013. Grades 7–11. 176p. First Second, hardcover (978-1-59643-689-3).

In *Saints*—the concluding volume in a two-book set beginning with *Boxers* (2013)—Yang loses twin voices in harmony and dissonance from opposite sides of the bloody conflict. *Saints* follows Four-Girl, an outcast in her own family, who embraces the Christian faith spreading through her country and places herself in the dangerous path of the Boxers. Between the two books, Yang ties tangled knots of empathy where the heroes of one become the monsters of the other. Watch the [book trailer](#) (1:02) for both....



In this updated, expanded new second edition of [Information Literacy Instruction That Works](#), featuring more than 75% new content, Ragains and 16 other library instructors share their best practices for reaching out to today's unique users. **NEW!** From ALA Editions.

Libraries on Film



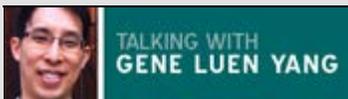
[Walter and Henry](#) (2001, Canada / US, made for TV). Paulette Sinclair is a librarian.



[Wanted](#) (2008, US / Germany). Several scenes take place in the headquarters library of a secret Fraternity of assassins.



Quick Tips: Talking with Gene Luen Yang



Sarah Hunter writes: "Little Bao and Four-Girl's competing loyalties in *Boxers* and *Saints* put them at bitter odds, but ultimately they each long for the same thing: to find a sense of identity and purpose within their families, their communities, and their culture. Yang's innovative dual-perspective approach has the potential to open up rich conversations about conflicts, both personal and political. Yang took the time to talk to *Booklist* about the project and his research about the brutal history of the Boxer Rebellion."...

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

[Go back to the Top](#)

Division News

Early-bird deadline nears for AASL conference

August 22 is the last day to receive an early-bird registration discount for the AASL 16th National Conference, to be held November 14–17 in Hartford, Connecticut. The event is the only national conference dedicated solely to the needs of school librarians and their roles as educational leaders. [Register](#) online....

AASL, Aug. 13



MOOCs, metadata tools, and more

[Register now](#) for exciting webinars offered this fall by ALCTS. From MOOCs to metadata, patron-driven acquisitions to assessment for cataloging, each session is taught by topic experts and is an excellent value. Find complete pricing and registration details on each session's webpage....

ALCTS, Aug. 12

ALCTS tech services fundamentals

Registration is now open for the 2013–2014 sessions of the popular [Fundamentals web courses](#), offered by ALCTS, including the newly redesigned Fundamentals of Acquisitions. Each session is limited to 20 students, and sessions fill up quickly. Register [online](#) or by [mail](#) and be sure to indicate which course you'd like to attend....

ALCTS, Aug. 12

LLAMA offers three webinars in September

The arts of [online fundraising](#), [gathering data on user needs](#), and [cover letters and résumés](#) are the subjects of three webinars offered by LLAMA in September. [Registration](#) is open for "A Conversation about Websites for Library Fundraising: Perspectives from Duke University and the University of Texas," to be held September 25, and "Getting Started with User Focus Groups" on September 4. [Sign up](#) for the free September 18 webinar, "Cover Letter and Résumé Tips to Get an Interview."...

LLAMA, Aug. 13

New Jersey renews Trustee Academy subscription

[WarGames](#) (1983). Matthew Broderick as gamer and hacker David Lightman goes to a library to find information about a famous computer programmer (John Wood as Stephen Falken). Filmed in the library at California State University, Long Beach.



[The War of the Roses](#) (1989). Filming in Toronto, the movie producers rented law books from the Bora Laskin Law Library to use in the scenes in the lawyer's office.

This *AL Direct* feature describes hundreds of films (and some TV shows) in which libraries and librarians are featured, from 1912 to the present. The full list is a [Web Extra](#) associated with [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart and published by ALA Editions. You can browse the films on our [Libraries on Film Pinterest board](#).



The New Jersey State Library has renewed its statewide subscription to United for Libraries' [Trustee Academy](#), a series of online courses to help trustees become exceptionally proficient in their roles on behalf of their libraries. Trustee Academy subscriptions such as the one for New Jersey are available to states and regions at deeply discounted prices....

United for Libraries, Aug. 7

[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[Six Spectrum Doctoral Fellows announced](#)

The Spectrum Scholarship Program is supporting a new cohort of doctoral fellows as part of the Building Change diversity recruitment program funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The 2013–2015 fellows are: RaShauna Brannon, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; LaVerne Gray, University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Miraida Morales, Rutgers University; Myrna Morales, Simmons College; Mario Ramirez, UCLA; and Elnora Tayag, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. [Read more](#) about them....

Office for Diversity, Aug. 13

[2014 AASL award nominations open](#)

AASL members are encouraged to nominate a colleague or themselves to be lauded for their outstanding talent and dedication to the profession. AASL awards and grants recognize excellence and showcase best practices in the school library field in categories that include collaboration, leadership, and innovation. [Applications](#) are now available online....

AASL, Aug. 13

[Daniel Tsang receives Flanigan Award](#)

Daniel Tsang (right), data librarian for the University of California, Irvine Libraries, has received the William H. Flanigan Award for Distinguished Service from the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR). The [award](#) acknowledges the contributions of individuals representing ICPSR member institutions. Tsang has served as ICPSR representative from UCI since 1986....

University of California, Irvine Libraries; ICPSR News, July 29



[15 libraries win Harry Potter Public Library contest](#)

In honor of the 15th anniversary of the US publication of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, the first book in the award-winning Harry Potter series by J. K. Rowling, 15 public libraries nationwide have been chosen as winners of the Harry Potter Public Librarian Contest from Scholastic, the American publisher of the series. Hundreds of librarians submitted their ideas for Harry Potter celebrations designed to introduce a new generation of readers to the wizarding world....

Scholastic, Aug. 7



[Ewell L. Newman Book Award](#)

The Library Company's *Philadelphia on Stone*:

Career Leads from JobLIST

[Information Technology Librarian](#)

Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago. The Information Technology Librarian implements, maintains, and enhances a wide range of technologies and systems. Supports library staff and patrons in the use of existing technology and adoption of new and emerging technology. Provides support for a variety of systems, including the integrated library system, archives management system, proxy server, link resolver, interlibrary loan management system, and other web-based applications. Assists in desktop support server support and routine system maintenance....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The [WLSL-TV News Film Collection](#) is the

Commercial Lithography in Philadelphia, 1828–1878 has received the Ewell L. Newman Book Award at the May annual meeting of the American Historical Print Collectors Society. The jury bestowed the honor, presented to the best publication promoting the appreciation of historical prints, on the volume edited by Associate Curator of Prints and Photographs Erika Piola as part of a project to comprehensively document commercial lithography in Philadelphia in its first 50 years....

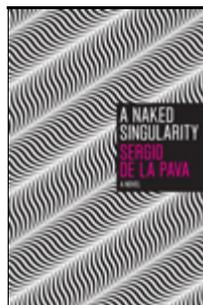
LCP News, Aug. 5



[2013 PEN Literary Award winners](#)

PEN America announced the winners and runners-up of its 2013 PEN Literary Awards, the most comprehensive literary awards program in the US. The winner of the \$25,000 Robert W. Bingham Prize for a debut novel was Sergio de la Pava for *A Naked Singularity* (University of Chicago). Katherine Boo won the \$10,000 John Kenneth Galbraith Award for nonfiction for her *Behind the Beautiful Forevers* (Random House). Winners and runners-up will be honored at the 2013 PEN Literary Awards Ceremony on October 21 at CUNY Graduate Center's Proshansky Auditorium in New York City....

PEN American Center, Aug. 14



[Go back to the Top](#)


Get the inside scoop on pressing library topics.

Libraries in the News

[Harrisburg school library staff eliminated](#)

The Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, public school district started classes August 12 without any staffing for its libraries. Officials say they plan to engage volunteers trained to check out and organize books and other materials. [Reductions](#) in library staff beginning in 2011 already have limited access to the facilities for students, who cannot freely use the computers and study space. Teachers still have access to the libraries, but the lack of instruction from trained librarians concerns some board members....

Harrisburg (Pa.) *Patriot-News*, Aug. 13; Apr. 17, 2012



[NYC schools seek librarian waiver](#)

Officials estimate more than half of New York City's high schools are in violation of state regulations that require schools to employ either part-time or full-time librarians, depending on enrollment. The Department of Education is preparing to ask the state to waive those requirements, arguing city schools can provide adequate library services even if there isn't a librarian in every school. New York would be the first district in the state to receive such a waiver. The Alliance for Quality Education is circulating a [petition](#) to oppose this....

result of a five-year effort by the University of Virginia Library to preserve what is believed to be the only surviving TV news archive of original film clips from Virginia's civil rights era. In 2007, WSLs-TV of Roanoke, Virginia, gave news film and scripts from their broadcasts to the University of Virginia Library for preservation and use. The resulting collection spans 1951 to 1971 and comprises approximately 13,000 clips of 16mm film shown during news programs. It also contains roughly 18,000 pages of the accompanying scripts read on air by anchorpersons. Content of the news stories varies greatly from soapbox derbies to civil rights demonstrations. Local affairs and politics, sports, community events and social occasions, and personalities of the Roanoke region constitute the bulk of the collection. Each news story is searchable by both free-text keywords and controlled subject terms.

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

Wall Street Journal, Aug. 11

[Miami-Dade Main Library is downsizing](#)

As part of its budget belt-tightening, Miami-Dade County in Florida will downsize the space used by the main library's back offices, shrinking the facility's footprint to save money on rent. The headquarters library would be reduced in size by half, keeping the two floors currently open to the public and eliminating a third floor and a basement used for administration and storage. Mayor Carlos Gimenez's office expects the change to have little effect on library users, but the planned move has stirred controversy among library supporters....

Miami Herald, Aug. 12

[New director, young guns guide Chattanooga's library](#)

Over the last 18 months, Chattanooga (Tenn.) Public Library Executive Director Corinne Hill (right) has fostered a culture of change and innovation that has affected nearly every aspect of the library, from how its book and film collections are managed to its new-found role as a technical and creative brain trust for the city. To help realize her vision for a library that could serve a new, expanded role in the digital age, Hill headhunted a group of young, free thinkers from around the US....

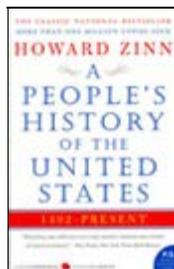
Chattanooga (Tenn.) Times Free Press, Aug. 11



[Zinn book a hot read at libraries](#)

If your summer reading list includes historian Howard Zinn's *A People's History of the United States* and you're planning to borrow it from the public library, get in line. Purdue University President Mitch Daniels's aversion to Zinn and his 1980 volume has prompted a surge of interest in the book, and local libraries are purchasing additional copies to keep up with public demand."...

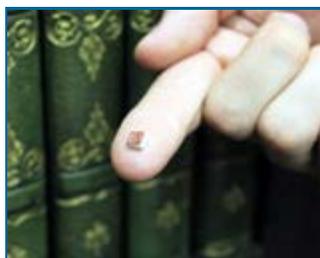
South Bend (Ind.) Tribune, Aug. 13



[Librarian identifies microscopic book](#)

Rebecca J. Rosen writes: "The University of Iowa library contains more than 4,000 miniature books, all measuring fewer than three inches in either height, width, or both. Three inches is not much for a book, but three inches is outright capacious when compared with a little red bug of a book, one of the smallest objects in the entire collection, measuring 0.138 inches square and 0.04 inches thick. Special Collections Librarian Colleen Theisen carefully cracked open the pages and put it under the [library's microscope](#). Sure enough, there was the publisher's imprint."...

The Atlantic, Aug. 7; University of Iowa Libraries, Aug. 6



[Inside the Walmart library](#)

Mark Boyer writes: "Local governments across the United States face a similar problem: What to do with abandoned and vacant commercial properties? In many cases, unused shopping malls and big-box stores at the fringes of town are left to crumble, but the town of McAllen, Texas,



Noted and Quoted

"An imaginative view of the risks of an [internet] designed without sufficient attention to public-interest needs can be found in the modern genre of dystopian fiction known as 'cyberpunk.'

Cyberpunk novelists depict a world in which a handful of multinational corporations have seized control, not only of the physical world, but of the virtual world of cyberspace. The middle-class in these stories is sedated by a constant stream of mass-market entertainment that distracts them from the drudgery and powerlessness of their lives. It doesn't take a novelist's imagination to recognize the rapid concentration of power and the potential danger in the merging of major corporations in the computer, cable, television, publishing, radio, consumer electronics, film, and other industries. We would be distressed to see an [internet] shaped solely by the commercial needs of the entertainment, finance, home shopping, and advertising industries."

—Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility, [A Public-Interest Version of the National Information](#)

came up with a better idea. Left with a vacant Walmart store, the city purchased the massive building from the retail giant and transformed it into a functional and modern new main library."...

Inhabitat, Aug. 12

[Libraries lend fishing poles, pans, and people](#)

Elizabeth Blair writes: "Librarians are quick to remind you that they are not just repositories for printed books and DVDs. Regular patrons know this, but public libraries want to reach beyond the faithful. To that end, many librarians are finding creative ways to get people through the doors despite their limited resources. Take the Honeoye (N.Y.) Public Library. It's one of a handful of libraries in New York that lends out fishing poles. Others, like the Santa Monica (Calif.) Public Library (above), offer 'human books.'"

NPR: *All Things Considered*, Aug. 13



[At libraries across America, it's game on](#)

Sami Yenigun writes: "According to a recent study, about 15% of libraries in the US currently lend games to cardholders to take home. But other research shows that gaming *in* the library is far more prevalent—and teenagers game the most. Sandy Farmer is the manager of Central Youth Services for the Houston Public Library, which has four Nintendo Wiis, four Xboxes, several Nintendo DSs, some iPads, seven PlayStations and a few big-screen TVs." Listen to the entire [NPR series](#) on public libraries....

NPR: *Weekend Edition*, Aug. 11

[For disaster preparedness, pack a library card](#)

Joel Rose writes: "The New Dorp branch (right) of the New York Public Library in Staten Island wasn't damaged during Hurricane Sandy. But just a few blocks away, houses were inundated with as much as 16 feet of water. And days after the storm, many of the library's patrons still lacked the most basic services. Barbara Byrne-Goldie, who has been at the New Dorp branch for nearly 20 years, says she and the other librarians knew many of those patrons personally and went out of their way to help."...

NPR: *Morning Edition*, Aug. 12



[WWI posters discovered in library attic](#)

A Northwest Iowa library is displaying what staffers believe are original World War I-era posters hidden for decades in the building's attic. Kay Geerdes and Kathy Luedke, board members for the Primghar (Iowa) Public Library, ventured into the forgotten space this spring in search of artifacts to display or sell for the town's 125th birthday this summer. What they found were [dozens of posters](#) advertising the US government's liberty bond loan program to help fund the war....

Associated Press, Aug. 12; KCAU-TV, Sioux City, Iowa, Aug. 7



[Librarian rescues forgotten sculpture](#)

Infrastructure, Policy Paper, 1994.

@ [More quotes...](#)

Calendar

Aug. 17–23:

[IFLA World Library and Information Congress](#), Suntec Singapore International Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Aug. 23–25:

[Tampa Bay Comic Con](#), Tampa (Fla.) Convention Center.

Sept. 6:

[Dublin Core-Science and Metadata Community / Research Data Alliance Metadata Interest Group](#),

CAMP-4-DATA: Cyber-infrastructure and Metadata Protocols workshop, Lisbon, Portugal.

Sept. 8–9:

[HathiTrust Research Center UnCamp](#), Hotel and Conference Center, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Sept. 25–29:

[Kingston WritersFest](#), Holiday Inn Kingston Waterfront and Grand Theatre, Kingston, Ontario.

Sept. 26–27:

[11th International Conference on Books and Publishing](#), Universität Regensburg Universitätsbibliothek, Regensburg, Germany.

Patricia Poland, a librarian at Union County (N.C.) Public Library, has helped bring a 1966 library sculpture to light. The modernistic, stainless-steel sculpture (right) was added to a garden alcove when the library was built but was moved to a less visible spot after a 2002 renovation eliminated the alcove. The work caught Poland's eye a few months ago. "I cleaned it because it was so dirty. That was when I started to realize that it gives the appearance of reaching up."...

Charlotte (N.C.) Observer, Aug. 9



San Francisco's quirkiest library

Greg Miller writes: "Have you ever gone to a place you've always wanted to visit and found out it was even more awesome than you thought it would be? That's how I felt last week when we visited the [Prelinger Library](#), an eclectic collection run by Megan and Rick Prelinger. On the library's website, the Prelingers describe it as 'a collection of 19th and 20th century historical ephemera, periodicals, maps, and books, most published in the United States.' They specialize in collecting stuff not commonly found in other libraries."...

Wired Science: MapLab, Aug. 9



Grassroots library grows in Grays River

When California transplants Trudy and Delvin Fredrickson moved to Grays River, Washington, 13 years ago, they loved just about everything about the area except its lack of a public library. So, they teamed up with fellow book-lovers and began gathering the resources to make one. Three years later, their community-supported [Grays River Valley Library](#) has 10,000 books, a computer center, and a dedicated all-volunteer staff....

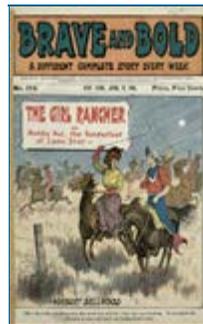
Longview (Wash.) Daily News, Aug. 8



Baylor's Texas Collection gets new life through social media

The Texas Collection at Baylor University in Waco may be getting older, but it's gaining fresh life and research recognition thanks to its online outreach and branding. Staff members share historical tidbits from the collection on [Facebook](#), while photo-sharing site [Flickr](#) is used to post rare images of notable Texans or events. Staffers also have created YouTube videos with overviews of some of the archive holdings or special exhibits, including a display on [dime novels](#) (1:06)....

Waco (Tex.) Tribune, Aug. 11; YouTube, Aug. 9



A new variation on food for fines

Raleigh County (W.Va.) Public Library is cooperating with the local humane society by sponsoring a "pet items for fines" swap through August 17. Patrons can donate certain pet supply items for animal shelters and have overdue fines reduced or removed. One bag of dry pet food equals \$7 in waived



Oct. 6–8:

Coalition for Networked Information

Designing Libraries for the 21st Century Conference, North Carolina State University, Raleigh.

Oct. 9–11:

Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services

Annual Conference, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. "Laissez les bons temps rouler!"

Nov. 20–23:

National Association for the Education of Young Children

Annual Conference and Expo, Washington, D.C.

Dec. 6:

ACRL/NY 2013 Symposium

William and Anita Newman Vertical Campus Conference Center, Baruch College, New York City. "The Library As Knowledge Laboratory."

Dec. 9–10:

Coalition for Networked Information

Fall Membership Meeting, Capital Hilton, Washington, D.C.

Dec. 9–11:

International School of Information Management

15th International Conference on Asia-Pacific Digital Libraries, Bangalore, India.

Dec. 18–20:

First International Conference on

finer, one can of dog food equals \$2 in waived fines, two cans of cat food equals \$2 in waived fines, and one bag of kitty litter equals \$5 in waived fines....

Beckley (W.Va.) Register-Herald, Aug. 12

[Go back to the Top](#)

Issues

[Librarians and internet search technology](#)

Although librarians adopted internet technology quickly, they initially dismissed search engines, which duplicated tasks they considered integral to their field. Their eventual embrace of the technology required a reinvention of their occupational identity, according to a [study](#) by University of Oregon researchers. Librarians have gone from thinking of themselves as the knowledgeable person with the best answer to a patron's question to being an interpreter and connector who points patrons to helpful materials for their consideration....

University of Oregon, Aug. 7; *Academy of Management Journal*, July 15

[Can't buy us love](#)

Rick Anderson writes in *Can't Buy Us Love* ([PDF file](#)), the first of a series of Ithaka S+R issues briefs: "For centuries, readers and researchers have relied on academic libraries to provide them with access to books that are sold (or access to which is sold) in the commercial marketplace. However, during the past two decades the networked digital environment has done more than just become the default locus of scholarly communication. It has done three other things as well." [More on this topic](#) by Joseph Esposito....

Ithaka S+R, Aug. 1; The Scholarly Kitchen, Aug. 7



[E-rate: 900 questions later](#)

Marijka Visser writes: "The FCC's recent [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) involves every aspect of the e-rate program and asks more than 900 questions that range from radical restructuring of the program to the most modest of tweaks. ALA staff and members have spent several hundred hours reading, discussing, analyzing, and prioritizing the work ahead. Many more hundreds of hours stretch in front of us for drafting, additional analysis, and engaging with FCC staff and other stakeholders. At this point, we want to share an early look at some of the priority issues on which we expect to submit comments."...

District Dispatch, Aug. 13

[NSA "touches" more internet data than Google](#)

Sean Gallagher writes: "In a memo ([PDF file](#)) issued August 9, the National Security Agency provided details of its ongoing network surveillance operations intended to assuage concerns about its scope, content, and oversight: 'If a standard basketball court represented the global communications environment, NSA's total collection would be represented by an area smaller than a dime on that basketball court.' But the [numbers](#) are misleading."...

Ars Technica, Aug. 13; BBC News, Aug. 12



[Mining Intelligence and Knowledge Exploration.](#)

Virudhunagar, Tamil Nadu, India.

Jan. 6–9:

[47th Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences.](#)

Hilton Waikoloa, Waikoloa, Hawaii.

Feb. 24–27:

[Digital Curation Centre.](#)

9th International Digital Curation Conference, Mission Bay Conference Center, San Francisco. "Commodity, Catalyst or Change Agent? Data-driven transformations in research, education, business, and society."

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct



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



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[Tech hacks will not fix our surveillance problem](#)

Jathan Sadowski writes: "There are two separate, yet often entangled, ideologies in our discourse about the surveillance state. The first is the individualistic conception of cyberhygiene: How should you behave to secure your own communications, protect your own data, and avoid your own tracking. The second is the notion of techcentric solutionism: What tech hack, device, or app can I turn to for a quick fix to my privacy troubles? But we shouldn't resolve ourselves to a life where cyberhygiene and technological solutions fool us into thinking we've somehow preserved our privacy." In fact, US firms' cloud services are now [compromised](#)....

Wired Opinion, Aug. 12; *The Observer* (UK), July 27

[Things law librarian bloggers should write about](#)

Shaunna Mireau writes: "Last week there was a challenge and a follow-up thread at 3 Geeks and a Law Blog. The [challenge](#) was a plea from Nina Platt that law librarian bloggers write about issues that would be useful to us (as opposed to writing about the future of law or legal publishing news). The challenge was [answered](#) with a list of themes and ideas that I urge you to read. Law firm librarians should be asking themselves what they are doing today to meet tomorrow's challenges."...

Slaw, Aug. 13; 3 Geeks and a Law Blog, Aug. 6, 8

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[The 10 best wireless speakers](#)

Will Greenwald writes: "Wireless speakers are everywhere these days, with seemingly every audio company putting out Bluetooth or AirPlay speakers. They come in all shapes and prices, from a portable \$100 block to a massive \$800 slab, and they can vary wildly in sound quality and features. Most wireless speakers are AirPlay-only or Bluetooth-only, but rare exceptions exist."...

PC Magazine, Aug. 8



[How to clean your LCD monitor screen](#)

Jason Fitzpatrick writes: "Whether you're trying to get the dust off your monitor or your kid's fingerprints off your gorgeous new HDTV set, removing dust, dirt, and oil from the plethora of screens around you requires the right tools and the right touch. Read on as we show you how to safely clean your expensive screens."...

How-To Geek, Aug. 12



[Windows XP to retire in April](#)

Gregg Keizer writes: "After April 8, 2014, Microsoft has said it will retire Windows XP and stop serving security updates. The only exceptions are companies and other organizations, such as government agencies, that pay exorbitant fees for custom support. Jason Fossen, a trainer for SANS since 1998 and an expert on Microsoft security, said



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cybercriminals will bank their Windows XP zero-day vulnerabilities until after Microsoft stops patching the aged operating system.” Should you [stop using](#) Windows XP?...

PC World, July 22, Aug. 13

[How to clean and secure your browser](#)

Eric Geier writes: “Legitimate sites do a decent job of screening their advertisers, weeding out those that spread viruses, malware, or scams. But even a single instance of malicious adware on your PC can inject bad ads into otherwise innocuous websites. Almost every time I remove malware from a machine, I find that adware was previously installed. An adware infection ends when you take a minute to deep-clean the PC, eliminating unwanted browser toolbars, add-ons, extensions, and homepage- and search-hijacking malware.”...

PC World, Aug. 13



[Learn which startup programs are safe to remove](#)



Rick Broida writes: “The longer you run your computer, the more clutter it accumulates. This takes the form of programs you no longer need, bloatware you never wanted in the first place, or adware you didn’t intend to install. The result: slow booting, slow operation, slow everything. Ah, but which programs are safe to uninstall or block? [Should I Remove It?](#) is a free utility that helps you answer exactly that question.”...

PC World, Aug. 14

[Top 10 IFTTT recipes for librarians](#)

Paige Alfonzo writes: “If you’ve ever performed an advanced search, run a list in your LMS, or forwarded your email to another email carrier, then you’ve used an IFTTT statement. IFTTT is a free service that came out in 2010 and allows you to create and use recipes that execute commands online. For example, you can back up your tagged Facebook photos in your Dropbox folder by creating the recipe ‘IF I am tagged in a photo on Facebook THEN I want to add that file to my Dropbox (THAT).’ And IFTTT takes all the coding out of it, making recipe creation a piece of cake.”...

Librarian Enumerations, Aug. 14

[Go back to the Top](#)

E-Content

[Companies want a specific accessibility waiver for e-readers](#)

Amazon, Kobo, and Sony are petitioning the Federal Communications Commission to permanently exempt e-readers from a federal accessibility regulation for persons with disabilities, arguing that e-readers are bare-bones devices designed for a single purpose: reading text. The petition is interesting because it argues that e-readers are inherently limited devices and that any non-reading functions they include, like experimental web browsers, are “rudimentary.” The FCC is [accepting comments](#) on the petition through September 3. More [background here](#) from Nate Hoffelder....



GigaOM, Aug. 7; *The Digital Reader*, Aug. 7

[A framework for library ebook licensing](#)

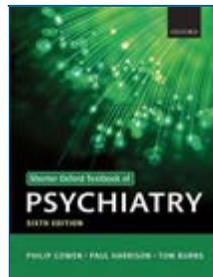
Eric Hellman writes: "It's time to float a comprehensive proposal for how libraries and publishers might work together on ebook distribution to benefit the entire reading ecosystem. Ebook lending as implemented to date has been founded on a combination of irrational fears and outmoded processes. We deserve better. Behind this framework is a set of assumptions."...

Go to Hellman, Aug. 12

[Google begins selling e-textbooks](#)

With little fanfare, Google began offering electronic textbooks for rent or purchase on its Google Play store on August 9. Included will be books from some of the largest academic-text publishers, including Pearson, Macmillan Higher Education, and Wiley. Google said the e-textbooks could save students up to 80% off printed textbook prices, and could also provide readers with features not available from traditional books. The service will roll out to users across the US during the coming weeks....

Chronicle of Higher Education: Wired Campus, Aug. 12



[Get the most out of Project Gutenberg](#)

Piotr Kowalczyk writes: "[Project Gutenberg](#) is one of the most important sources of free ebooks on the web. This longest-established ebook project releases books that entered public domain and can be freely used in electronic format. The world's first-ever ebook, created by the founder of Project Gutenberg Michael S. Hart, was officially added to the catalog in December 1971 and is [still available](#) for download. I bet you are not aware of some of the tricks listed here."...

Ebook Friendly, July 5



[68 essential resources for ebooks in libraries](#)

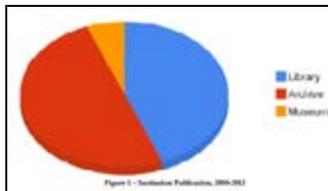
Ellyssa Kroski writes: "Ebooks are a constant topic in library news today. If you're just getting caught up or striving to keep current, here are 68 resources that will put you in the know and help you make an informed decision about implementing ebooks in your library."...

No Shelf Required, Aug. 12

[Current digital preservation policies](#)

Medline Sheldon writes: "My major project as a Library of Congress Junior Fellow was to identify and analyze cultural heritage institution digital preservation policies. This project was an update and extension of [work done in 2011](#) by Kristen Snawder. My full report is available here ([PDF file](#)). What follows is an overview of my findings."...

The Signal: Digital Preservation, Aug. 13; July 6, 2011



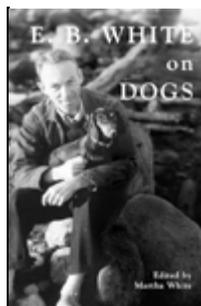
[Go back to the Top](#)

Books & Reading

[Rousing Reads: Man's best friend](#)

Bill Ott writes: "I have no beef against dogs, but I'm not a fan of dog books: too smarmy (especially when the damn dogs talk) and way too heartbreaking when the damn dogs die. That all changes, however, when it's E. B. White writing about dogs. Or anything else, for that matter. Dogs were one of White's favorite subjects. So when a book called *E. B. White on Dogs* landed on my desk the other day, I naturally grabbed it immediately."...

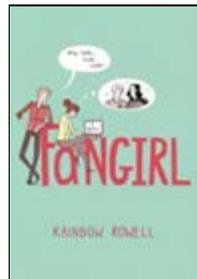
American Libraries column, June



[First LibraryReads list is live](#)

The inaugural [LibraryReads](#) list, featuring [10 titles](#) that librarians have read and most look forward to promoting in September, has been collated from nominations by library staff across the country and was released to the library community in mid-August. The number one title is *Fangirl* by Rainbow Rowell (Macmillan). Published as a YA title, it was chosen for its crossover appeal to adults. You can [nominate](#) your favorite titles for upcoming lists. The deadline for the October list is September 1....

EarlyWord: The Publisher | Librarian Connection, Aug. 13



[Five forgotten Grimms' fairy tales](#)

Linda Rodriguez McRobbie writes: "This year, cities across Europe are celebrating the 200th anniversary of the publication of the Brothers Grimms' collection of household fairytales. The first volume of their masterwork, containing 86 stories, appeared in December 1812 and was such a big deal that everyone is taking another 12 months to celebrate, hence the festivities in 2013. Here are five of the weirder, more bizarre, and odd Grimms' tales that didn't quite get the Disney treatment."...

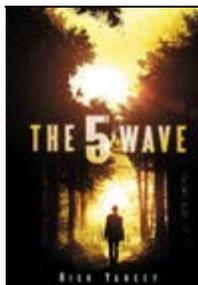
Mental Floss, July 31



[Aliens in YA literature](#)

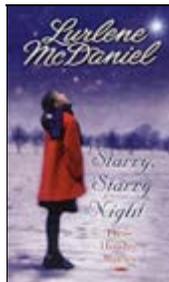
Sharon Rawlins writes: "I recently devoured Rick Yancey's *The 5th Wave* in a few hours. It was an exciting, compelling, and fast-paced read. In the wake of a series of disasters, there are few remaining humans left in the US. The survivors are being hunted by aliens who look human. The minute I finished it I immediately wanted another one like it. Other YA books vary in their approach to the aliens. The aliens were a threat to humans, helpful to humans, or maybe even were the humans."...

YALSA The Hub, Aug. 8



[When you wish upon a Perseid](#)

If you missed seeing this week's [Perseid meteor shower](#), you can still celebrate by reading YA books about wishing. Jennifer Rummel presents a short list of wishful possibilities. For example, *Starry, Starry Night* by Lurlene McDaniel, in which three girls look up at the sky around Christmas and see a bright star. They each make a wish and discover something significant: Life is painful but also inspiring....

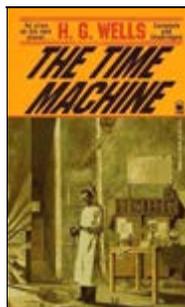


YALSA The Hub, Aug. 13; SpaceWeather, Aug. 13

[50 sci-fi/fantasy novels everyone should read](#)

Emily Temple writes: "People say it all the time: They'd love to get into science fiction or fantasy, but they've no idea where to start. If this is you (or if you're one of those stubborn folks who looks snootily down on the genre), listen up. Here are 50 sci-fi and fantasy novels that are well worth your time, whether you're brand new to the concept of dragons and spaceships or a seasoned veteran."...

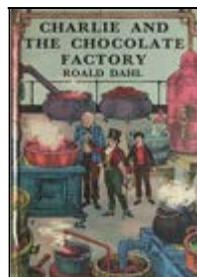
Flavorwire, Aug. 8



[Top 10 descriptions of food in kid lit](#)

Katherine Rundell writes: "Writing about food is my favorite part of writing, just as eating is one of my favorite parts of life. As a child, I reread food scenes for comfort, for the joy of the keen hunger that they produced, and, once I had learned to cook, for inspiration." Rundell's inspirations include Willy Wonka's Whipple Scrumptious Fudgemallow Delight, Mr. Wilderness's porridge from *The Wolves of Willoughby Chase*, and the "brilliant madcap meals" of *Saffy's Angel*....

The Guardian (UK), July 23



[Kid lit stamps from around the world](#)

Kelly Jensen writes: "Earlier this summer, Canada Post honored Stella, the title character of a series of picture books by author Marie-Louise Gay, with a [series of stamps](#). It's the second stamp from Canada Post to feature an image from children's literature, and it got me thinking about other countries around the world that have featured kid lit in their postage. Here's a roundup of some of the coolest postal tributes to kid lit from around the world. I've stuck to the stamps based on the books themselves."...

Book Riot, Aug. 13



[How I became a comic book consumer](#)

Faith Erin Hicks writes: "I'm not a native comic book reader. I came to them late in life, and only in the past five years have become an enthusiastic consumer of comics. In college I discovered a tattered copy of volume 3 of *Bone* and read the crap out of it.

I had no real idea what was going on in the book, but I loved the artwork and female characters. Yet I never ventured beyond to read other comics. Things changed when I moved to Halifax, and this is where I became a comic consumer. Here's how it happened."...

LiveJournal, Jan. 30, 2011



[School librarian promotes reading in Africa](#)

Patrick Plonski writes: "Sometimes a short trip turns into an adventure that can change your life and the lives of thousands of others. That's what happened to Pam



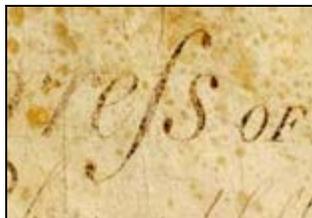
Shelton (right), who had been a school librarian in Vermont for 26 years when she first went to Botswana in southern Africa in 1996. She stayed for two weeks, returning a year later for several more weeks showing kids how to use art supplies and teaching them to read. Pam's 13 years living in Botswana and nursing along her book project are filled with memories and wonderful stories."...

The Huffington Post Blog, Aug. 9

[**A beginner's guide to reading early modern texts**](#)

Benjamin Breen writes: "Why does S look like F? This is an accessible overview of how to read books and manuscripts from the early modern era, the period spanning the early Renaissance to the French, American, and Industrial revolutions. To tackle the S first: The long S dates back to the old Roman cursive handwriting, and survived as an artifact in the earliest printed book fonts, which were modeled on various medieval handwriting forms."...

Res Obscura, July 29



[**Books Abe Lincoln checked out from the Library of Congress**](#)

This is a list of books that Abraham Lincoln checked out from the Library of Congress when he was president in 1861–1865. It comes from a pamphlet titled *Abraham Lincoln, Student: His Books* by M. L. Houser, [printed by E. J. Jacob in Peoria, Illinois,] 1932. Illinois Gov. Henry Horner provided the author with photostatic copies of the circulation records he acquired from LC, and Peoria Public Library Assistant Reference Librarian Kathryn L. Ellis figured out what the full titles were....

M. L. Houser, *Abraham Lincoln, Student: His Books*, p. 41–47



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Tips & Ideas

[**New competencies for academic librarians**](#)

The Association of Research Libraries and three other groups have launched a Joint Task Force on Librarians' Competencies in Support of E-Research and Scholarly Communication. Its first task will be to identify various avenues of service for libraries within the context of e-research, repository management, and scholarly communication. These services and roles will then be mapped to the competencies required by librarians and library professionals. A preliminary report will be issued in spring 2014....

Association of Research Libraries, Aug. 13

[**Getty Museum sets 4,600 images**](#)

free

The J. Paul Getty Trust [announced](#) August 12 that it will be “making roughly 4,600 high-resolution images of the museum’s collection free to use, modify, and publish for any purpose.” It’s a welcome announcement from a major institution that has over 121,000 objects in its collection. The only requirement for downloaders is that they let the Getty know what the image will be used for and the stipulation that they include the citation for the image. The *Public Domain Review* is showcasing a [nice selection](#) from the Getty’s [Open Content Program](#)....

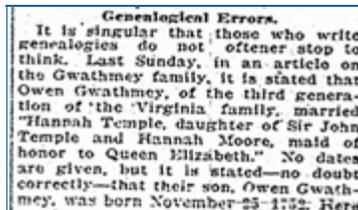
Hyperallergic, Aug. 13; *The Getty Iris*, Aug. 12; *Public Domain Review*, Aug. 14



[Spot and avoid nine common genealogical errors](#)

Mary Harrell-Sesniak writes: “Family history researchers are often frustrated by the mistakes of others—particularly when there is an obvious error in identity, such as the mistake explained in this 1914 Virginia newspaper article (right). It points out that a member of the Gwathmey family was incorrectly identified as having been a maid of honor to Queen Elizabeth I. Genealogical mistakes are not often easy to sort out, so let’s discuss some strategies.”...

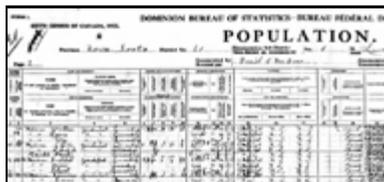
GenealogyBank Genealogy Blog, Aug. 7



[1921 Census of Canada released](#)

The handwritten [1921 Census of Canada](#) was made available on Ancestry.ca in mid-August and includes survey data along with the full names, addresses, and birthplaces of the people who provided the information. Library and Archives Canada allowed Ancestry.ca to publish the census online. The census has not been indexed, so searching by name is not yet possible. However, if you know where a person lived at the time, you can search through the documents page by page....

Postmedia News, Aug. 12



[The cartes de visite craze](#)

Andrea L. Volpe writes: “The staple photographs of the Civil War home front were not the battlefield views we now know so well. Cartes de visite, the 2.5-by-4-inch portraits that dominated commercial photography in the 1860s, both unified and contested wartime visions of the nation. The typical carte de visite was a photograph of one or a few people, posing in a studio, and occasionally holding personal effects. Needless to say, they were particularly popular with soldiers.”...

New York Times: Opinionator, Aug. 6



[10 essential benefits of the Affordable Care Act](#)

Frank Lalli writes: “On January 1, the Affordable Care Act will greatly expand the health care benefits offered to the 55 million Americans with no health coverage, as



well as millions more who are underinsured. The law sets certain standards that all insurers must meet and mandates that all health plans offered to those who buy health insurance on their own or in small groups include a set of 'essential health benefits.' Read on to learn exactly what the essential benefits are, and see what people will be able to purchase once the new health insurance marketplaces open on October 1." The ALA Library offers [more resources](#) on the Affordable Care Act....

AARP *The Magazine*, Aug./Sept.; ALA Library, July 30

[An international network of librarians](#)

Want to build your professional network and learn about librarianship around the world? The International Librarians Network's [peer mentoring program](#) is a facilitated program aimed at helping librarians develop international networks. As ILN's successful pilot program draws to a close, it is formally launching the program this summer. The next round of partnerships will commence in September; [applications](#) close on August 28....

International Librarians Network, Aug. 2

[Aerial bombing database](#)

More than eight years in the making, a new database containing information from US military and coalition aerial bombing campaigns over the last century is now publicly available online. An historical data collection project developed and researched by Lt. Col. Jenns Robertson, the [Theater History of Operations Reports](#) database, or THOR, has evolved into a full-scale research tool. The database combines digitized paper mission reports starting with World War I to create a central source of bombing history around the globe....

US Air Force Research Institute, Aug. 9



[Scanners at a library book sale](#)

Kim Ukura writes: "I recently rediscovered my own bookish pet peeve, the thing that turns me into a pearl-clutching old lady yelling at kids to get off my damn lawn: people who use barcode scanners at a library book sale. My blood pressure goes up measurably when I walk by a guy (they're almost always guys) crouched down by a few cardboard boxes, sorting out a stack of books into buy and abandon piles. That sort of capitalist behavior is totally against the spirit of what a library book sale is. It's practically sacrilegious."...

Book Riot, Aug. 13

[Mapping Google usage by state](#)

Jessica Lee writes: "Online advertising company Chitika [conducted research](#) on which US states had the highest use of Google's search engine. East and West Coast states, including California, New York, and Massachusetts, were among the top. Chitika was also able to show a positive correlation with Google search engine usage and the following four variables: median household income, rate of job growth, higher education, and median age."...

Search Engine Watch, Aug. 13



[Alternatives to YouTube](#)

Richard Byrne writes: "Excellent educational content can be found on YouTube. However, not every teacher can access YouTube in his or her classroom. My favorite five alternatives to YouTube are listed

here: Next Vista, PBS Video, Explore.org, the National Film Board of Canada, and Vimeo.”...

Free Technology for Teachers, Aug. 12

[13 best weather apps](#)

Denise Lu writes: “Weather is an integral part of the day. It can affect what you wear, what you do, and how you get to work in the morning. With the amount of data available, there’s much potential for beautiful and user-friendly apps. We rounded up our top weather apps that combine accurate statistics with clean user interfaces.”...

Mashable, Aug. 12



[Survey on library hiring](#)

Emily Weak writes: “Do you hire librarians or other LIS workers? We are looking for hiring managers, members of hiring or search committees, and HR professionals who are willing to take 5–10 minutes to fill out a [survey](#) about what potential hires should learn in library school. Its purpose is to gather and disseminate information about hiring, rather than to perform research.”...

Hiring Librarians, Aug. 9

[Yes, Virginia, it matters which library school you go to](#)

The Library Loon writes: “The other day the Loon read a short article about applying for library jobs that scoffed at applicants who try to trade on the supposed prestige of their library school. Those library schools, they’re all the same; it doesn’t matter which one you went to, because no one you’re talking to will care. Well. Yes. And also no.”...

Gavia Libraria, Aug. 14

[Reflective outreach](#)

Lizz Zitron writes: “I am 100% guilty of random attacks of outreach that never get assessed and maybe don’t meet any real need. This is a great thing, some of the time. It’s great to reenergize yourself, but it can’t be your entire outreach program. This post is directed at newbie outreach librarians, teams needing new energy, outreach programs lacking direction, and anyone who wants to be more deliberate about how they do outreach. Grab a writing utensil and something to write on.”...

The Outreach Librarian, Aug. 8



[DIY Spa Day for tweens](#)

Sarah Bean Thompson writes: “Programming for the school-age set is always a bit tricky at my library branch. We have a very active toddler and preschool program, but once our kids reach school, especially those tween years, they start to become more involved in sports and extracurricular activities. We decided to try doing programs around what this age group was asking for and we knew crafts were pretty popular, so I planned a do-it-yourself Spa Day for tweens.”...

ALSC Blog, Aug. 12

[10 innovative library programs](#)

Bertha Gutsche writes: “When you look at

innovative programs that really connect the library with its community, reach out to new members, and elicit enthusiasm, you will notice how many of them resonate with the traditional core functions of libraries—it's still about books and community. Here are five book-focused and five community-focused programs from libraries around the country. (Community intersections are embedded in most library programming, so there is much overlap.)”...

OCLC WebJunction, Aug. 6



Branch library's roof is a prairie

Hot evening sun spilled over a riot of wildflowers, insects droned, and flocks of goldfinches nibbled on patches of seeding bee balm as Branch Manager Pam Locker and Chris Hochwender of the University of Evansville walked the paths of the native prairie reconstruction at the Oaklyn branch of the Evansville (Ind.) Vanderburgh Library. The meadow was built as an adjunct to the library building's "green roof," a portion of the building actually covered with a carefully managed layer of soil and grass....

Evansville (Ind.) Courier and Press, Aug. 10



Green building labels 101

Jill Fehrenbacher writes: "Over the past few years, you've probably encountered a veritable cacophony of eco-labels competing for your attention, stamped on everything from carpeting, appliances, and furniture, to building materials, windows, and roofing, to entire buildings. If you're feeling overwhelmed by this onslaught of competing labels, fear not. Inhabitat is here to break them down for you and help you decipher what green building labels really mean."...

Inhabitat, Aug. 13



Conserving a mold-damaged iron-gall-ink manuscript

Francesca Whymark writes: "When paper is badly degraded, and especially when there has been mold damage, it often needs to be washed. Washing paper helps to remove acidic degradation products and reforms the hydrogen bonds in the paper structure, making it stronger. Iron gall ink was the primary ink used in Europe from the Middle Ages to the 20th century. It was often homemade and there is a huge variation in recipe, but its principal ingredients are tannins (usually extracted from oak galls), iron(II) sulfate, and water."...

British Library: Collection Care Blog, Aug. 8



Make an inexpensive virtual library tour video

Ned Potter writes: "Last year at the University of York we launched our virtual tour of the library, a new [video](#) (6:29) to replace the physical tours we used to do. The video went down extremely well with students and staff. I watched every single



virtual tour video I could find before planning this one, and this gave rise to a firm set of principles governing how we would do ours."...
thewikiman, Aug. 13

[Collect, connect, co-create](#)

This intriguing new [video](#) (4:11) from the National Library of New Zealand explains that its job is to help Kiwis access and use the collective knowledge of the nation: New Zealand's documentary taonga in words, sounds, and pictures are collected, protected, and accessible; New Zealanders can easily access national and international resources through knowledge networks; and New Zealanders are working together to turn knowledge into value....

YouTube, Aug. 12



[Staring at people in the library](#)

Laura Vitto writes: "No one has told this woman that it's rude to stare. In the newest [video](#) (3:55) from YouTube channel /whatever, Andrea plays a simple, yet cringe-worthy prank on unsuspecting patrons in the University of California, Santa Barbara, library. Watch as she stares down innocent readers and draws a variety of responses, ranging from uncomfortable chuckling to prolonged eye contact."...

Mashable, Aug. 13; YouTube, Aug. 13



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ALA PUBLISHING | AmericanLibraryAssociation

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

american libraries DIRECT

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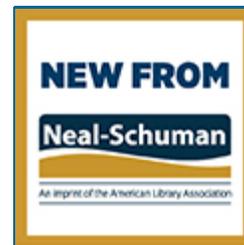
[American Libraries Online](#) | [ALA News](#) | [Booklist Online](#)

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[Issues](#) | [Tech Talk](#) | [E-Content](#) | [Books & Reading](#) | [Tips & Ideas](#)

[Libraries on Film](#) | [Digital Library of the Week](#) | [Calendar](#)

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | August 21, 2013



American Libraries Online

On My Mind: Under sequester

Kathleen Hanselmann writes: "More than 260 librarians and almost 800 library technicians who work for the Department of Defense are being furloughed 11 days, one day per week from July 8 to September 27, due to sequestration. While this is a personal financial hardship, we are also concerned about having to cut library services for our patrons: military servicemen and women and their families. This is a time of confusion for many of us, as the situation is complex and constantly changing."...

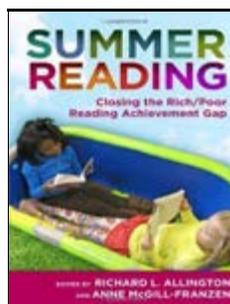
American Libraries column, July/Aug.



Youth Matters: Ramping up summer reading

Ernie Cox writes: "As a teacher-librarian in a school serving an economically diverse student population, I find Richard Allington and Anne McGill-Franzen's recent research a compelling approach to transforming the summer reading ritual. *Summer Reading: Closing the Rich/Poor Reading Achievement Gap* (Teachers College Press, 2013) shares the results of a multiyear intervention aimed at stemming the effects of summer slide. No academic gains achieved during the school year can overcome the effect of three months without reading."...

American Libraries column, July/Aug.



President's Message: Libraries change lives

ALA President Barbara K. Stripling (right) writes: "I am deeply honored to be president of the American Library Association. My presidential initiative, Libraries Change Lives, is based on a fundamental principle that we



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2014 Midwinter Meeting

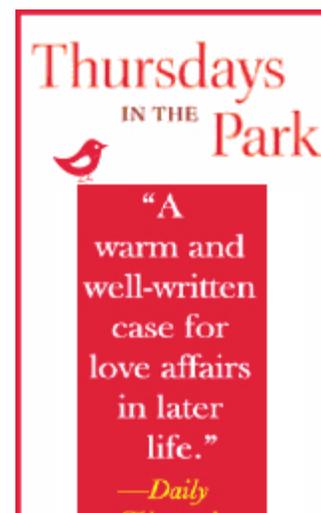
Philadelphia, January 24–28.

Registration and housing will be open October 1.

2014 Annual Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada, June 26–July 1.

Registration and housing will be open January 14.

(**Bundle registration** for 2014 Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference opens September 9.)





have a right to libraries, and is designed to build public goodwill for America's right to libraries and to highlight and sustain ALA support for three areas of transformative practice: literacy, innovation, and community engagement."...

American Libraries column, July/Aug.

[IFLA: The American Caucus strategies](#)

Leonard Kniffel writes: "Some 200 US delegates to the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions World Library and Information Congress caucused August 16 at the Suntec Singapore Convention Centre to identify top developments in international librarianship. Speakers named a forthcoming [trends study](#), a new online library, conference programs designed to engage new professionals in international librarianship, and the election of an American to the IFLA presidency as causes around which they would rally this year."...
AL: Inside Scoop, Aug. 19



[IFLA: Singapore's Asian multiculturalism](#)

Leonard Kniffel writes: "Beating drums and a long, colorfully lit dragon welcomed some 3,500 delegates from around the world with the music and dance of the multicultural island nation, a place where 'different races and religions live together in harmony,' as IFLA president Ingrid Parent characterized Singapore. Evident in the performance were aspects of Chinese, Indian, Indonesian, Malaysian, and other Southeast Asian ethnic customs and costumes."...

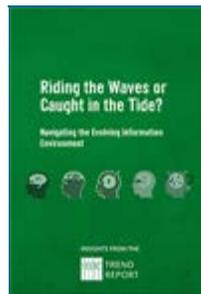
AL: Inside Scoop, Aug. 20



[IFLA: New trends report](#)

Leonard Kniffel writes: "It's designed to assess 'the impact of new technology on our global information environment,' said IFLA President Ingrid Parent on August 19, introducing the new [IFLA trends report](#). Commissioned in 2012 and involving social scientists, economists, business leaders, educators, legal experts, and technologists, the provocative study provides the IFLA membership with a basis for discussion about advancing libraries as learning centers for the communities they serve."...

AL: Inside Scoop, Aug. 21



[IFLA: A scathing indictment of mass media](#)

Leonard Kniffel writes: "'What is the fate of the public in an age of individual choice?' That was the central question posed at the IFLA conference by Cherian George (right), journalist and professor at the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information at



well written case for love affairs in later life."
—Daily Telegraph

HILARY BOYD



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INNOVATIVE'S LATEST HAPPENINGS from CEO Kim Massana

blog.iii.com

Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. George spoke passionately about the failure of the press and news media to 'speak truth to power.' Instead of truth, he said, the media is delivering what humorist Stephen Colbert calls 'truthiness.'" ...

AL: Inside Scoop, Aug. 21

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YALSA's Reads 4 Teens is a collection of the best in the latest teen literature and includes 32 customizable pamphlets and 10 bookmarks.
 Digital Download - \$29 (10% discount for ALA Members)

ALA News

Speaking up for libraries

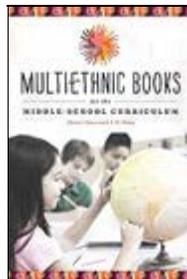
Jazy Wright writes: "Close to 400 librarians, patrons, parents, educators, and others came to ALA's 39th National Library Legislative Day to discuss key issues with congressional representatives, and nearly 1,400 others contacted their legislators via phone calls, email, and social media as part of the day's virtual component. This was the first NLLD for 10-year-old Emma Chow, who came from North Carolina with her dad (above). 'Legislators see librarians all the time, but they rarely talk to the patrons, so I decided to bring my daughter with me,' said Anthony." ...



American Libraries feature

Multiethnic books for the middle-school curriculum

Focusing on titles dealing with ethnic and religious groups both in the US and around the world, [*Multiethnic Books for the Middle-School Curriculum*](#), published by ALA Editions, makes it easy for educators of 5th–8th graders to infuse their curricular area with multicultural literature. Carefully vetted and annotated by authors Cherri Jones and J. B. Petty, the book encompasses fiction and nonfiction published in the last decade, making it an ideal reference and collection development tool for schools and public libraries as well as for classroom teachers....



ALA Editions, Aug. 20

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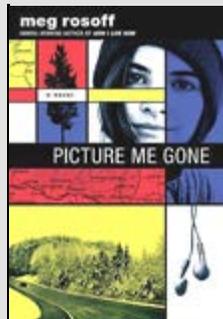
FREE tech support
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 or with an app

1-877-828-2833 **RBdigital**

[Featured review: Books for youth](#)

Rosoff, Meg. *Picture Me Gone*. Oct. 2013. Grades 6–9. 256p. Putnam, hardcover (978-0-399-25765-0).

Mila, 12, is something of a mentalist. She can read expressions, sense underlying emotions, and put human puzzles together. Even though her father's lifelong friend Matthew has gone missing, Gil and Mila carry on with their plan to fly from England to Matthew's home in upstate New York, only now, instead of a visit, the purpose of their trip is to find him. The story is presented as a mystery, and it is, but it is so much more. Rosoff, who writes each of her books differently (and often brilliantly), shapes this story as much by form and intuitions as by events. In making the choice not to use quotation marks for the dialogue, readers are immediately pushed inside Mila's head....



[Read-alikes: More than meets the eye](#)

Ilene Cooper writes: "There are plenty of mysteries that hinge strictly on plot—Who 'dun' it, and how was it done? But sometimes mysteries can be more. Here are six middle-grade titles that give readers more to think about than just solving a puzzle. These stories get inside the protagonists' heads as they try to come to terms with new ways of thinking about thinking."...



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

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Division News

[Tran to lead YALSA's The Hub](#)

YALSA has named Allison Tran (right), teen services librarian at Mission Viejo (Calif.) Library, the newest member manager of The Hub, the YALSA literature blog. She began her term as editor in mid-August and will serve through August 2014. Tran leads a team of 50 teen bloggers in creating content for the Mission Viejo Library Voice and as the cohost of the young adult literature podcast, "Authors are Rockstars!"...

YALSA, Aug. 20



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

Voting for the 2013 Teens' Top Ten officially opened on August 15. Teens can now vote for their favorite

american.
libraries
▶ LIVE

Get the
inside
scoop on
pressing
library
topics.



This fall the Young Adult Library Services Association encourages teens to [Seek the Unknown](#) during Teen Read Week, October 13–19. Find this poster and more at the ALA Store. **NEW!** From ALA Graphics.

Libraries on Film



[Wacko](#) (1982).

Jacqueline Cole plays a librarian at Alfred Hitchcock High School who counsels a student (Julia Duffy as Mary Graves) to get over her lawnmower

titles through October 19 from the [28 nominees](#) that were announced in April. The 10 nominations that receive the most votes will be named the official titles of the 2013 Teens' Top Ten. The winners will be announced during the week of October 21....

YALSA, Aug. 20



[ALSC dues change on September 1](#)

ALSC is reminding members and prospective members to be aware of an upcoming dues change on September 1. In April, the ALSC membership voted to approve a change to its dues structure. The change affects personal, organizational, and corporate [member categories](#). The new dues structure includes several new categories of personal membership and a three-tiered level of organizational and corporate memberships....

ALSC, Aug. 19

[Learning standards and program guidelines](#)

AASL has released ebook versions of [Standards for the 21st-Century Learner In Action](#) and [Empowering Learners: Guidelines for School Library Programs](#). *Standards* includes benchmarks, model examples, and assessments to support school librarians and other educators in teaching essential learning skills, while *Empowering Learners* provides goals, priorities, criteria, and leadership principles that address what is required to master a changing school library environment driven by learners and the learning process....

AASL, Aug. 20

[Rise to the collaboration challenge on the AASL13 Ning](#)

Join AASL's 16th National Conference & Exhibition [Ning](#), which enables attendees to jumpstart the AASL13 conversation and maintain the connections made while at the November 14–17 conference in Hartford, Connecticut. The Ning also offers those unable to attend the chance to share in the excitement of the national conference. More information is available [online](#)....

AASL, Aug. 20



[ACRL-Choice fall webinars](#)

The ACRL-*Choice* webinar program is back with an exciting new fall roster of topics and speakers discussing issues pertinent to today's academic library landscape. Structured as 60-minute, live, interactive webinars, the program offers an excellent way for libraries to learn about new ideas, developments, and products, and to participate actively in discussions with companies that serve their market. Upcoming webinars are August 22, September 24, and October 23....

Choice, Aug. 19

[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[A Q&A with the Carnegie winners](#)

Timothy Egan (on the left) received the 2013 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction for *Short Nights of the Shadow*

phobia.



[Wag the Dog](#) (1997).

Johnny Dean's (Willie Nelson's) song "Good Old Shoe" is recorded on a fake record album. Presidential adviser Conrad Brean (Robert De Niro) orders: "Put this in the Library of Congress right away. Folk music section, 1930, right away. Get it in the stacks of the Library of Congress, now."



[The Waiting List](#) [\[Lista de espera\]](#)

(2000, Spain / Cuba / France / Mexico / Germany). A group of people are stuck at a decrepit Cuban bus station for months waiting for their bus to arrive, so they work together to make the station over as a place worth visiting. One of the things they do is build a library.





Catcher. Richard Ford received the Medal for Excellence in Fiction, for *Canada*. The following excerpts are from interviews with [Egan](#) and [Ford](#) conducted by *Booklist* editors Brad Hooper and Donna Seaman, respectively....

American Libraries feature

[2013 John Cotton Dana Award winners](#)

Kathy Dempsey writes: "One of my favorite awards at ALA is the John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award ceremony. When I was working in libraries I dreamed of winning the award and finally did a few years back. I still proudly display a copy of the certificate in my office. Now I am working for NoveList and my parent company EBSCO Information Services is the sponsor of the award. The past two years the application process was streamlined to allow libraries to easily submit their campaigns without a mandatory portfolio."...

The 'M' Word: Marketing Libraries, Aug. 20



[IFLA/OCLC fellowship program](#)

OCLC, in cooperation with IFLA, has named five librarians to participate in the Jay Jordan IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellowship Program for 2014. The Fellows were announced August 20 by OCLC President and CEO Skip Prichard at a news conference during the World Library and Information Congress in Singapore. The Fellows are from libraries in Nigeria, El Salvador, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, and Bhutan....

OCLC, Aug. 20

[Singapore Lifetime Contribution Award](#)

Singapore has honored distinguished librarian Rasu Ramachandran (right) for his contributions to the development of the library profession over the past four decades, including helping to draft Singapore's National Library Board Act in 1995. The 70-year-old Ramachandran received the Lifetime Contribution Award from Singapore President Tony Tan at a ceremony at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress on August 18. Ramachandran served as a deputy chief executive officer of the National Library Board for four years and as the secretary-general of IFLA in 2004–2005....

Economic Times (New Delhi), Aug. 19



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Libraries in the News

[Waitress!](#) (1981).

Carol Bevar as Jennifer goes to a New York library to look for a man, but finds only a nerd played by Carl Sturmer. Lola Ross is the librarian who tries to quell the disturbance they make.

This AL Direct feature describes hundreds of films (and some TV shows) in which libraries and librarians are featured, from 1912 to the present. The full list is a [Web Extra](#) associated with [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart and published by ALA Editions. You can browse the films on our [Libraries on Film Pinterest board](#).



Career Leads from

JobLIST

[Chair, Reference and Research Services Department](#)

Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama. Working in a team environment, the incumbent coordinates the work of four librarians and

[For patrons to borrow, some libraries must go begging](#)

Neda Ulaby writes: "More than 90% of Americans say public libraries are important to their communities, according to the Pew Research Center. But the way that love translates into actual financial support varies hugely from state to state. For example, more than two dozen public libraries in Vermont still lack wireless internet, partly because they don't receive any direct support from the state. Instead, once a year the town librarian has to go to a town meeting and make a case for funding for next year."...

NPR: *Morning Edition*, Aug. 19



[School librarian crisis in New York City](#)

Patricia Sarles writes: "The New York City public school system has been [out of compliance](#) with a New York state law that mandates either a full or part-time librarian in all secondary schools. Now the city's Department of Education is seeking a waiver so that it will not have to be in compliance with this law at all. As it stands right now, nobody in the DOE seems to care if there is an inequity in the services that students receive in NYC public schools. If you are interested in the plight of the NYC librarians, there is a petition you can sign [here](#) and another [here](#)."...

AASL Blog, Aug. 21; *Wall Street Journal*, Aug. 11

[Only four Miami-Dade branches will close](#)

When Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Gimenez warned that 22 of the county's 49 libraries could be closed due to budget cuts, the news was met with loud resistance. After loud community protests, Gimenez [announced](#) August 15 that his administration now expects to shutter only four. The bad news is that Gimenez still plans to lay off nearly 200 library workers, a reduction of just 52 positions from his previous plans. And residents are still concerned about the [fate of the Cuban Collection](#), now boxed up (right) in the soon-to-be-downsized Main Library....

Miami New Times, Aug. 16; *Miami Herald*, Aug. 15; *Diario las Américas*, Aug. 12



[Five-time reading club champ could relinquish title](#)

Tyler Weaver calls himself "the king of the reading club" at Hudson Falls (N.Y.) Free Library. But now it seems Library Director Marie Gandron wants to end his reign and have him dethroned. The 9-year-old boy won the "Dig into Reading" event by completing 63 books from June 24 to August 3, averaging more than 10 a week. He has consistently been the top reader since kindergarten. Gandron said Weaver hogs the contest every year and he should "step aside" because other kids are intimidated....

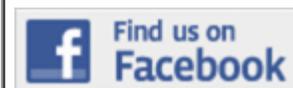
Glens Falls (N.Y.) Post-Star, Aug. 15

[Wichita debates a new library . . . again](#)

There's a *Groundhog Day* feel to the current debate over the Wichita (Kans.) Public Library for the people who direct it. Seven years of planning produced a plan for a new downtown central library: Money was allocated, designs were progressing. And then came an internal finance report a month ago warning that the city lacked the borrowing ability to build the \$29 million facility....

Wichita (Kans.) Eagle, Aug. 17

numerous student workers and is actively engaged in teaching, providing reference service, participating in collection development, developing and implementing online resources in coordination with the automation librarian, and serving as a liaison to one or more academic units. The chair schedules student workers and faculty to ensure the smooth running of all areas of the department during all hours of library operation. In cooperation with librarians and staff, the chair develops and maintains policies and procedures for the department....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The [Pritzker Military Library](#) in Chicago is a nonpartisan research library founded in 2003 that attempts to

[New Santa Clara library stuck in legal limbo](#)

A new library is 99% complete in the city of Santa Clara, California, but thanks to a funding fight it may never open. Dozens of angry residents protested outside the city council chambers on August 16. But Santa Clara County says the city is spending redevelopment money on the library when, under state law, that money should go to schools and special districts. The county won a court order freezing the city's redevelopment assets, the library included....

KNTV-TV, San José, Calif., Aug. 16



[Iowa City's local music project could become a model](#)

Clay Masters writes: "Despite changes in how Americans are listening to music (think Pandora or Spotify), people are still checking out physical CDs from libraries. But just as libraries are introducing ebooks to readers, librarians are also trying to figure out how to get digital music to library goers. Iowa City Public Library has launched a [digital music library](#) that focuses on its local music scene."...

Iowa Public Radio, Aug. 21



[Thief steals wheels from Books on Bikes librarian](#)

As the project manager of the Seattle Public Library's "Books on Bikes" team, Jared Mills pedals his bicycle around Seattle with a customized trailer to bring books and library services to community events. But Mills discovered August 14 that a key component of his Books on Bikes effort had been stolen the night before. The books are safe. The bike is gone. Someone sawed through the lock of his black Marin Hybrid bike (right), which was parked outside his house in West Seattle....

Seattle Times: The Today File, Aug. 15



[Retired law librarian charged with misusing funds](#)

Police have made another arrest in connection with alleged misappropriation of funds from the Montgomery County (Pa.) Law Library. Bruce Piscadlo, director of the library when the alleged theft occurred, was arrested August 20 and released on \$20,000 bond. A library clerk had been charged in June. An audit of the library this summer uncovered misuse of taxpayer funds totaling over \$30,000....

Philadelphia Inquirer: Montco Memo, Aug. 20

[Calgary book drive exceeds goal tenfold](#)

A goal of 20,000 donated books, DVDs, and CDs was blown out of the water during a drive to help replace items lost at the Calgary (Alberta) Central Library during the June 20 floods. After the library lost thousands of items, the Calgary Public Library Foundation held a one-day event called "20,000 Books Under the Bow" on July 27. Executive Director Paul McIntyre Royston said as many as 360,000 were



increase the public understanding of military history and the sacrifices made by the men and women who have served. Its digital collections include maps, posters and prints, photos and negatives, realia and artifacts, rare periodicals, and manuscripts and documents.

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

Noted and Quoted

"[In library school] I learned that the measures of success for a public agency like a library are nowhere near as simple as a corporate bottom line and that every customer of a public library is also an owner of it, creating a challenging need for sensitivities to personal and professional interactions that I had never known before library school."

—*Library Journal* Editor-at-Large John N. Berry III, "[From Amateur to Professional.](#)" *Blatant Berry*, Aug. 16.

@ [More quotes...](#)

Calendar

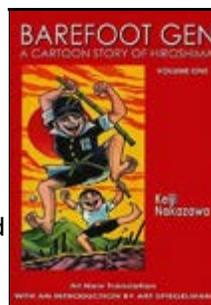
donated. The goal was to collect materials that could be sold online with the money going towards buying new items....

Calgary (Alberta) Metro, Aug. 14

[Japanese school board objects to *Barefoot Gen*](#)

The board of education in Matsue, Japan, decided last December to [restrict copies](#) of Keiji Nakazawa's *Barefoot Gen*, the autobiographical story of a 6-year-old boy who survived Hiroshima, in elementary and junior high school libraries. A complaint had been filed about the historical manga's depiction of violence used by the Imperial Japanese Army troops. The graphic novel depicts troops beheading and stabbing citizens in other Asian countries during World War II, but the board claims its decision was based on the graphic nature of the violence....

Anime News Network, Aug. 17; Robot 6, Aug. 18



[Study rooms closed due to sex](#)

The Windhoek Public Library in Namibia closed its three study rooms in early August because some users were indulging in sexual activities as well as watching pornography in the rooms. The culprits, according to librarian Ruth Shikongo, are four university students who ignored a warning sign and refused to come out as the library was closing. To curb the problem, staffers also plan to block some adult internet sites....

The Namibian, Aug. 20

[RLUK joins the European Library](#)

The UK consortium of scholarly libraries, [Research Libraries UK](#), has joined the European Library, a membership organization that provides services to researchers. The new cooperation will allow for the addition of data from RLUK's member libraries into the European Library portal, providing researchers with greater access to digital items and bibliographic records held by these libraries....

The European Library, Aug. 19



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Issues

[Most of US is wired, but millions aren't plugged in](#)

Edward Wyatt writes: "The Obama administration has poured billions of dollars into expanding the reach of the internet, and nearly 98% of American homes now have access to some form of high-speed broadband. But tens of millions of people are still on the sidelines of the digital revolution. Roughly 20% of American adults do not use the internet at home, work, or school, and are thus shut off from jobs, government services, health care, and education."...

New York Times, Aug. 18

[E-rate, bandwidth, benchmarks, and capacity goals](#)

Sept. 7:

[41st Annual Rochester Antiquarian Book Fair](#), Main Street Armory, Rochester, New York.

Sept. 11:

[National Information Standards Organization](#), two-part webinar on Research Data Curation. "Part 1: E-Science Librarianship."

Sept. 18:

[National Information Standards Organization](#), two-part webinar on Research Data Curation. "Part 2: Libraries and Big Data."

Sept. 19:

[Amigos Library Services](#), "Preservation: Back to Basics," online conference.

Sept. 19–21:

[Global STEMx Education Conference](#), massively open online conference for educators.

Sept. 27:

[Programming Unconference Northeast](#), Darien (Conn.) Library.

Oct. 11–12:

[40th Annual Saint Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies](#), Saint Louis University.

Oct. 18–19:

[Library 2.013 Worldwide Virtual Conference](#), free

Larra Clark writes: "At the forefront of our minds right now are the many questions posed in the [E-rate Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) and how they may affect libraries. This notice, with more than 600 questions, is the most comprehensive review of the program since it began in 1997. ALA and the library community need to review these other broadband initiatives and research to better craft our comments. Let's start with one question the FCC poses."...

District Dispatch, Aug. 20

[Infographic on fair use](#)

A new infographic ([PDF file](#)) released by the Association of Research Libraries tells the story of library fair use and the ARL *Code of Best Practices in Fair Use* in a clear and compelling way. ARL has an [embeddable PNG](#) for blogs and a print-ready version ([PDF file](#)) in case you need hard copies to hand out. The infographic tells the story of how fair use has evolved to become a powerful users' right....

ARL Policy Notes, Aug. 20



[Evolving value for academic libraries](#)

Raising awareness of how the library supports teaching and research staff is key to demonstrating library value in developing countries, concludes *Library Value in the Developing World* ([PDF file](#)). The findings are the result of a six-month research study with 12 developing country institutions conducted by SAGE exploring perceptions of the value of academic libraries by teaching and research staff in developing countries....

Sage Publications, Aug.



[If you rent a textbook from Amazon, don't cross state lines](#)

Lauren Ingenuo writes: "Students who rent textbooks through Amazon.com's Warehouse Deals may be unknowingly agreeing to an unusual condition: They are not permitted to cross state borders with their books. If Amazon does determine that a renter has moved his or her book to a different state, it can charge the customer the buyout price of the textbook." The policy is intended to support Amazon's efforts to avoid collecting state sales tax. In related news, if you went to the IFLA conference in Singapore, Google Play could be messing with your [ebook downloads](#)....

Inside Higher Ed, Aug. 16; Boing Boing, Aug. 17

[How Google flushes knowledge down the toilet](#)

Bryce Emley writes: "The internet is not a resource for all knowledge, no matter how much we like to think it is. Google doesn't inherently know what a search query is; it uses an algorithm to link the characters you typed to the websites people actually spent time on after searching for similar terms. Thus we find writers frantically writing posts, blogs, press releases, and website content and gathering data on industries they know nothing about through brief Google searches. That information begins populating the search results of Google and Bing, making it seem more reliable as it spreads further."...

Salon, Aug. 18

[How to scuttle a scholarly communication initiative](#) (PDF file,

online conference.

Oct. 18–20: [International Board on Books for Young People](#), 10th Regional Conference, St. Louis Public Library. "BookJoy around the World."

Oct. 18–Nov. 2: [Concord Festival of Authors](#), Concord, Massachusetts.

Oct. 20–23: [Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa](#), Hamilton, New Zealand. "Wai-Ora, Wai-Māori, Waikato."

Nov. 7–10: [American Society for Theatre Research / Theatre Library Association](#), Joint Conference, Fairmont Dallas Hotel, Texas. "The Post-Thematic Conference."

Nov. 15–17: [The Library of Lost Books](#) conference, Library of Birmingham, UK. "Resurrecting the Book."

Jan. 21–24: [Association for Library and Information Science Education](#), Annual Conference, Philadelphia. "Educational Entrepreneurship."

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

satire)

Dorothea Salo writes: "Open access cannot possibly succeed, given that 'faculty will never just give their work away' (librarian, name withheld, personal communication). Actual failure, of course, is such an unacceptable option for beleaguered libraries that failure-prone scholarly communication initiatives cannot be embarked upon until they are sure winners, which in practice means 'never.' It is easiest to put a stop to these misguided efforts from a leadership position, but in truth, any academic librarian can stop them in their tracks. Tried and true, proven-effective techniques follow."...

Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication, vol. 1, no. 4



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[12 tips to speed up Windows 7](#)

Michael Muchmore writes: "The problem with most 'speed-up Windows 7' stories is that they tell you to turn off some of the operating system's more charming visual features. The first nine of my dozen tips show you ways you can speed up your Windows 7 system without compromising its appearance. For those who need even more speed or don't care about eye candy, I've listed three at the end that boost system performance at the expense of some visual effects."...

PC Magazine, July 5



[Do-it-yourself GIS](#)

Ellyssa Kroski writes: "The world of mapping and presenting data sets through geographical representations is no longer relegated to GIS librarians and highly trained technologists. New free and open source applications make it possible to create complex and robust data visualizations in the form of maps that display statistics and poll results. Here's a guide to 20 free applications and data sources."...

iLibrarian, Aug. 21



[The best webcams](#)

Abigail Wang writes: "To make your life easier, we've rounded up some of the best webcams to address all your concerns. First, some tips: If you want the highest possible video quality, look for webcams that have HD streaming and recording. On the audio side, noise-cancelling capabilities are important. Finally, an important feature to look out for in all webcams is the different services that they can work with: Do you want your webcam to be compatible with Skype, for example?"...

PC Magazine, Aug. 16



[Note-taking and outliner apps](#)

Eric Griffith writes: "Today the world of

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Association

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note-taking encompasses far more than a simple Notepad file stored on a hard drive. There are web-based apps aplenty that store notes and provide access to your info everywhere you go, even on a handheld. At the least, most incorporate easy-to-understand outlining, categories, and tags. The best note-takers go much further. Here are what we consider the best free note-takers and outliners you can get on desktop and mobile devices.”...

PC Magazine, Aug. 21

[The best tools for remote tech support](#)



Chris Hoffman writes: “If you’re stuck playing tech support, there are many free tools that allow you to remotely access the other person’s computer and fix it. There are a million and one remote tech support options out there. We’ll look at the best ones here. For some you will need to walk the user through downloading over the phone, others you will want to set up remote access ahead of time.”...

How-To Geek, Aug. 19

[Your desktop computer is turning into a smartphone](#)



Brad Chacos writes: “PCs aren’t dying out, but they are shifting form to more closely resemble smartphones and tablets. And there’s good reason for it. In a word, people yearn for consistency. And as the industry struggles to satisfy that demand, mobile design is bleeding over to the desktop—though Windows, Ubuntu, and OS X are approaching the convergence in drastically different ways.”...

PC World, Aug. 21

[Go back to the Top](#)

E-Content

[Summer doldrums \(well, maybe not so dull\)](#)



Alan S. Inouye writes: “Conventional wisdom is that work slows down in August, especially in Washington, D.C., with the departure of Congress. But for the ALA Digital Content crew, the summer doldrums have passed us by. In continuing to press the library community’s case to publishers, ALA and DCWG leadership will be venturing forth to New York City in early October with ALA President Barbara K. Stripling leading the delegation. On October 23, ALA will be hosting a Virtual Town Hall on ebooks, also featuring ALA and DCWG leadership.”...

AL: E-Content, Aug. 16

[Combining the nation’s digital libraries](#)



Laura Sydell writes: “Buried in the archives of America’s public and academic libraries are historical treasures—old papers, photos, and records—that flesh out a detailed picture of our past. This spring, a program launched that aims to put all that great stuff in one place: the [Digital Public Library of America](#). Right now, there are only about 4 million items on the DPLA site, but the collection is growing by about 500,000 new books

Doug Lewis:
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Katie Bane:
kbane@ala.org

Send news and feedback:
aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:
americanlibrariesmagazine.org/aldirect

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[American Libraries](#)
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Chicago, IL 60611
800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X

and documents each month as more libraries from around the country come onboard.”...

NPR: *All Things Considered*, Aug. 19

[New apps at the DPLA](#)

Maura Smale writes: “Like many librarians in all kinds of libraries I was delighted when the Digital Public Library of America launched last spring. One of the great things about the DPLA is its API that allows developers to access the metadata and create applications that use the DPLA’s searchable content. So far 10 apps have been created, and all are [highlighted](#) on the DPLA website. I’ve played with several that seem to have the potential for use in academic libraries.”...

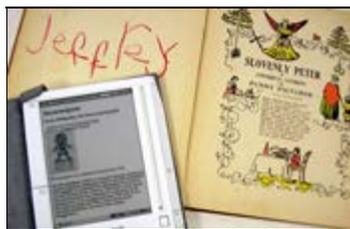
ACRLog, Aug. 15



[Five years a digital reader](#)

Doug Johnson writes: “It’s been five years that I’ve been reading books primarily in e-formats. I got my [first Kindle](#) in the summer of 2008. I am now on my fourth and have purchased 260 books—one per week on average and I estimate I’ve read 90% of them. And yes, I’ve squeezed in a few print books as well. So after five years of e-reading, what impact has the change actually had?”...

Blue Skunk Blog, June 24, 2008; Aug. 19



[Bad sign for e-readers?](#)

Laura Hazard Owen writes: “Here’s a sign that e-readers are struggling in the US: E Ink Holdings, the Taiwan-based company that makes e-reader screens for companies such as Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Sony, just had its worst quarter in four years. Market research companies have been forecasting the death of e-readers for some time now as more consumers buy tablets.”...

GigaOM, Aug. 16

[The 3-click dilemma: Are databases almost obsolete?](#)

Brian Mathews writes: “I had an interesting conversation with a faculty member last week that went something like this: ‘I want you to know that it’s getting harder for me to get students to use the library—especially the databases—anything beyond three clicks is just too many.’ In some disciplines this would not really shock me, but this was a historian—someone who is passionate about the library.”...

Chronicle of Higher Education: The Ubiquitous Librarian, Aug. 20

[Ebook vendors will fight piracy by sharing customer data](#)

In a move to help combat piracy, ebook merchants in the Netherlands will begin adding unique digital watermarks to the digital books that they sell in order to track the individual copies of ebooks down to the user. In order to do this, they will hand over customer data to the antipiracy group [BREIN](#). If an ebook turns up on BitTorrent, BREIN will [match up](#) the watermark with the customer who bought it....

AppNewser, Aug. 14; TorrentFreak, Aug. 13



[Brazilian tackles library deficit with](#)

["Cloud of Books"](#)

A Brazilian businessman has come up with a technological solution to the problem of high book prices and a lack of school libraries in Brazil. Jonas Suassuna has developed an online library known as [Nuvem de Livros](#) (Cloud of Books), launched in 2011 and currently offering more than 10,000 titles to nearly one million subscribers who can read the content on their computers, tablets, or smartphones....
Agencia EFE (Spain), Aug. 17



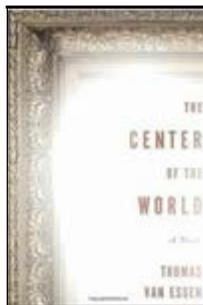
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Books & Reading

[Most overlooked novels of 2013 \(so far\)](#)

There are too many novels published every year to be able to read just the most accomplished ones. Timing is maybe the trickiest element of publishing: An excellent novel can be published the same day Stephen King's latest is out or the same day another novel with a similar setting is published and a writer's coverage of his or her book is diminished. Whatever the reason, these are the novels published so far this year that *Kirkus* thinks deserve a second look....

Kirkus, Aug. 16



[What is summer reading but life writ large?](#)

Joseph Esposito writes: "Now that we are in the hot stretches of August, the topic of summer reading is not a mere abstraction. I passed a bookstore the other day (yes, I was actually able to find one) that displayed a big sign promoting 'Summer Reading.' As you would expect, the books were what are sometimes called beach books: mostly novels set in far-off lands, often wholly imaginary ones, where people do far-off things. Summer reading is thus not a transformative experience but a transportative one. Here is a slice of my own 'to read' list."...

The Scholarly Kitchen, Aug. 20



[Back to school with a supernatural twist](#)

Colleen Seisser writes: "I have a problem: I hate the end of August. Perhaps if I had attended some of the schools I have read about in teen literature—those with a supernatural twist—then maybe I would have liked back-to-school time just a little bit more. Here are some novels that feature schools that are 10 times cooler than your ordinary school and might even help you regain your back-to-school spirit."...

YALSA The Hub, Aug. 21

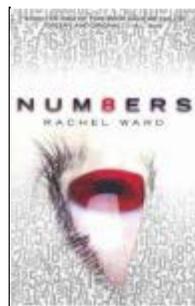


[Empowering the voice of the black male](#)

B. A. Binns writes: "One panel at the recent 8th National Conference of African American Librarians discussed a number of YA books and how they might or might not attract reluctant teen readers, especially

young black men. Many young black males see American fiction as a place where they do not belong or are not wanted, especially when the cover art does not give a clue that the central character is black (right). The session included a [booklist of recommendations](#) created by author G. Neri to attract young black men to fiction."...

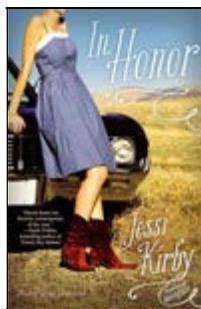
YALSA The Hub, Aug. 12; Teen Fiction from the Mind of G. Neri



[Teen road trip novels](#)

Anne Rouyer writes: "The road trip is an American rite of passage. Nothing is more American than getting in a car, turning it onto a highway and just driving off, destination unknown (or not required). In the end, the trip isn't about the destination or the roadside attractions, it's about the characters' inner journeys, making these particular novels rich and satisfying. Of course, the best thing about a road trip novel? You can travel the entire American landscape without ever leaving home."...

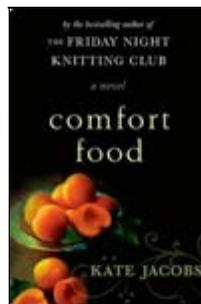
New York Public Library Blogs, Aug. 19



[Comfort food for book groups](#)

Neil Hollands writes: "The staff book group at Williamsburg (Va.) Regional Library decided to try out a theme we had seen mentioned elsewhere, a meeting with books related to food turned into a potluck by bringing some of the dishes mentioned in the books. I'm not sure what was more pleasurable, the food or the variety of the discussion. With this kind of meeting, you really can't go too wrong." Don't miss [Part 2](#)....

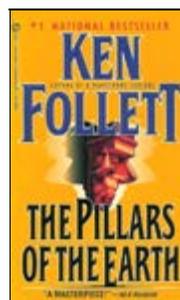
Booklist Online: Book Group Blog, Aug. 12, 16



[40 must-read trashy novels](#)

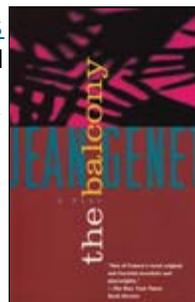
Michelle Dean writes: "There are many reasons to read other than intellectual elevation. Here are 40 of the greatest trashy books written in the last 100 years that, if you're not looking for perfect prose, will surely decrease muscle tension over a weekend or on vacation. These books aren't perfect, but each has some kind of hook—either unexpectedly good construction, entertainingly inventive salaciousness, or historical import in and of itself."...

Flavorwire, Aug. 19



[Theater of the Absurd: 15 essential plays](#)

Phil James writes: "The Theater of the Absurd emerged out of the ashes of the destructive first half of the 20th century. Combining the growing claustrophobia of the modern age with the oppressive bureaucracy of fascist police states, playwrights like Samuel Beckett, Eugene Ionesco, and Vaclav Havel staged the absurdity of living in strife. In this article, we trace the genre from its obscure origins to its peak in

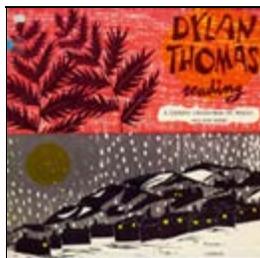


continental Europe during the 1950s and 1960s.”...
Qwiklit, Aug. 21

[Audiobooks before audiobooks](#)

Matthew Rubery writes: “Long before anyone had ever heard of audiobooks, Caedmon Records made a name for itself recording authors reading aloud from their works. Many Americans first heard the voices of their favorite writers through the Caedmon Literary Series, launched in the 1950s. Dylan Thomas reading “A Child’s Christmas in Wales” in 1952 was an inspired choice with which to launch a label devoted to the spoken word. The album went on to sell nearly half a million copies over the next decade.”...

Los Angeles Review of Books, Aug. 19



[Every public children’s-literature statue in the US](#)

Betsy Bird writes: “In the past I’ve noted each appearance of a statue pertaining to children’s literature when it crops up, but I’ve never been particularly systematic. That ends today! This post, which I shall continually update with your points and suggestions, shall serve as a place to find all statues pertaining to books for kids residing in the continental US where they can be viewed regularly. I will also note the sculptor whenever I am able for each of these.”...

School Library Journal: A Fuse #8 Production, Aug. 14



[Robot-shaped bookshelf](#)

Dorothy Tan writes: “If you are looking for an unconventional shelf for your library, the [Robox Shelving Unit](#) by Italian designer Fabio Novembre for the furniture company Casamania may be just the thing for you. The robot-shaped bookshelf—with a charming red heart box—not only brings back memories of childhood but also adds a whimsical touch. Novembre designed Robox to be exactly the same height as himself and filled it with numerous nooks and crannies of various dimensions to house books of all shapes and sizes.”...

Taxi, Aug. 16



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tips & Ideas

[Nonprofits \(including libraries\) take to the air](#)

Cole Stangler writes: “Thousands of nonprofits across the United States are preparing to take advantage of what could wind up as the largest expansion of community radio in the nation’s history. From October 15–29, the FCC will be accepting applications for low-power FM radio licenses—community radio stations that broadcast at 100 watts or less. The two-week window may be the last chance for community radio stations to get a share of the airwaves.” One library, the Six Mile Regional Library District (above) in Granite City, Illinois, plans to apply....



In These Times, Aug. 14

[NYPL sets up photo booths](#)

Jen Carlson writes: "The New York Public Library is getting into the selfie game. They've brought [photo booths](#) to their halls, available for free for anyone to use. We're told one is currently at the 42nd Street building, and another at the Mid-Manhattan Library across the street (which will soon start traveling around to other branches). Visitors are invited to take their own photo, which will then get emailed to them *and* get shot over to the front page of the library's website."...

Gothamist, Aug. 20; New York Public Library Blogs, Aug. 12



[Topeka has a street piano](#)

David Lee King writes: "Have you heard about street pianos? Some cities have taken old upright pianos, refurbished them, had an artist paint them, and installed them in public spaces. The Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library heard about the idea, had a piano donated, [painted it](#), and it's now outside the library, ready for anyone to play."...

David Lee King, Aug. 16; Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library, July 24



[Alternative programming ideas](#)

Jessica Zaker and Lori Easterwood write: "If Bad Art Night, Broke A\$\$ Holidays, and Punk Rock Aerobics don't sound like typical public library programs, that is because they aren't supposed to. With the Sacramento (Calif.) Public Library's alt+library programming we've tried to create library events that are fun, irreverent, and appealing to a 20s–30s audience. We were initially inspired by a presentation at PLA 2010 called 'If You Didn't Work Here, Would You Come Here?'"...

The Library As Incubator Project, Aug. 21



[Alone, messy, loud, and broken: What to do?](#)

Amanda Ellington writes: "Libraries across the nation are incorporating play into their children's spaces. Inviting families to play at your library will often create some undesired consequences. It is important to be prepared to deal with issues before they arise. Undesired consequences can be simplified by being prepared both physically and mentally. Address them with staff before they happen so that they are empowered to deal with each situation as it arises."...

ALSC Blog, Aug. 21

[E-cigarettes in libraries?](#)

Brian Herzog writes: "Massachusetts has a statewide library email discussion list, and lately I've been following with interest a discussion about whether or not e-cigarettes (electronic inhalers meant to simulate and substitute for tobacco smoking) should be allowed in libraries. The sentiment seems to be coming down on the 'not allowed' side, which is where I am, too. When the user exhales, there's a cloud of PEG (propylene glycol) vapor that looks like smoke. That might be the problem for libraries."...

Swiss Army Librarian, Aug. 21



[Surviving the all-day interview](#)

Topher Lawton writes: "A sizable number of library students graduated recently, and many of us faced the prospect of finding that perfect job. Hack Library School has tackled other sides of this topic before. I wanted to add my perspective after landing a number of all-day on-campus interviews for other jobs and collecting advice from many friends and colleagues I greatly respect. In true librarian fashion, I've synthesized their advice and built my own list."...

Hack Library School, Aug. 16

[Outreach to refugees](#)

Carrie Rogers-Whitehead writes: "Refugees in the United States can be an overlooked population when providing library services. But they are an important community, and the library can offer a great deal. The Salt Lake County (Utah) Library has been working increasingly with this population since 2011. One library staff member, Nyssa Fleig, secured a grant for a program called [Speak Up!](#) for refugee teens and technology."...

The Outreach Librarian, Aug. 15



[Medical journal app wars](#)

Michelle Kraft writes: "I have doctors asking about all four journal browsing apps: [Docwise](#) (right), [Docphin](#), [Read](#), and [Browzine](#) (click links for reviews). A few of the requesting doctors have used one of them, but it seems the vast majority of the doctors haven't used any and are asking based on word of mouth. The four apps are very similar. The biggest difference is that three of the apps show the abstracts and tables of contents to almost every medical journal. The full text is provided if the library or institution has a subscription to that journal."...

The Krafty Librarian, Aug. 20



[25 best websites for music lovers](#)

Tom Hawking writes: "There are the obvious music sites that everyone reads: Pitchfork, Stereogum, Spin, Resident Advisor (if you're into electronic music), etc. But there are a galaxy of other sites out there, so here are our favorites: 25 of the sites you may not be reading already, but probably should be."...

Flavorwire, Aug. 20



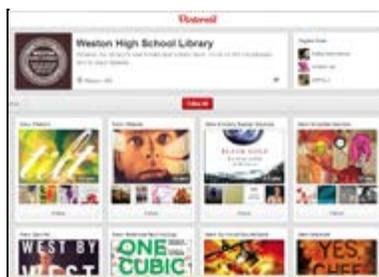
[Five follow-worthy ed-tech Pinterest boards](#)

Laura Devaney writes: "As social media continues to influence how educators collaborate and teach, more educational social media sites are available to help educators use ed-tech in the best way possible. Here are five active and connected Pinterest users who have found great ed-tech resources."...

eSchool News, Aug. 20

[Promoting new titles with Pinterest](#)

Joyce Valenza writes: "Here's one Pinterest rabbit hole well worth falling through. I discovered Alida Hanson's wonderfully comprehensive and attractive Pinterest [boards](#) promoting the new



books and media at Weston (Mass.) High School Library, via a recent AASL Forum discussion. When I asked Alida if she'd allow me to share her process for organizing those boards, she generously agreed."...

School Library Journal: NeverEndingSearch, Aug. 19

[Nine things to do when your email is hacked](#)

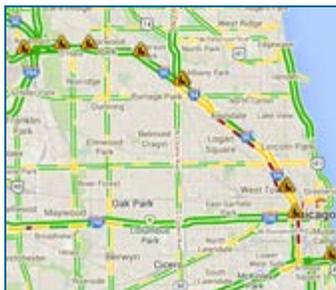
Adam Levin writes: "No matter what tips you off, when your email is hacked (notice I say when, not if, here), the impact can be disastrous. When these things happen, we can't just will them away or delude ourselves into thinking that our computer is simply having a bad day. They could well be manifestations of email hijacking, which often is the prelude to identity theft. Here are some steps you can take to keep both you and your friends safe."...

The Huffington Post: Tech Blog, July 18

[Traffic on Google Maps](#)

Thanks to Waze, the popular Israeli mapping app Google bought for a reported \$1.1 billion, Google's Maps app [now includes](#) real-time traffic, accidents, road closures, and other incident reports from Waze's 40 million users. Under the [traffic tab](#) of the recently updated Maps app on both iOS and Android devices, travelers will find alerts reported by diligent Waze users....

The Atlantic Wire, Aug. 20; Google Lat Long, Aug. 20; Ars Technica, Aug. 20



[Best library history websites and blogs](#)

Larry Nix writes: "In 2010 I created a list of the [top 10 library history websites](#). This post will revisit that list and add some library history blogs. The website of the [Archives of the American Library Association](#) has been significantly updated and improved since I first posted my top 10 list. I didn't include the website of the [Library History Round Table of ALA](#) in my previous list, but I've added it this time because of the section of the website on [Popular Resources](#)."...

Library History Buff Blog, Aug. 19



[Sydney acquires "holy grail" of Australiana](#)

The State Library of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia, has acquired two documents representing the earliest printed record of the discovery and plans for settling the southern continent, Terra Australis. The [two memorials](#) just purchased were printed in 1608 and 1614 by Pedro Fernandes de Queirós. They are part of a series of petitions to King Philip III of Spain requesting support for a missionary expedition to the southern lands Queirós had discovered in 1606. Watch the [video](#) (4:56)....

State Library of New South Wales Acquisitions Blog, Aug. 15; Vimeo, Aug.



[Earliest globe to show North America?](#)

An Austrian collector has found what may be the oldest globe, dated 1504, to depict the New World, engraved with immaculate detail on two conjoined halves of ostrich eggs. North America is depicted as a group of scattered islands. The globe is a twin of the copper [Hunt-Lenox Globe](#), dated around 1510 and housed in the Rare Book Division of the New York Public Library. After comparing the two globes, Stefaan Missinne (who may be the new globe's anonymous owner) [concluded](#) that the Hunt-Lenox Globe is a cast of the engraved ostrich egg....



Washington Post, Aug. 19; *The Portolan*, no. 87 (Fall 2013)

[Online educational videos](#)

Susan Ariew writes: "When YouTube first came into its own in 2006, educators realized the great potential it provided for enhancing teaching and learning. What they may not have realized is that free online educational videos would eventually revolutionize how people think about teaching and learning. Khan Academy and TED Talks are just two of the more prominent examples of educational video sites. Here is an annotated list of other video sites that are useful to educators and the public at large, classified by general subject categories."...



Choice 50, no. 12 (Aug.)

[Considering context in designing online tutorials](#)

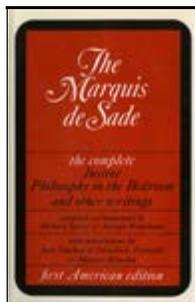
Meredith Farkas writes: "I'm working with a colleague to create a suite of tutorials that will be integrated into online University Studies classes. Ironically, I think librarians sometimes don't take context enough into account when creating information literacy learning objects. Just like with the black-and-white thinking students usually exhibit about sources being good or bad, I think we often view methods of tutorial creation as good or bad. Really, we should also be evaluating technologies and methods for tutorial creation based on the individual context."...

Information Wants To Be Free, Aug. 19

[Syracuse acquires Wainhouse archive](#)

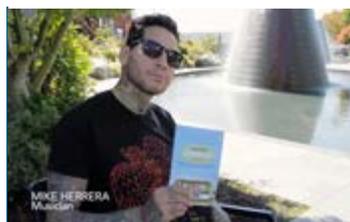
Syracuse (N.Y.) University Libraries' Special Collections Research Center has acquired the archive of American translator Austryn Wainhouse, who is best known for his complete and uncensored English translations of the Marquis de Sade's 1791 novel *Justine*. The archive includes notebooks containing handwritten notes and drafts, journals describing his life as an expatriate, correspondence with prominent authors (including Simone de Beauvoir, whom Wainhouse also translated into English), drafts of his satirical novel *Hedyphagetica* (1954), photographs, and ephemera....

Syracuse University News, Aug. 20



[Kitsap's One Book, One Community](#)

This year for its One Book, One Community event, the Kitsap Regional Library in Bremerton, Washington, branded



400 copies of its selected book, *The Leisure Seeker* by Michael Zadoorian, and used them for a number of guerrilla marketing campaigns around the county. The books have been found floating in fountains, tied to trees, and used as a tool to start conversations on the street. Watch the library's [video promotion](#) (1:13)....

YouTube, Aug. 13

[A world without libraries](#)

Rita Meade writes: "In 2011, I was asked to be a judge for a student library essay contest being held by a local councilman. The topic of the contest was 'The Future of Libraries,' and the kids who entered produced thoughtful, enlightening, and quite amusing [results](#). So when I was asked to be a judge for the contest again this year, I jumped at the chance. This year's essay topic was 'A World Without Libraries.' Here are my personal 10 favorite lines from 10 different essays."...

Book Riot, Aug. 15; Screwy Decimal, Apr. 15, 2011

[Community deficit fighters](#)

In a mild-mannered tone, the [2012 annual report](#) of Cleveland Public Library documents how the library "continues to work in tandem with our community partners to prioritize deficits in our city and identify solutions that tear down barriers to literacy, self-esteem, and financial independence." But its YouTube [video](#) (2:49) reveals its true mission: "Who are these masked heroes, fighting hunger, illiteracy, unemployment, and other deficits afflicting our city? Community Deficit Fighters!..."

YouTube, Aug. 15; Cleveland Public Library 2012 Annual Report to the Community



[Scenes from the Lego Public Library](#)

Joe Hardenbrook writes: "When I created my own [Lego Librarian personalities](#), I didn't quite imagine the wave it would create. People love Lego blocks. People love librarians. After I acquired the [official Lego librarian](#), I decided that the Lego librarian needed a library, so I started building the Lego Library. Just like the real library, there's something for everyone: books, periodicals, technology, events."...

Mr. Library Dude, July 24, Aug. 19



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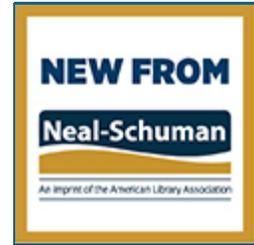
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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | August 28, 2013



American Libraries Online

Tax battle in the Bluegrass State

Phil Morehart writes: "Recent [lawsuits](#) against libraries in Kentucky continue to reverberate across the state, ever since two separate circuit-court rulings were handed down in April 2013 that found [Campbell County Public Library](#) (right) and Kenton County Public Library had improperly raised their millage rates since 1979 and 1967, respectively. The decisions stated that the libraries did not follow state law by petitioning and gathering voter approval. The Campbell and Kenton County libraries are appealing the rulings separately."...



American Libraries feature; *The Huffington Post*, Aug. 18; *Cincinnati (Ohio) Enquirer*, Aug. 25

Expanding privacy legislation to include ebooks

Mariam Pera writes: "While privacy continues to be an issue on the national scene, at least two states—Arizona and New Jersey—have taken steps to expand their library privacy laws to include ebooks. Arizona House Bill 2165, enacted in April, adds digital books and electronic records to the state's existing privacy law, while in New Jersey the Reader Privacy Act (A-3802), introduced in February, goes beyond libraries to also protect the privacy of readers and purchasers of books and ebooks."...



American Libraries feature

Newsmaker: An interview with Kirsten Baesler

North Dakota Superintendent of Public Instruction Kirsten Baesler (right) is well aware of the centrality of school libraries in K–12 schools. Before her election to



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2014 Midwinter Meeting

Philadelphia, January 24–28.

Registration and housing will be open October 1.

2014 Annual Conference

Las Vegas, Nevada, June 26–July 1.

Registration and housing will be open January 14.

(Bundle registration for 2014 Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference opens September 9.)



INNOVATIVE'S
LATEST
HAPPENINGS

state government in November 2012, Baesler served as both library media specialist and assistant principal at two elementary schools in Bismarck. She has served as a member of the North Dakota Library Association executive board and as president of the Mandan Public School District board. *American Libraries* interviewed Baesler on June 6....

American Libraries column, July/Aug.



INNOVATIVE'S
LATEST
HAPPENINGS

from CEO
Kim Massana

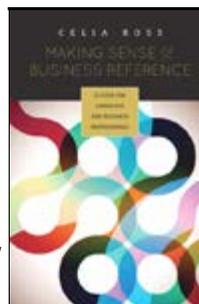
blog.iii.com

Innovative

[Making sense of business reference](#)

Celia Ross writes: "At the beginning of every online business reference workshop that I teach, I ask students to submit a stumper: a business reference question that has them shaking their heads. (Or shaking in their boots!) This is a sampling of some of those tricky questions as experienced by real librarians and researchers. Question 1: I would like to know how to find a company's market share for a certain product."...

American Libraries feature



[IFLA: Parag Khanna and the Hybrid Age](#)

Leonard Kniffel writes: "Geostrategist Parag Khanna (on the left), bestselling author of *How to Run the World: Charting a Course to the Next Renaissance*, opened the fifth day of the World Library and Information Congress of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions in Singapore August 21 with enthusiasm for 'ubiquitous libraries.' He asserted that we are entering the Hybrid Age, a time when technology is erasing boundaries in education and enabling educators 'to use interactive tools to produce better scholars.'"...

AL: The Scoop, Aug. 22



[IFLA closes Singapore conference](#)

Leonard Kniffel writes: "At the closing session of the 79th World Library and Information Congress in Singapore on August 22, IFLA President Ingrid Parent ended her two-year presidency by passing the gavel to incoming president Sinikka Sipila of Finland. It also included the presentation of the Best Poster award to Shiho Suzuki of Japan for '[The Librarians of Fukushima](#)' (right), which deals with the aftermath of the nuclear power plant disaster of 2011. The next IFLA conferences will be held in Lyon, France, in 2014, and in Cape Town, South Africa, in 2015."...

AL: The Scoop, Aug. 23



[Go back to the Top](#)

Thursdays
IN THE Park

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—Daily Telegraph

HILARY BOYD

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ALA News

Executive Director's Message:

Who we are

Keith Michael Fiels writes: "Each year, I spend a good deal of time speaking to various groups about libraries and the Association. Often, I talk about library myths. One of the most widespread and persistent myths is that younger people are not joining the Association. Data, however, shows that this is just not true. In a 2009 study conducted for ALA, researchers found that the ALA membership has a younger age structure than librarians as a whole."...

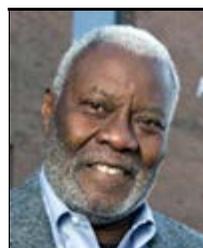
American Libraries column, July/Aug.



Bob Wedgeworth earns doctorate, 41 years later

Robert Wedgeworth (right) is one of those people who had everything he needed for his Ph.D. except his dissertation. In 1972, he had completed his coursework, passed his comprehensive examination, and started his dissertation at the Rutgers Graduate School of Library and Information Studies. But ALA reached out to him and "offered me a position I couldn't refuse" as its executive director. Wedgeworth returned to successfully defend his dissertation on December 14, 2012, and graduated in May 2013....

Rutgers Today, Jan. 11

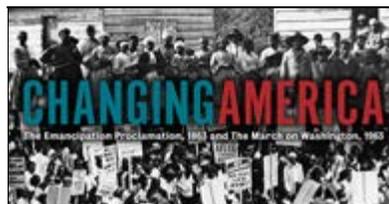


New traveling exhibition opportunity

The Public Programs Office, in collaboration with the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture and National Museum of American History, invites applications from public, academic, and special libraries, small museums, and historical societies for the traveling exhibition "Changing America: The Emancipation Proclamation 1863 and the March on Washington 1963."

[Online applications](#) must be submitted to ALA by October 21....

Public Programs Office, Aug. 27



San Antonio teens gain News Know-how

Teens in San Antonio, Texas, received information-literacy training thanks to the News Know-how program offered by the San Antonio Public Library's Teen Services Department at the Central Library, in partnership with ALA and the Open Society Foundations. Fifteen teens (grades 10-12) were given a two-week summer course in media literacy, learning to view the news they are exposed to every day in a critical way....

Office for Intellectual Freedom, Aug. 27



eCourse: Rethinking readers' advisory



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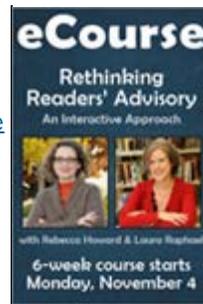
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1-877-828-2833 **RBdigital**

Rebecca Howard and Laura Raphael will serve as instructors for a six-week facilitated ALA Editions eCourse, "[Rethinking Readers' Advisory: An Interactive Approach](#)," starting on November 4. In this eCourse, you'll learn all about the form-based readers' advisory model, from start (getting administrative and staff buy-in) to finish (building forms and training staff members). Registration can be purchased at the ALA Store....

ALA Editions, Aug. 26



[Go back to the Top](#)



Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Adult fiction](#)

Betts, Matt. *Odd Men Out*. Aug. 2013. 224p. Raw Dog Screaming/Dog Star, paperback (978-1-935738-46-6).

Not to be confused—really, really not—with John Sayles's classic 1988 baseball movie *Eight Men Out*, this is a thrilling debut novel, set during the American Civil War and featuring airships, flying bicycle-like contraptions, massive vehicles that walk on stilt-like legs, a flamboyant circus impresario, a fiendishly clever (and distinctly megalomaniacal) villain, some plucky heroes, and a supersecret scientific outpost with some very unusual inhabitants. Oh, and zombies....



[Top 10 horror fiction: 2013](#)

Brad Hooper writes: "We're all a little afraid of the dark, aren't we? Even those of us who are long, *long* past childhood? Read these superb novels, all reviewed in *Booklist* between August 2012 and July 2013, to find out just what might be lurking in that darkness," such as Benjamin Percy's *Red Moon* (which "humanizes the werewolf") and Will McIntosh's *Hitchers* (in which "a terrorist bioweapon attack wipes out a substantial portion of Atlanta."...



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Libraries on Film



[Virtual Nightmare](#)

(2000, Australia, made for TV). Michael Muhney as advertising agent Dale Hunter begins to see cracks in the reality of what seems to be his perfect town. With the help of a plucky librarian (Jennifer Congram as Natalie), he tries to solve the mystery.

[Horror and comedy](#)

David Pitt writes: "When you think of horror comedies, do you default to movies? There's *Young Frankenstein*, *Shaun of the Dead*, *Zombieland*, *Bubba Ho-Tep*, *Return of the Living Dead*, the *Scream* series—I could go on. But there are some very good horror comedy novels, too. Here are a few you ought to check out."...



[Novels that make you feel gross](#)

Daniel Kraus writes: "Why in blue blazes would you want to pick up one of these festering objects, even with tweezers? Well, there are a lot of reasons. These books push you around, get your blood boiling, and challenge you as a reader to find meaning, even art, in the darkest of darks. Too highfalutin' for you? Okay, maybe you've just read 15 cozy cat mysteries and need to sandblast your palate. Or maybe you've just had a visit from the in-laws. Here are five of my 'favorites.' Grab the smelling salts."...



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

[Go back to the Top](#)

Division News

[RUSA needs a project director](#)

ALA has issued an RFP ([PDF file](#)) for a project director to oversee the creation of guidelines and best practices for financial literacy education services provided by libraries. The project is funded by an IMLS grant. RUSA will administer the project, with an expected completion date of October 1, 2014. Applicants must email their proposals by September 23 to RUSA Executive Director [Susan Hornung](#). View more details in the project narrative ([PDF file](#))....
RUSA, Aug. 28

[Bryan Stevenson to speak at PLA 2014](#)

The PLA 2014 conference in Indianapolis, March 11–15, 2014, will get off to a powerful start with Bryan Stevenson (right), founder and executive director of the Equal Justice Initiative, as the Opening Session keynote speaker. There's a reason Stevenson has one of the most-viewed and highest-rated TED Talks—he's an incredible speaker with an inspiring message. And he is a widely acclaimed public interest lawyer who has dedicated his career to helping the poor, the incarcerated, and the condemned....
PLA, Aug. 27



[Teen Read Week website offers new perks](#)

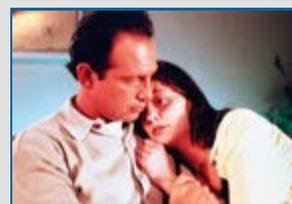
Visitors who register as an online community member of the [Teen Read Week website](#) will have access to a wealth of resources and perks courtesy of YALSA and the official 2013 Teen Read Week sponsors. There are more resources than ever to help library workers and educators with their



[La vita agra](#) (1964, Italy). Pippo Starnazza is the librarian.



[Viyublyon po sobstvennomu zhelaniyu](#) (1983, Soviet Union). Evgeniya Glushenko plays Vera Silkova, a plain but brainy librarian.



[Voyage into Fear](#) (1993, Australia). Monique Dykstra plays a librarian.

This *AL Direct* feature describes hundreds of films (and some TV shows) in which libraries and librarians are featured, from 1912 to the present. The full list is a [Web Extra](#) associated with [The Whole Library Handbook 5](#), edited by George M. Eberhart and published by ALA Editions. You can browse the films on our [Libraries on Film Pinterest board](#).



efforts in encouraging continued literacy development among teens, including eligibility to receive one of three Merit Press bookshelves and an autographed copy of *Gorgeous* by Paul Rudnick....

YALSA, Aug. 27

[Going back to school with YALSA badges](#)

Linda W. Braun writes: "It's that time: Time to provide an update on the YALSA professional development badging project that will give library staff working with teens a chance to continue their learning successfully. For about a year YALSA has been planning professional development that supports gaining skills and knowledge related to the division's *Competencies for Librarians Serving Youth* ([PDF file](#)) and that results in learners earning badges. The badges will be soft-launched this fall."...

YALSAblog, Aug. 27



[Face-to-face presentation skills](#)

Take the microphone with confidence after the one-hour webinar, "[Face-to-Face Presentation Skills: How to Present Like a Lion \(Even if You Feel Like a Lamb\)](#)" hosted by PLA on September 18. Steve Yacovelli (right) will explore the ways in which library professionals can effectively create and deliver face-to-face messages to key stakeholders, whether it's at a local civic meeting or on a national conference stage. The deadline to register is September 16....

PLA, Aug. 27



[Fall e-Learning from ACRL](#)

ACRL is offering a wide variety of online learning opportunities in fall 2013 to meet the demands of your schedule and budget. Full details and registration information are available on the [ACRL website](#). Registration for all online courses and webcasts qualifies for the ACRL Frequent Learner Program. ACRL online courses provide asynchronous, multiweek content delivered through Moodle....

ACRL, Aug. 27

[Upcoming RUSA online learning](#)

Labor Day is on the horizon, and RUSA is gearing up for three online learning opportunities: a webinar "How to Conduct Usability Studies: A Librarian Primer" and online courses "Readers' Advisory 101" and "Business Reference 101." Group rates are available for all of these events. Find details on the [RUSA online learning page](#)....

RUSA Blog, Aug. 27

[RUSA President Kathleen Kern's office hours](#)

Bring your burning questions to RUSA's Office Hours. RUSA President Kathleen Kern (right) will hold virtual office hours every Tuesday, 2-3 p.m. Central Time, beginning September 3. They are open to any current



Career Leads from JobLIST

[Distance Learning Librarian](#), Norwich University, Northfield, Vermont. The

Kreitzberg Library seeks a creative, tech-savvy, and service-oriented librarian to join the library team in developing and providing instruction and other services to our distance learning population. The Distance Learning Librarian develops procedures and implements programs for library distance education services. Serves as liaison to the College of Graduate and Continuing Studies. Develops and maintains instructional materials and technologies, and manages the library web presence for distance education. Provides support to distance learners and the faculty who create and teach distance education courses. Coordinates activities of library staff in their work associated with



or potential members with questions about RUSA. To access the meeting at the appropriate start time, click here....
RUSA Blog, Aug. 27

[Last call for RUSA online learning proposals](#)

RUSA is seeking proposals for webinars and online courses on highly relevant subjects such as ebooks, library programming and outreach, technology advisory, reference services, collection marketing, and leading a book group. The proposal period will be open through September 1. Submit proposals for [webinars](#) and [online courses](#) separately....
RUSA Blog, July 29

[Meet the ASCLA Board of Directors](#)

Ever wonder who's at the helm of the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies? Hop on over to the ASCLA blog to check out profiles of each of our members on the Board of Directors. More profiles will be added in the coming weeks, so stop by again soon. Learn more about this small, mighty, and innovative division of ALA on the ASCLA website....
ASCLA Blog



[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[Krahnke, Rérat awarded Books for Teens grants](#)

Jodi Krahnke, young adult librarian at the Ypsilanti (Mich.) District Library's Michigan Avenue branch, and Cari Rérat, teen librarian at the Joplin (Mo.) Public Library, were each awarded a Books for Teens grant, administered by YALSA. Each receives a grant of \$1,000 to empower teens to achieve more by providing them with free high-quality, new, age-appropriate books....
YALSA, Aug. 27

[ARL Diversity Scholars selected](#)

The Association of Research Libraries Committee on Diversity and Leadership has selected 15 LIS students to participate in its 2013–2015 Initiative to Recruit a Diverse Workforce (IRDW) as ARL Diversity Scholars. The IRDW offers numerous financial benefits to program participants as well as leadership development opportunities....
Association of Research Libraries, Aug. 22

[2013 Carle Honorees](#)

The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art in Amherst, Massachusetts, has announced the recipients of its 2013 Carle Honors. Two-time Caldecott Medalist Chris Van Allsburg has been named the "Artist" honoree. Editor Phyllis Fogelman Baker holds the "Mentor" honor. Children's literacy advocates Lynda Johnson Robb and Carol Rasco share the "Angel" honor. Author Barbara Bader has earned the "Bridge" honor....

distance education. Collaborates with administrators, faculty, and staff to develop collections and services to support distance education programs. Participates as a member of team providing reference and instruction in a broad range of subject areas....



@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The [Houston Area Digital Archives](#) provides open, online access to the rich collections of the Houston Public Library and other community archives. It includes books, audio and video materials, documents, photographs, manuscripts, maps, and memorabilia.

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 [L](#)

GalleyCat, Aug. 23

[Go back to the Top](#)

Libraries in the News

[Documenting the 1963 March on Washington](#)

Bill LeFurgy writes: "A [recent post](#) from the Library of Congress's main blog outlined some of the riches at LC in connection with the 1963 March on Washington. Picture This, the blog for our Prints and Photographs Division, also [recently highlighted](#) some digitized photographs from the march. In the spirit of the 50th anniversary, I thought I'd mention some other digital resources that relate to the event." LC's exhibit, "A Day Like No Other," opened August 28 and features 42 black-and-white photographs taken on that day. Watch the [newscast](#) (1:51)....

The Signal: Digital Preservation, Aug. 27; Library of Congress Blog, Aug. 23; Picture This, Aug. 23; WRC-TV, Washington, Aug. 27



[No Miami branches will close, but layoffs are coming](#)

Nearly six weeks after cautioning it could shutter 22 public library branches, Miami-Dade County has found a way to keep all 49 facilities open at least some of the time, offering stripped-down services. In all, 169 library workers—more than a third of the department's 461 employees—will lose their jobs by October 1, and the libraries will begin to operate about three-quarters of the hours they do now, Mayor Carlos Gimenez informed county commissioners late on August 23....

Miami Herald, Aug. 24

[Libraries do save lives](#)

Nora Rawlinson writes: "Standing in the library that served as a 'safe haven' to her and her four siblings (Middle Country Public Library on Long Island, New York) when they were the homeless children of a mentally ill and abusive mother, Regina Calcaterra (right) talks to [Inside Edition](#) (2:09) about her memoir of that time, *Etched in Sand* (HarperCollins/Morrow). She says she is very moved by 'just the thought that my book may be in this library where I came as a kid who was impoverished.'"...

EarlyWord: The Publisher | Librarian Connection, Aug. 23; Inside Edition, Aug. 20



[NYC school librarians push back to protect jobs](#)

New York City school librarians are fighting back. A group of librarians and parents held a rally August 21 to protest the city's [request for a waiver](#) from state librarian staffing requirements. Standing on the steps of Tweed Courthouse, the state Education Department's downtown Manhattan headquarters, librarians said they couldn't just

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

Noted and Quoted

"A library is like an island in the middle of a vast sea of ignorance, particularly if the library is very tall and the surrounding area has been flooded."

—Lemony Snicket [Daniel Handler], *Horseradish: Bitter Truths You Can't Avoid* (HarperCollins, 2007), p. 76.

@ [More quotes...](#)

Calendar

Sept. 8–9: [HathiTrust Research Center UnCamp](#), Hotel and Conference Center, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Sept. 11–13: [Florida Distance Learning Association](#), Fall Conference, Embassy Suites, Lake Buena Vista South, Kissimmee, Florida. "In the Cloud and Beyond: Building Community and Expanding Distance Education."

Sept. 18: [OCLC](#), cooperative-wide discussion series, Collective Insight: Driven By Shared Data, Johns Hopkins University. "The Metadata [R]evolution: Transformative

be replaced by a computer in a classroom. Read the *Huffington Post* [editorial](#) by Christian Zabriskie. Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, is having [similar issues](#), as Debra Kachel explains....

Wall Street Journal, Aug. 11, 21; *The Huffington Post*: New York Blog, Aug. 26; *Harrisburg (Pa.) Patriot-News*, Aug. 23

[NYPL rethinks its design](#)

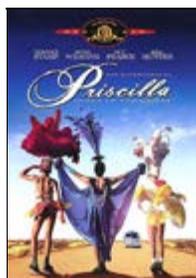
The New York Public Library, responding to an [outcry](#) over its plans to demolish century-old book stacks, will this fall unveil a new design that preserves a significant portion of them, NYPL President Anthony Marx said August 27. The library still intends to build a new circulating library in the 80,000-square-foot space under the Rose Main Reading Room. But in contrast to previous renderings, the new design will incorporate the stacks as a prominent feature....

Wall Street Journal, Aug. 23, 27

[Trustees eject teen worker before R-rated screening](#)

Some trustees of Morton Grove (Ill.) Public Library have objected to a 16-year-old employee overseeing the library's summer film series after learning that the girl ran the projector for the June 25 showing of the R-rated film *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*. Trustee Cathy Peters attended the July 23 screening of *Safety Not Guaranteed* and personally [removed](#) the teen. "This girl has done nothing wrong," Peters said. "She was just hired for a job she shouldn't have." Because of the news coverage, the *Chicago Tribune* is [profiling](#) the intellectual freedom policies of other Chicago-area [public libraries](#)....

Morton Grove (Ill.) Champion, Aug. 1, 15; *Chicago Tribune*, Aug. 24, 26-27



[Measure A wins in Santa Clara County](#)

John Chrastka writes: "Congratulations to the [Save Our Libraries 2013—Yes on A](#) Committee and their dedicated volunteers on winning with 81% of the vote for Santa Clara County (Calif.) Library District on August 27. The measure renews for 20 years a district tax of \$33.66 per single-family residence that makes up 18% of the system's annual budget. EveryLibrary is proud to have backed the committee and looks forward to watching this great library continue to thrive."...

EveryLibrary blog, Aug. 28



[Students protest library cuts at University of South Florida](#)

While more than 1,000 students have signed online petitions and liked Facebook pages calling for the restoration of 24/5 library hours at the University of South Florida Tampa, different university departments are discussing who should pay for the additional funds it takes to keep the library open in a time of financial shrinking. William Garrison, dean of USF Libraries, said the library would see about 400-500 students during overnight hours, and upwards of 1,000 during midterm and finals week. The campus serves a large population of nontraditional, commuter, and working students....

The Oracle, Aug. 26



Opportunities."

Sept. 23-24:

[Great Lakes E-Summit](#), Maumee Bay State Park Lodge and Conference Center, Oregon, Ohio.

Oct. 7-9:

[Strategic and Competitive Intelligence Professionals](#), 5th Annual Latin America Summit, São Paulo, Brazil.

Oct. 7-10:

[Telecommunications Industry Association](#), TIA 2013 conference, Gaylord National Resort, Fort Washington, Maryland. "The Future of the Network."

Oct. 9-11:

[Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services](#), Annual Conference, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. "Laissez les bons temps rouler!"

Oct. 18:

[ACRL Western New York / Ontario Chapter](#), Fall Conference, RIT Inn and Conference Center, Henrietta, New York. "Publishing and Advancing Research."

Oct. 18-19:

[Library 2.013 Worldwide Virtual Conference](#), free online conference.

Oct. 29-30:

[International Digital Publishing Forum](#), EDUPUB: A Workshop on Digital Publishing for Education, Boston.

[Chicago thief steals book bike](#)

A thief in Chicago didn't just steal a bike over the weekend, he or she took a whole library. The "Bibliotreka," a tricycle custom-built to carry a collection of literary works from Humboldt Park's [Read/Write Library](#), was stolen sometime in the late hours of August 24-25. Nell Taylor, the executive director of the nonprofit, said the organization is simply seeking a safe return of its library on wheels....

Chicago Tribune, Aug. 26



[Proposal story features groom-written kid's book](#)

Paul Phillips popped the question to his girlfriend (right) on August 17 using a children's book he wrote about their relationship, which he later had illustrated, printed, and put on the shelf of the Southern Pines (N.C.) Public Library. In the [story](#), he is represented by a gorilla ("I'm clumsy and big like a gorilla, always using brute force to solve problems") and his girlfriend, Erika Ramos, by a giraffe, one of her favorite animals....

The Huffington Post, Aug. 19



[Elmhurst library switches consortia](#)

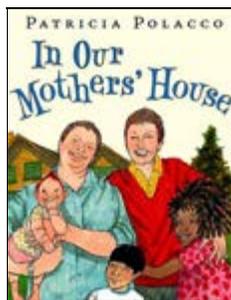
Elmhurst (Ill.) Public Library has withdrawn from a 77-member library consortium, System Wide Automatic Network, that enables patrons to borrow books and other materials from other libraries. Library director Mary Beth Campe said her library, as one of the larger ones in SWAN, was loaning out too many materials. She said the library will join a smaller resource-sharing partnership of libraries called LINKn that is substantially less expensive. The issues are complex....

Chicago Tribune, Aug. 26

[Utah school board meeting debates acquisitions policy](#)

Brought to the attention of the Davis school board in Farmington, Utah, was a formal outline of its library policies. But what was meant to be an innocuous presentation to get suggestions from the board turned into an intense exchange of opinions on how books are acquired. For a district that is still reeling from the aftermath of a lawsuit brought on earlier this year regarding *In Our Mothers' House*, it was clear the board wanted to make sure the situation didn't repeat itself....

Ogden (Utah) Standard-Examiner, Aug. 24



[Airport libraries to the rescue](#)

Harriet Baskas writes: "It's appropriate that a book celebrating the 75th anniversary of Nashville International Airport includes a page and a charming photo (right) documenting the library branch that opened on-site in 1962. Staffed by a librarian who received an extra \$4 in her paycheck to cover airport parking, the Nashville Public Library reading room was the first time a public library was ever established in a municipal airport. Today, only a few airport terminals have anything resembling a traditional library," including [Sea-Tac Airport](#) in King County, Washington....



Nov. 12-14:

[Urban Libraries Council](#), 2013

Partners for Success Conference, Seattle. "Libraries Leading Learning."

Nov. 13-15:

[South Carolina Library Association / Southeastern Library Association](#), Joint

Conference, Westin Poinsett Hotel, Greenville, South Carolina. "Regional Reach."

Dec. 15-18:

[Association for Information Systems](#), International

Conference on Information Systems, Milan, Italy. "Reshaping Society Through Information Systems Design."

Jan. 21-24:

[Association for Library and Information Science Education](#), Annual

Conference, Philadelphia. "Educational Entrepreneurship."

Apr. 9-13:

[Society of Architectural Historians](#), Annual

Conference, Austin, Texas.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct



USA Today, Aug. 23; KIRO-FM (Tacoma, Wash.), Aug. 26

[Librarian's historic scrapbook](#)

Inside the crumbling scrapbook, old newspaper clippings and paper mementos tell part of the story of Bertha Mae Winborne Edwards (right), Portsmouth, Virginia's first black librarian. Mae Breckenridge-Haywood wants the book, which dates to 1938, to be part of a display at the old Portsmouth Community Library, which will open as a museum in December. The book has been entered by the African American Historical Society of Portsmouth in the Virginia Association of Museums' Top 10 Most Endangered Artifacts competition....



Norfolk Virginian-Pilot, Aug. 21

[Raising funds for Lac-Mégantic](#)

When the downtown area of Lac-Mégantic was destroyed in the deadly July 6 oil train derailment, the Quebec town also lost its library, the Bibliothèque de Lac-Mégantic. Libraries across Maine are joining to raise funds to help rebuild the library. Monetary donations will help with the Canadian town's replacement of the building, computers, and materials....

Farmington (Maine) Franklin Sun Journal, Aug. 26

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Issues

[Faculty attitudes on MOOCs](#)

Doug Lederman and Scott Jaschik write: "Faculty members, by and large, are particularly skeptical about the value of MOOCs, *Inside Higher Ed's* new Survey of Faculty Attitudes on Technology ([PDF file](#)) suggests. The survey of 2,251 professors, conducted by Gallup, finds significant skepticism among faculty members about the quality of online learning, with only one in five of them agreeing that online courses can achieve learning outcomes equivalent to those of in-person courses, and majorities considering online learning to be of lower quality than in-person courses on several key measures."...

Inside Higher Ed, Aug. 27



[Home broadband, 2013](#)

Some 70% of American adults ages 18 and older have a high-speed broadband connection at home as of May 2013, according to a nationally representative survey ([PDF file](#)) by the Pew Research Center's Internet and American Life Project. The survey also found that 3% of American adults go online at home via dial-up connections. Groups with the highest rates of home broadband adoption [continue to be](#) college graduates, adults under age 50, and adults living in households earning at least \$50,000, as well as whites and adults living in urban or suburban areas....



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



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Pew Research Center, Aug. 26

[A year later, briefs filed in *Authors Guild v. Google*](#)

After a delay of more than a year, the long-running *Authors Guild v. Google* case is heating up again with opposition to summary judgment briefs filed in the long-running case. The Authors Guild argues that Google's fair-use analysis fails, and that its library scanning project is not some public service but a commercial attempt to "gain a competitive advantage over other search engines and to generate even greater advertising revenues." Google counters that its scan plan is protected by fair use....

Publishers Weekly, Aug. 27

[Lessig fights back over YouTube takedown](#)

Creative Commons cofounder Lawrence Lessig (right) has filed a complaint in a US federal court after he was forced to take down a YouTube video of his lecture that included clips depicting groups of people dancing to a copyrighted song. The complaint filed by Lessig with help from digital rights group Electronic Frontier Foundation is likely to be a high-profile test of the fair-use doctrine in the reuse of copyrighted material online. Techdirt has [more details](#)....



PC World, Aug. 23; *Techdirt*, Aug. 23

[Another fair-use case](#)

A copyright lawsuit that several publishers filed in June against a maverick scholar's online research library has prompted a countersuit raising fair-use arguments—as well as a claim that the publishers are trying to stifle innovation. The original lawsuit ([PDF file](#)) was filed in federal court in Boston by the Harvard Business School, the University of Chicago, and the publishing company John Wiley and Sons against Michael R. Lissack and the Institute for the Study of Coherence and Emergence....

Chronicle of Higher Education: Wired Campus, Aug. 22

[Little Red Riding Hood and assault weapons](#)

This image (right), created by gun-control group Moms Demand Action and widely shared on social media, is designed to be provocative. Two youngsters sit in a children's section of a library, one holding the fairy-tale book *Little Red Riding Hood*



(Holiday House, 1982) by Trina Schart Hyman and the other holding an AR-15 semi-automatic rifle. The caption: "One child is holding something that's been banned in America to protect them. Guess which one." But PolitiFact.com asserts (with the help of data from the ALA Office of Intellectual Freedom) that the claim contains an element of truth, yet ignores critical facts that would give a different impression....

Tampa Bay (Fla.) Times: PolitiFact.com, Apr. 13

[Addicted to apps](#)

Claire Cain Miller writes: "If engineers *can* build something, the thinking goes, they *do*. Whether they *should* is beside the point. People will eventually adapt, engineers believe, just as they always have. And they do adapt, most of the time. That uneasy feeling that often accompanies our first experience with a new technology quickly

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subsidies, and we are won over. Sure, smartphones track us everywhere we go, but who worries about that when they're so cool and useful? But we cannot rely on the makers of new technology to think about the moral and privacy implications."...

New York Times Sunday Review, Aug. 24

[Teens and mobile apps privacy](#)

As teens gain access to mobile devices, they have embraced app downloading. But many teen apps users have taken steps to uninstall or avoid apps over concern about their privacy. Location information is considered especially sensitive to teen girls, as a majority of them have disabled location tracking features on cellphones and in apps because they are worried about others' access to that information. Here are some of the key findings in a new survey ([PDF file](#)) of US teens ages 12–17....

Pew Research Center, Aug. 22

[NSA paid Google, Microsoft millions for spying](#)

The National Security Agency reimbursed some of the nation's top tech companies for participating in its PRISM surveillance program, according to new [leaked government documents](#) obtained by *The Guardian*.

Previous NSA documents have linked companies such as Google, Yahoo, and Microsoft to the PRISM program, though many of the companies have denied granting the NSA "direct access" to their servers....

Washington Post, Aug. 23; The Guardian (UK), Aug. 22



[Timeline of NSA domestic spying](#)

All of the evidence found in this timeline can also be found in the [Summary of Evidence](#) that the Electronic Frontier Foundation submitted to the court in *Jewel v. National Security Agency (NSA)*. It is intended to recall all the credible accounts and information on [NSA's domestic spying program](#) found in the media, congressional testimony, books, and court actions. The timeline also includes documents leaked by *The Guardian* in June 2013 that [confirmed](#) the domestic spying by the NSA....

Electronic Frontier Foundation

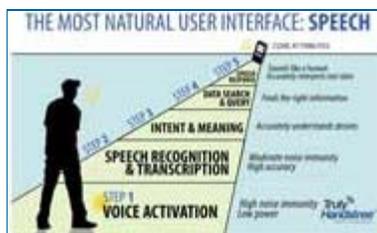


[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Google is preparing for screenless computers](#)

Christopher Mims writes: "The spread of computing to every corner of our physical world doesn't just mean a proliferation of screens large and small—it also means we'll soon come to rely on mobile computers with no screens at all. Google is already moving rapidly to enable voice commands in all of its products. On mobile phones, Google Now for Android and Google's search app on the iPhone allow users to search the web via voice or carry out other basic functions like sending emails. Similarly, Google Glass would be almost unusable without voice interaction."...



Quartz, Aug. 15; EDN Network, Jan. 22

[Eight reasons you should be using Google Voice](#)

Chris Hoffman writes: "[Google Voice](#) has been out for years, but many people in the US still haven't given it a try. Google Voice offers many features you can't get elsewhere, and almost all of them are free. The service allows you to place and receive calls from Gmail, place and receive calls on your phone over Wi-Fi, block phone numbers, text from any browser or phone, and switch phones during a call. It also offers easy number portability, voicemail with transcription, and call forwarding with rules."...

How-To Geek, Aug. 25

[The ABCs of DNS attacks](#)

Timothy B. Lee writes: "Just weeks after the *Washington Post* had its own run-in with the Syrian Electronic Army, the *New York Times* went down on August 27 and the SEA [claimed responsibility](#). Other sites, including Twitter, were also attacked. The attack operates by making changes to the Domain Name System. But how does DNS work? And why does compromising it let the SEA take over whole websites? Read on for details."...

Washington Post: The Switch, Aug. 27



[Hashcat can now hack long passwords](#)

Dan Goodin writes: "For the first time, the freely available password cracker [ocl-Hashcat-plus](#) is able to tackle passcodes with as many as 55 characters.



It's an improvement that comes as more and more people are relying on long passcodes and phrases to protect their website accounts and other online assets. The long-sought-after improvement targets one of the last remaining defenses people employ to make their passwords resistant to cracking."...

Ars Technica, Aug. 26

[A better way for your iPad to talk to your desktop](#)

David Pogue writes: "Most people probably assume you can't use Mac or Windows programs on an iPad. The iPad, the world's most popular tablet, runs its own flavor of software. All kinds of programs would be useful to have on your lovely, lightweight tablet. I'm pleased to report that such a thing is possible, thanks to a remarkable new app, [Parallels Access](#)."...



New York Times: Personal Tech, Aug. 28

[MakerBot's 3D desktop scanner](#)

Angela Moscaritolo writes: "If you're in the market for a 3D desktop scanner, you can now order one from MakerBot. The Brooklyn-based company opened [pre-orders](#) on August 22 for its Digitizer 3D desktop scanner, which is expected to begin shipping in mid-October. The device lets you scan a real-life object and will create a 3D digital file that can be printed out on MakerBot's Replicator 2 and other 3D printers. The device can digitize physical objects up to 8 inches in diameter, 8 inches tall, and up to 6.6 pounds." Of course, you will need a 3D Replicator printer to go with it..."



PC Magazine, Aug. 22

[AIO Robotics 3D printer and fax machine](#)

Andrew Liszewski writes: "As new models are announced every week, 3D printers are slowly but steadily becoming as common as iPhone cases. But thankfully there are a few standouts that boast features other than a cheaper price tag, like the [Zeus from AIO Robotics](#) that is set to premiere on Kickstarter in just a few weeks. It's a 3D printer that doubles as a 3D scanner, allowing you to print, copy, and fax 3D objects to another machine."...

Gizmodo, Aug. 22



[First human brain-to-brain interface](#)

The telepathic cyborg lives, sort of. University of Washington scientists Rajesh Rao and Andrea Stocco (on the right) claim that they are the first to demonstrate human brain-to-brain communication. Rao sent a signal into Stocco's brain via the internet that caused him to move his right hand. Brain-to-brain communication has previously been demonstrated [between rats](#) and from [humans to rats](#). Rao spent time training his mind, with feedback from the computer, to emit a brainwave for moving the right hand so that it could be detected by the computer....

CNet News, Aug. 27; Discovery News, Feb. 28; CNET Crave, Aug. 1



[Go back to the Top](#)

E-Content

[One year of ebook price comparisons](#)

Rochelle Logan and James LaRue write: "Douglas County (Colo.) Libraries has been publishing a monthly list of pricing for print and ebook bestsellers for the past year. We began in September 2012 when we realized that the availability and pricing of ebooks for libraries was out of whack with the market. Not only could we see a difference in the amount we spent for the same title in OverDrive and 3M, but also a huge discrepancy existed in what libraries and consumers would pay at retail."...

AL: E-Content, Aug. 27

[Smithsonian offers an ebook to detail its digitization](#)

The Smithsonian Institution released a free 77-page ebook on August 27 concerning one of the institution's top priorities: digitizing 14 million objects in its massive collections. In *Best of Both Worlds: Museums, Libraries, and Archives in a Digital Age* ([PDF file](#)), G. Wayne Clough, secretary of the Smithsonian, writes that digitization is necessary for the Smithsonian to maintain its national and international footprint....

Washington Post, Aug. 27



[How to buy e-textbooks](#)

Eric Griffith writes: "As more and more students sport tablets along with their laptops and smartphones, the e-textbook's time has arrived.



But where do thrifty students go to get the books they need at prices that won't deplete all their funds? They need to shop around. That's because there are several major vendors vying to be the digital college bookstore of choice."...

PC Magazine, Aug. 28

[Kobo launches a new e-reader](#)

Laura Hazard Owen writes: "E-reading company Kobo is releasing a new e-reader and three new tablets and launching a book discovery tool called Beyond the Book, the company announced at an event in New York City on August 27. It's also partnering with read-it-later service Pocket and plans to launch a children's digital bookstore and a digital newsstand this fall. The new e-reader is the Kobo Aura."...

GigaOM, Aug. 27



[The differences between Kindle Fire and Kindle for Android app](#)

Nathan Groezinger writes: "Does the Kindle Fire HD have any advantages over the Kindle Android app when it comes to reading? The short answer: Yes, yes it does. The long answer: There are a few differences between the Kindle Fire's reading app and the regular Kindle for Android app that may or may not matter to you based on your reading preferences."...

eBook Reader, Aug. 26



[How to unfreeze your Kindle](#)

Tony Cole writes: "Sooner or later if you have a Kindle, you will find that it has frozen solid on you, and will simply refuse to either turn on or turn off. A real drag when it happens, as I have discovered on several occasions. There are three things you can try if this overcomes your Kindle, no matter which model you happen to own."...

eBookAnoid, Aug. 24



[Practicing freedom in the digital library](#)

Barbara Fister writes: "We used to build collections; now we enable access through annual licenses as a supplement to what is freely available on the web. This is a good thing. Students at my college have far more intellectual content available to them than they did when we were first fretting about technology. It's an era of abundance, but it has a downside."...

Library Journal: The Digital Shift, Aug. 26

[Go back to the Top](#)

Books & Reading

[Learning to read with the help of a tablet](#)

Kit Eaton writes: "I learned long ago that the iPad's game and video apps cast a magical spell over my children, but this summer I've also been pleased by how much they have learned while using their tablets. One of the most comprehensive apps for teaching reading is a free iPad app called [Learn With Homer](#) (not the Greek one or Mr. Simpson, you'll be pleased to hear). It's a set of lessons and games presented with bright cartoon graphics and amusing sounds."...

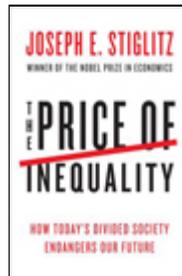
New York Times: Personal Tech, Aug. 21



[Top readings on income inequality](#)

John D. Sutter writes: "Earlier this week, I [asked readers](#) of this column to submit ideas for a list of 99 must-reads on income inequality. As of this writing, I have more than 150 unique suggestions in my inbox. I can't take credit for any of this. It's all you. Ninety-nine of your suggestions are listed here. Don't read too much into the order. It has more to do with when the works were suggested than how significant they are."...

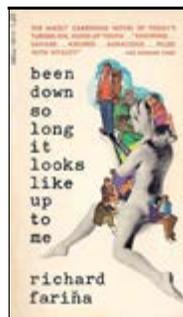
CNN Opinion, Aug. 23



[The 50 greatest campus novels ever written](#)

Emily Temple writes: "No matter how old you are, the back-to-school season holds a certain kind of allure—be it nostalgia for scholarly tradition, the crisping of the days, a Pavlovian need to buy books, or just the satisfaction that you don't have to be in class ever again. If you're looking to indulge yourself without the schoolwork, you may take pleasure in another hallowed tradition: the campus novel. Here are 50 of the best of these, limited to one per author. Read them all and you'll definitely get an A."...

Flavorwire, Aug. 23



[Companion novels \(not sequels\)](#)

Jessica Lind writes: "I am a fan of many sequels and series, but I often find myself happy to enjoy a great book that is a stand-alone novel. There are times, though, when I am not ready to let a universe go, or I think I will miss the author's writing style for a particular storyline even though I don't feel like I need more of the story. The right balance can be found in companion novels, independent stories that exist in a single world built by the author and often feature the main character in one story as a background character in another."...

YALSA The Hub, Aug. 22



[The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones](#)

Katie Shanahan writes: "The new thing to do in Hollywood these days is to search for the next big YA movie franchise now that *Twilight* and *Harry Potter* are completely done. So where in all of that does the adaptation of Cassandra Clare's *City of Bones* (right) fit? Overall, *The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones* shows promise. The fight scenes were terrific, the romance was delectable, and the actors were just what they needed to be. But if you are a fan of the



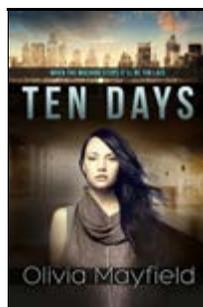
series, you might leave the theater a little perturbed about some things." Watch the [trailer](#) (1:47)...

YALSA: The Hub, Aug. 23; YouTube, Nov. 15, 2012

[Five reasons to love science fiction romance](#)

Eridani writes: "Mainstream science fiction has no time for love, Doctor Jones. We'll get 30 pages of almost fetishistic description of a spaceship, but when it comes to relationships we get a terse, 'They coupled.' In the hardest of hard science fiction, personal relationships are persona non grata. What if you could have a great science fiction story and a great love story at the same time? Romance fans are gobbling up SFR like the Borg assimilate new species. Here are five reasons why it's worth your time."...

io9, Aug. 27



[A brief history of book vending machines](#)

John Geoghegan writes: "The first book-dispensing vending machine was built by Richard Carlile in England in 1822. Carlile was a bookseller who wanted to sell seditious works like Thomas Paine's *Age of Reason* without being thrown in jail. His answer was a self-service machine that allowed customers to buy questionable books without ever coming into contact with Carlile. The next book-dispensing machine was the Penguincubator, which appeared in London in 1937."...

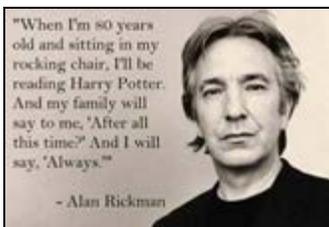
The Huffington Post: Books Blog, Mar. 25



[15 bookish Pinterest boards](#)

Becky Cole writes: "There's a lot of bookish goodness out there in the vast Pinterest wasteland of oddly flavored cupcakes and questionable beauty secrets, but it's not always easy to find. When you really strike gold, comments and contributions from other book lovers make a board feel more like a community than a collection. Here are a few of the best bookish boards I've found."...

Book Riot, Aug. 27



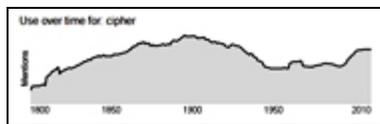
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Tips & Ideas

[Search word definitions in Google](#)

Frederic Lardinois writes: "Google's dictionary definitions, which you can invoke by using a query like 'define crunch,' now feature significantly more information about virtually every word in its catalog. The dictionary box recently began showing sentences that contain the words as well as their synonyms. In addition, it shows a word's etymology (sometimes as a flow chart and sometimes as regular text), as well as how often a word is used over time."...

TechCrunch, Aug. 22



[Wikipedia Loves Libraries](#)

[Wikipedia Loves Libraries](#) is a general initiative for improved Wikimedia engagement with libraries and archives, as well as an annual campaign of wiki-workshops and editathons at libraries in October and November. The first Wikipedia Loves Libraries [campaign](#) was in 2011 across North America, and it's coming back in 2013 worldwide. [Sign up](#) if your library is interested in participating....

Wikimedia Outreach; *American Libraries* feature, Nov./Dec. 2011



[12 tips on making better Vine videos](#)

David Lee King writes: "Vine is an iPhone and Android video app that makes 6-second videos. With Vine, you can watch videos, follow other Vine video makers, and easily share your videos on other social networks like Twitter. Vine has the potential to be a really powerful and fun medium when used well. Here are 12 tips (that's like two tips a second in Vine mode) for making better Vine videos."...

David Lee King, Aug. 27

[Rethinking what we do with M-rated games](#)

Mike Buono writes: "I am writing this article as an open letter. We are censoring what video games we provide people, but we are not stopping their consumption. We are shooting ourselves in the foot to avoid an argument, and it will hurt. Plus we are compromising our own integrity. It is time to supply our public with access to M-rated games. People will object because of the violence. But the in-game violence that will give a person chills is only doled out in pursuit of one of the best crime stories you can find."...

YALSAblog, Aug. 26



[2014 SXSWi library proposals](#)

[SXSW Interactive](#) is a major annual gathering of thought-leaders and funders in Austin, Texas. There are a slew of incredible submissions this year proposed by creative library and museum professionals. You can help put libraries, archives, and museums at the forefront of this ideas exchange by voting for LAM presentations in the [SXSWi Panel Picker](#) through September 9. Here is a list of SXSW LAM and LAM-related panel proposals....

sxswLAM, Aug. 22

[National forum on public libraries and open government](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has granted \$99,713 to the Center for Technology in Government at the University at Albany for a national forum that will lead to a better understanding of how public libraries help citizens engage with local governments. The project will include a concept paper, use of online tools to solicit input from stakeholders, a face-to-face workshop, and a widely distributed report....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Aug. 28

[Teen writers sleepaway camp](#)

Heather Dickerson writes: "Teen Writer's Camp, a weeklong sleepaway camp focused on creative writing, combined the best parts of summer camp with a structured writing retreat. Teri Wright, associate



director of the YMCA in Helena, Montana, and myself (teen services librarian at Lewis and Clark Library), created a unique opportunity; 16 teens, ages 11–16, immersed themselves in the creative writing process in a way that they could not in the monthly Teen Writers Group.”...

The Library as Incubator Project, Aug. 26

[Fossil Free Cities and States](#)

Beth Filar Williams writes: “More and more institutions ([some schools](#) are going carbon neutral), organizations (including [ALA](#)), and even cities are moving toward a push to divest in fossil fuel industries. Many see it as a moral choice for governments that care about their citizens. Check out the [Fossil Free Cities and States](#) site, [Facebook page](#), and [Twitter](#) stream.”...

Going Green @ your library, Aug. 22; *University Business*, July; ALA Council document no. 35, Jan. 28



[Survey: Resources for historical research](#)

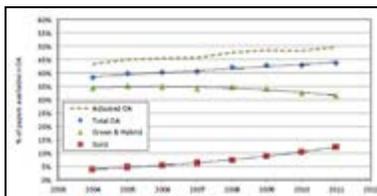
ProQuest is conducting a 15-minute online survey into the information needs of historical researchers. Responses are welcomed from postgraduate researchers, students, teaching faculty, librarians, and anyone who has regular professional contact with historical primary sources. Participation is not limited to just those scholars who self-identify as historians. Participants are eligible to win a \$50 Amazon.com voucher....

ProQuest

[Half of scientific papers from 2011 are now open access](#)

Richard Van Noorden writes: “Search the internet for any research article published in 2011, and you have a 50–50 chance of downloading it for free. This claim—made in an August 13 report ([PDF file](#)) for the European Commission—suggests that many more research papers are openly available online than was previously thought. The finding is heartening news for advocates of open access. But some experts are raising their eyebrows at the high numbers.”...

Nature, Aug. 20



[How to read and understand a scientific paper](#)

Jennifer Raff writes: “I want to help people become more scientifically literate, so I wrote this guide for how a layperson can approach reading and understanding a scientific research paper. It’s appropriate for someone who has no background whatsoever in science or medicine, and based on the assumption that he or she is doing this for the purpose of getting a *basic* understanding of a paper and deciding whether or not it’s a reputable study. The type of scientific paper I’m discussing here is



referred to as a primary research article.”...
Violent Metaphors, Aug. 25

[Citing data \(without tearing your hair out\)](#)

Bonnie Swoger writes: “Scientists are producing more data than ever before due to the (relative) ease of collecting and storing it, but they also need to be able to cite these sources. Unfortunately, the traditional citation manuals do a poor job of helping a scientist figure out what elements to include in the reference list, either ignoring data or overcomplicating things. The best and most relevant advice comes from the [DataCite](#) cooperative.”...

Scientific American: Information Culture, Aug. 23

[Attack of the bookworms](#)

Christina Duffy writes: “Where the passionate reader sees inspiration and literary genius, the pest sees a delicious and satisfying papery meal. Holes in books and bindings, large chewed areas and scraped surfaces are all evidence of pest attack.



Thankfully, damage like this is largely historic and it is a matter for conservation rather than pest control. Here we take a look at a few of the culprits.”...

British Library: Collection Care Blog, Aug. 27

[Doing all we can for customers](#)

Amy Koester writes: “This past Wednesday, I worked a split shift. In the morning I was out of sorts. My state of mind had nothing to do with customers or colleagues, just allergies, but I hated feeling like I was in a funk. That evening, however, I was in the zone. My search queries quickly returned great results, I helped save school documents in the nick of time, and I rocked some readers’ advisory conversations with middle graders. By the time we were ready to close, I started to think on my two very different states of mind during the day and whether how we feel affects the service we provide.”...

The Show Me Librarian, Aug. 23

[14 illegal things you could be doing on the internet](#)

Denise Lu writes: “Criminal activity may be as simple as installing an ad blocker or hopping on an unsecured Wi-Fi connection. Though they may seem banal, some things people do every single day are technically counted illegal in a court of law. Even if the likelihood of getting caught is slim for some activities, practice caution in the future. Take a look at this list and think twice the next time you download a random image from a Google search.”...



Mashable, Aug. 22

[Facebook unveils shared photo albums](#)

Kurt Wagner writes: “Facebook announced shared photo albums August 26, a new feature that allows multiple users to upload images to the same album. The album creator can share access to as many as 50 contributors, who can each in turn share up to 200 photos. Previously, users could only upload photos to albums they created.



The new shared albums have three available privacy settings: public, friends of contributors, and contributors only.”...

Mashable, Aug. 26

[What I learned working part-time](#)

Jennifer Snoek-Brown writes: “Two years ago, I was an out-of-work librarian. Finally I secured a part-time reference and instruction librarian position at a local community college. Unlike how some might feel about such a position, I didn’t feel it was beneath me in any way. I wanted another full-time position in the long-term, but I didn’t want to get ahead of myself. I also didn’t want to take my job for granted, as I had been close to doing in the not-so-distant past. So what did I learn as a part-time librarian?”...

Letters to a Young Librarian, Aug. 22

[The top 10 moments of summer reading](#)

After a terrific summer, the Jefferson Parish (La.) Library counts down its top Summer Reading moments with images and video of its staff, its performers, and, of course, its library patrons who helped make the program so memorable. The [video](#) (13:12) was created by Daniel Gitlin and directed by Shannon Kitchens...

Vimeo, Aug. 21



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