

american libraries DIRECT

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | April 2, 2014

Poet-to-Poet Project

Students Watch,
Write, and Submit
Poems for

**national
poetry month**

[poets.org >](http://poets.org)

STEM Gale eBook Collections on GVRL
Monograph titles from Springer, Elsevier, and more.
View the title list »

american libraries BUYERS GUIDE

American Libraries Online

Emerging Leaders: The Class of 2014

They're the new faces greeting you at the reference desk, shelving books in the stacks, and experimenting with fresh ideas behind the scenes. These are the library world's rising stars, the generation that will move, shape, and influence the present and future of the Association and the library profession. These are the ALA Emerging Leaders of 2014. The 56 honorees in the Emerging Leaders class of 2014 represent a wide variety of libraries and professional specialties....

American Libraries feature



Youth Matters: Reading Wildly

Abby Johnson writes: "In January 2013, I developed the [Reading Wildly](#) program to inspire my staff to read different genres and improve their readers' advisory skills. Each month we discuss a genre or subject, based on patron demand, and each staff member is required to read one book in that genre and book-talk it to the group at our meeting. The outcome is that my staff now reads more than ever before, and their read-alike selections and book talks have noticeably improved."...

American Libraries column, Mar./Apr.; Abby the Librarian



Will a straw poll save Miami-Dade?

Beverly Goldberg writes: "Voters in Miami-Dade County, Florida, may get a chance this summer to weigh in on whether they are willing to pay higher property taxes in order to fill a \$20 million FY2015 deficit that would decimate public library services. Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos



Follow @amlibraries



2014 Annual Conference and Exhibition

Las Vegas, June 26–July 1.

B. J. Novak (especially familiar from NBC's *The Office*) is sure to close the conference on an entertaining note at the [Closing General Session](#). He will speak on the power of words and his two new books in 2014: *One More Thing: Stories and Other Stories* for adults and *The Book with No Pictures* for children.

A. Giménez (right) floated the straw-poll idea March 19 after a city blue-ribbon task force submitted a proposal that offered two scenarios ([PDF file](#)) based on either maintaining current funding levels or enduring a 40% budget cut, from \$50 million in FY2014 to \$30 million for FY2015.”...

AL: The Scoop, Mar. 27

[Go back to the Top](#)



ALA News

[B. J. Novak offers entertaining Closing General Session](#)

B. J. Novak (right) adds *book author* to an impressive résumé that has long included actor, writer, stand-up comedian, TV and film star, executive producer, and Screen Actors Guild and Writers’ Guild of America award winner. Attendees at the 2014 ALA Annual Conference will be entertained and energized by what he has to say about the power of words and the writing part of his career when he appears as featured speaker at the Closing General Session on July 1....



Conference Services, Mar. 31

[Josh Hanagarne to keynote Bookmobile Luncheon](#)

Josh Hanagarne (right), author of *The World’s Strongest Librarian*, will be the featured keynote speaker at the 2014 Bookmobile Saturday Author Luncheon on June 28 during the ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas. The 6-foot-7-inch Hanagarne is an author, speaker, performing strongman, and, despite having an extreme case of Tourette Syndrome, he works as a public librarian in Salt Lake City. Refer to Ticket ALA2 when [registering](#) for Annual Conference....



Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, Mar. 27

[House budget dismisses role of IMLS](#)

“We were shocked to learn that Rep. Paul Ryan (R-Wis., right) recommended eliminating the Institute of Museum and Library Services,” said ALA President Barbara Stripling in reaction to the new budget ([PDF file](#)) released April 1 in which Ryan denounces the critical role that IMLS plays in supporting civic engagement, literacy, and lifelong learning in more than 123,000 libraries nationwide. She went on to state, “Just blocks from Rep. Ryan’s Wisconsin office, more than 716,000 visitors used the Hedberg



Libraries on Film



[Swan Song \[Łabędzi śpiew\]](#)

(1988, Poland). Maria Chwalibóg plays a provincial librarian.

Public Library in Janesville to access library computers and research databases, check out books, and receive job training in 2013.”...
Office of Government Relations, Apr. 1

[Sign the Declaration for the Right to Libraries](#)

April is National School Library Month. Around the country school libraries are celebrating by hosting Declaration for the Right to School Libraries [signing events](#). The Declaration for the Right to Libraries is the cornerstone document of ALA President Barbara Stripling's presidential initiative, Libraries Change Lives, which is designed to build the public will and sustained support for America's right to libraries of all types—public, academic, special, and school. Sign it [here](#)....
I Love Libraries



[Friday is 404 Day](#)

Join the Electronic Frontier Foundation on April 4 for 404 Day, a nationwide day of action to call attention to the long-standing problem of internet censorship in public libraries and public schools. The group is hosting a [digital teach-in](#) with some of the top researchers and librarians: Office for Intellectual Freedom Deputy Director Deborah Caldwell-Stone; Sarah Houghton from San Rafael (Calif.) Public Library, and Chris Peterson from MIT Center for Civic Media in Cambridge, Massachusetts....
Electronic Frontier Foundation, Mar. 26



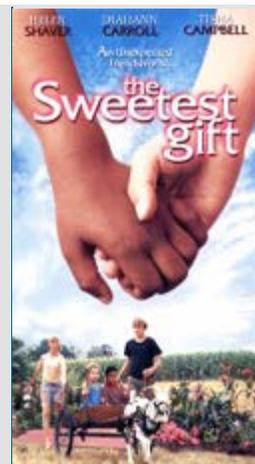
[Stories matter: 13 tips](#)

Communicators will receive insights and tips from Eric Friedenwald-Fishman (right), creative director and founder of Metropolitan Group and coauthor of *Marketing That Matters: 10 Practices to Profit Your Business and Change the World*, at the 2014 PR Forum on June 29 during the ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas....
Public Awareness Committee, Apr. 1



[25 libraries to host Dust Bowl traveling exhibition](#)

Twenty-five libraries across the country will host the traveling exhibition "[Dust, Drought, and Dreams Gone Dry](#)," the ALA Public Programs Office and the National Endowment for the Humanities has announced. The [public and academic libraries](#) will present the exhibition and related public programs for six weeks each from July 2014 to February 2016....
Public Programs Office, Apr. 1



[The Sweetest Gift](#) (1998, made for TV). Marcia Bennett plays a Florida librarian.



[The Swordsman \[Xiao ao jiang hu\]](#) (1990, Hong Kong / Taiwan). In the later years of the Ming Dynasty, a kung fu manual known as the sacred scroll is stolen from the Emperor's library, triggering a power struggle to retrieve it.



[What I Love about Concrete](#) (2012). Morgan Stewart as Black Swanson High School student Molly Whuppie learns that the school librarian Ms. Mopsus (Judy Kitts) turns into a giant cannibalistic stork at night.

This AL Direct feature describes hundreds of films (and some TV shows) in

[International Games Day on November 15](#)

It's time to mark your calendars for this year's International Games Day @ your library on November 15. We are lining up some exciting partners for this year's event, so keep an eye out for the donation options on the registration form. We are also getting the press kit ready so that you can easily promote your event....

International Games Day, Apr. 1



[Student chapter raises funds with literary scavenger hunt](#)

Elizabeth Kellermeyer writes: "Tired of the drab, uninspiring sales of T-shirts and coffee tumblers to raise funds for your ALA student chapter? Yes, we at Clarion University were too. Let me share with you how holding a literary photo scavenger hunt helped us raise funds for our annual spring trip to Washington, D.C., and not be bored."...

ALA Student Member Blog, Apr. 1



[People to People delegation to India](#)

Consider joining a custom-designed library and information services delegation to New Delhi, Jaipur, and Agra, India, November 2–11. As a People to People Citizen Ambassador, you will network with your library and information services peers from India and around the world through vibrant professional exchanges and discussions. The delegation will be led by Nancy M. Bolt, former chair of the ALA International Relations Committee. Email [People to People](#) or call (877) 787-2000 for more information....

People to People



[New accessions at the ALA Archives](#)

Cara Bertram writes: "The ALA Archives has been busy working on large accessions of records sent to us by *American Libraries* magazine and the ALA Library. These new accessions will total up to 40 bankers boxes once all of them have been shipped over. *American Libraries* has sent us their issue photos from 1980 to 2005 and biographical photos of librarians, ALA members, and celebrities."...

ALA Archives Blog, Mar. 27



[Marvel heroes leap into new ALA Graphics catalog](#)

New products that are bound to inspire and excite readers in schools and libraries across the nation are included in the ALA Graphics Summer 2014 catalog. A new [Spider-Man poster](#) invites you to "Drop in and Read." Also featured are other Avengers from the Marvel Universe—Iron Man, Captain America, Hulk, and Thor—which are available as a [Mini Poster Set](#) and [bookmark variety pack](#)....

ALA Graphics, Apr. 1



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**

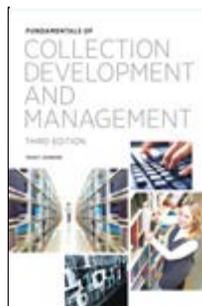
[Electronic Access Media Librarian](#)

Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, Texas. A supervisor of the media center within the library and coordinator of library services to distance education students, the Electronic Access Media Librarian is responsible for the maintenance, inventory, and servicing of nonprint materials and equipment (and the supplies used in the care and maintenance of all materials and equipment), as well as providing access and training in the use of library resources for distance education students. Works at the reference desk as

Collection development and management

The new third edition of [Fundamentals of Collection Development and Management](#), published by ALA Editions, is a sweeping revision of a text that has become an authoritative standard, offering a comprehensive tour of this essential discipline and situating the fundamental ideas of collection development and management in historical and theoretical perspective. Expert instructor and librarian Peggy Johnson addresses the art of controlling and updating library collections, whether located locally or accessed remotely....

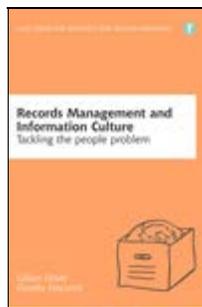
ALA Editions, Apr. 1



The culture of records management and information

Exploring how an understanding of organizational information culture provides the insight necessary for the development and promotion of sound recordkeeping practices, Gillian Oliver and Fiorella Foscarini's [Records Management and Information Culture: Tackling the People Problem](#), published by Facet Publishing, details an innovative framework for analyzing and assessing information culture that can be aligned with the specific characteristics of any workplace....

ALA Neal-Schuman, Apr. 1



assigned on a nontraditional rotating schedule, and assists patrons in the use of nonprint materials and equipment. Will assist faculty and administration by producing instructional support audiovisual materials and by down-linking and recording video teleconferences and other satellite television programming....



@ [More jobs...](#)

[Go back to the Top](#)

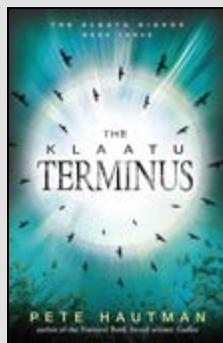


Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Fiction for youth

Hautman, Pete. *The Klaatu Terminus*. Apr. 2014. 368p. Gr. 9–12. Candlewick, hardcover (978-0-7636-5405-1).

Tucker is trapped atop a Romulan pyramid in the year 3000 CE with no interdimensional disk. What, you're lost already? In this final book of the Klaatu Diskos trilogy, the multitalented Hautman—a paragon of prose clarity—concludes this most unclear of literary experiments. As before, it's a head-scratcher nearly impossible to follow at times, and yet—and yet!—so rich with fascinating ideas and unusual themes that bold readers will keep turning pages....



Read-alikes: The new Vonneguts



Digital Library of the Week

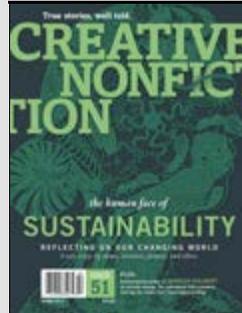


The [Goethe University Frankfurt](#) in Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany, began a project in February 2011 to digitize the more than 2,800 medieval manuscripts and incunabula in its collections. The 1,000th manuscript scanned was *The Divine Comedy* by Dante Alighieri, written in northern Italy in the 14th century. Other

Daniel Kraus writes: "Pete Hautman's *The Klaatu Terminus* completes a trilogy that dares to make a number of narrative and temporal shifts, each of which challenges readers to hold tight—or possibly let go?—of the sensical reins. The forefather of such mind-bending sleight of hand is Kurt Vonnegut, whose *Slaughterhouse-Five* (1969) has inspired generations of rule breakers. Such experimental works are rare in YA, but recent years have provided a number of worthy heirs."...

[Donna Seaman on sustainability](#)

Keir Graff writes: "Donna Seaman, *Booklist* adult books senior editor, finds time for many fascinating outside projects. In what is merely her most recent, she guest-edited the spring issue of [Creative Nonfiction](#) magazine, reading nearly 450 essays submitted for the theme 'The Human Face of Sustainability.' Read Donna's introductory essay, '[Facing Facts](#).' She made another important contribution to the issue, interviewing Elizabeth Kolbert, author of *The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History* (2014). You can read that in its entirety as well, and you're bound to agree that '[Turning Out the Lights Just Isn't Going to Do It](#).'"...



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

[Go back to the Top](#)

pieces that have already been scanned include a 13th-century Parisian Bible from the Cistercian Abbey of Eberbach and the *Rüst- und Feuerwerksbuch* (*Book of Weapons and Fireworks*) of the city of Frankfurt, which was purchased in 1500 for the library. The detailed descriptions of the manuscripts (previously only available in the printed catalogs) have also been scanned and linked with the objects.

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](#).

Las Vegas Update

[The Las Vegas Monorail](#)

The Las Vegas Monorail is the best way to travel the Strip. It links you to world-class restaurants, entertainment, shopping, nightlife, hotels, conventions, and casinos and everything in between in just minutes. The monorail opens every day at 7 a.m. and runs until midnight, 2 a.m., or 3 a.m., depending on the day of the week. One-day passes are available for \$12. The system operates on a route approximately four miles long, from the Sahara Avenue Station to the MGM Grand Station....

Las Vegas Monorail



[National Atomic Testing Museum](#)

The National Atomic Testing Museum, at 755 East Flamingo Road, is a repository for one of the most comprehensive collections of nuclear history. As part of its mission, the museum collects and preserves a wide variety of materials and artifacts relating to atomic testing, the Nevada Test Site, the Cold War, and nuclear and radiological science and technology. The current collection includes thousands of rare photographs, videos, artifacts, scientific and nuclear reports and data, and one-of-a kind scientific collections....

National Atomic Testing Museum



Noted and Quoted

"The library should be to the college much what the dining-room is to the house—the place to inaugurate the system under cheerful conditions with a generous fare and good digestion."

—Justin Winsor, "[The Development of the Library](#)," *Library Journal* 19 (1894): 370–375.

@ [More quotes...](#)

Calendar

Apr. 10–12:
[Association of Architecture School](#)

[Working the Exhibit Hall](#)

Soraya Silverman writes: "If you've never been to a convention before, the Exhibit Hall can be a bit overwhelming. Trust me, I've done ComicCons enough to know how to get the most out of the time you have and, really, the strategy can be applied to any conference you go to. Here are some of my tips on being as efficient as possible when navigating the exhibits at Annual Conference this year."...

YALSAblog, Mar. 28



[Beware third-party hotel booking sites](#)

Alina Tugend writes: "This is the situation: Customers search for a particular hotel and click on a link. They think they've landed on the official hotel website, but unknowingly they have arrived at an unrelated site of a hotel booking company. They're promised great deals and warned that rooms are going fast, but it turns out these so-called bargains are often worse than what's offered directly by the hotel." Use the [ALA housing](#) vendor, OnPeak, to be on the safe side....

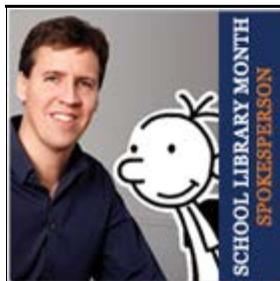
New York Times, Mar. 21

Division News

[School Library Month PSAs with Jeff Kinney available](#)

Two new video PSAs featuring Jeff Kinney (right), *New York Times* bestselling author of the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series, are now available from AASL. Kinney is the national spokesperson for the 2014 observance of School Library Month, and in the PSAs he encourages viewers to "celebrate how our nation's school libraries change lives." [View and download](#) the 30-second videos and visit the AASL [website](#) for more about the April celebration....

AASL, Apr. 1



[Explore Children's Fairyland at the ALSC Institute](#)

ALSC has provided more information about the evening at Children's Fairyland at the 2014 ALSC National Institute in Oakland, California. This event, to be held on September 19, will feature a panel presentation by Daniel Handler, Mac Barnett, and Jennifer Holm. The visit will also include breakout sessions throughout the park on such topics as movement, inclusion, gender identity, and drama; and a reception (with puppet show), during which attendees can explore the park....

ALSC, Mar. 31



[Tickets available for 2014 Arbuthnot Lecture](#)

ALSC and the Children's Literature Research Collections at the University of Minnesota Libraries have announced that tickets for the 2014 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture featuring Andrea Davis

[Librarians](#), Annual Conference, Miami Beach, Florida.

Apr. 24–25: [Center for Research Libraries](#)

Global Resources Collections Forum, Gleacher Center, Chicago. "Leviathan: Libraries and Government Information in the Age of Big Data."

Apr. 29– **May 2:**

[Substance Abuse Librarians and Information Specialists](#)

Annual Conference, New Brunswick, New Jersey. "Looking Forward, Looking Back: Reflections on the Past and Planning for the Future."

Apr. 30– **May 3:**

[American Society for Indexing](#)

Annual Conference, Embassy Suites, Charleston Convention Center, Charleston, South Carolina.

May 1–5:

[Art Libraries Society of North America](#)

Annual Conference, Grand Hyatt, Washington, D.C. "Art+Politics."

May 10–14:

[Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials](#)

Annual Conference, Radisson Downtown, Salt Lake City. "Family, Local, and Micro-Regional Histories and Their Impact on Understanding



Pinkney (right) are now available. The lecture, titled "Rejoice the Legacy!," will be held on May 3 at Willey Hall on the campus of the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.

[Reserve](#) your ticket now....

ALSC, Mar. 31

[Apply for the 2014 Teens' Top Ten Book Giveaway](#)

YALSA is giving away 40 sets of the 2014 [Teens' Top Ten](#) nominees to libraries in need. Qualified libraries can [apply](#) now through May 1 for a chance to win a set of the 2014 Teens' Top Ten nominated titles. Individual library branches within a larger system are welcome to apply. The official nominees will be announced during National Library Week on Celebrate Teen Literature Day, April 17....

YALSA, Apr. 2

[Presenters sought for Scholarly Communication workshop](#)

ACRL is accepting applications from prospective new presenters for the workshop "[Scholarly Communication: From Understanding to Engagement](#)." The day-long workshop is led by two expert presenters at locations across the country. Updated each year to meet the evolving needs of the community, the 2014 sections will focus on access, intellectual property, engagement, and emerging opportunities for scholarship. Apply by April 22 to [Scott Mandernack](#)....

ACRL, Apr. 1

[50 years of Choice](#)

David Free writes: "In March, [Choice](#) magazine marks a milestone of true significance: 50 years of publication. The premier source for reviews of academic books, electronic media, and internet resources in higher education, *Choice* was founded in 1964 in office space at Wesleyan University's Olin Library under the leadership of founding editor Richard K. Gardner."...

ACRL Insider, Mar. 26



[New PLA webinar](#)

Make your library's virtual presence as welcoming as its physical one with the new one-hour PLA webinar, "[What Makes a Great Library Website](#)," on April 30. The webinar will help attendees assess the effectiveness of their library website, clarify patrons' virtual needs, and understand design patterns. The deadline to [register](#) is April 28....

PLA, Apr. 2

[LITA bylaws review underway](#)

Jason Griffey writes: "Based on conversations at board meetings, as well as in an attempt to fix a number of issues that have arisen over the last 2-3 years (specifically issues around officers and timing of elections), the Bylaws Committee has begun work on analyzing the [LITA Bylaws](#). Our timeline is to try to review two sections of the bylaws per month, and then review and discuss at monthly meetings to ensure that we all understand what's been done and agree that the changes are appropriate. We are doing this in a [Google doc](#)."...

LITA Blog, Mar. 27

Ourselves."

May 17:

[Bronx Literary Festival](#), Bronx Library Center, 310 East Kingsbridge Road, Bronx, New York.

May 18-31:

[University of North Carolina School of Information and Library Science](#),

Summer Seminars in [London](#) and [Prague](#).

Aug. 25-26:

[IFLA Rare Books and Manuscripts Section](#), IFLA Satellite Meeting, Lyon, France. "History of Librarianship."

Sept. 2-4:

[International Society of Addiction Journal Editors](#), Annual Meeting, Hampton Inn and Suites, Chicago.

Oct. 8-11:

[14th International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata](#)

[Applications](#), AT&T Executive Education Conference Center, Austin, Texas.

"Metadata Intersections: Bridging the Archipelago of Cultural Memory."

Oct. 14-17:

[Photograph Conservation for Book and Paper Conservators](#),

workshop, Duke University Libraries, Durham, North

[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[Ann K. Symons wins 2013 Equality Award](#)

Ann K. Symons (right), school librarian and international library consultant, is the 2013 recipient of the ALA Equality Award. Throughout her career, Symons, a former president of ALA, has been an active and effective supporter of intellectual freedom, focusing extensively on school libraries and GLBT issues. The annual award of \$1,000, donated by Scarecrow Press, is given to an individual or group for outstanding contributions toward promoting equality in the library profession....

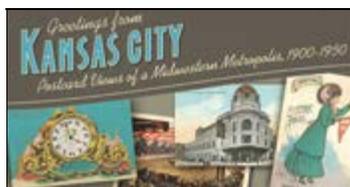
Office of ALA Governance, Apr. 1



[ALA Excellence in Library Programming Award](#)

Kansas City (Mo.) Public Library has been named the 2014 winner of the ALA Excellence in Library Programming Award. The \$5,000 award, supported by ALA's Cultural Communities Fund, recognizes a library that demonstrates excellence by providing programs that have community impact and respond to community needs. The library and its community partners created "[Greetings from Kansas City](#)" programs and exhibitions featuring historic postcards from the library's Missouri Valley Special Collections....

Office of ALA Governance, Apr. 1



[EBSCO awards seven grants for ALA Annual](#)

In cosponsorship with ALA, EBSCO has awarded seven librarians scholarships to attend the ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas, June 26–July 1. The EBSCO ALA Annual Conference Sponsorship is an annual award consisting of \$1,000 for actual reimbursed expenses. Librarians were asked to write an essay on the topic of how attending the conference will contribute to their professional development....

Office of ALA Governance, Apr. 1

[Submissions for Miriam Braverman Prize](#)

The Miriam Braverman Memorial Prize, a presentation of the Progressive Librarians Guild, is awarded each year for the best paper about some aspect of the social responsibilities of librarians, libraries, or archives. The winning paper will be published in the Summer 2014 issue of *Progressive Librarian*. Entries must be [submitted](#) electronically, in Microsoft Word or RTF format, by May 1....

Progressive Librarians Guild

[ARL granted \\$1 million for SHARE Notification Service](#)

The Association of Research Libraries has been awarded a joint \$1 million grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation to develop and launch the SHared Access Research Ecosystem (SHARE) Notification Service. SHARE is a collaborative initiative to ensure the preservation



Carolina.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

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ALA American
Library
Association

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



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of, access to, and reuse of research findings and reports. Its first project, the Notification Service, will inform stakeholders when research results—including articles and data—are released....

Association of Research Libraries, Mar. 28

DPLA receives \$594K in new funding

The Digital Public Library of America has received \$594,000 in new funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to research potential sustainability models and to pursue the most promising options. This two-year grant will allow DPLA to expand its staff to target opportunities for further development and revenue, without compromising its mission of open access to the riches of America's libraries, archives, and museums....

DPLA Blog, Mar. 31

Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian grants

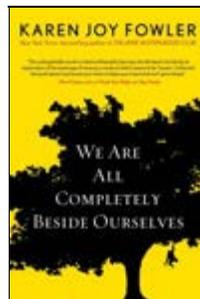
The Institute of Museum and Library Services announced 23 Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian grants totaling \$7,437,595. Recipients are matching these awards with \$3,614,714 in non-federal funds. Projects include plans for improved early learning services for 1,000 New York public libraries, an institute for tribal librarians, professional development for youth librarians in Pennsylvania to offer STEM education, and professional development for 400 librarians to improve library immigrant services in Queens. A full list of the funded projects is [here](#)....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Mar. 31

2014 PEN/Faulkner Award

Karen Joy Fowler has won the 2014 PEN/Faulkner Award for *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves*. The \$15,000 prize honors the best work of fiction published in the preceding year by an American. Loosely inspired by the work of Winthrop Kellogg at Indiana University in the early 1930s, the novel tells the story of a young woman raised with a chimp as a sibling. It makes a strong argument against using these intelligent animals in academic and medical research....

Washington Post: The Style Blog, Apr. 2



Inaugural Spark Award winners

The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators has announced the winners and honor book recipients of its inaugural Spark Award, an annual award that recognizes excellence in a children's book published through a nontraditional publishing route. The winner in the novel category is Karen Avivi for her heart-pounding, BMX bike girl YA novel, *Shredded* (self-published). The winner in the picture book category is Neil Waldman for *Al and Teddy* (Dream Yard), about the power of art in two brother's lives....

Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, Mar. 31



2014 Street Literature Book Awards

The 2014 Street Lit Book Award Medal Committee has announced the winners of its awards for 2013 publications. Winners were nominated based on popularity of books read by the public in school, academic, and public library settings. The nonfiction winner was Hill Harper for *Letters to an Incarcerated*

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dglewis@ala.org



Katie Bane:
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Send news and feedback:
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AL Direct FAQ:
americanlibrariesmagazine.org/aldirect

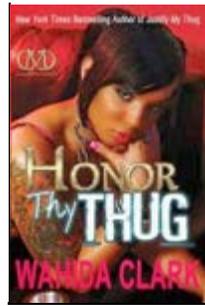
All links outside the ALA website are provided for informational purposes only. Questions about the content of any external site should be addressed to the administrator of that site.

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

ISSN 1559-369X

Brother (Gotham), and the adult fiction winner was Wahida Clark for *Honor Thy Thug* (Cash Money Content)....

Street Literature, Mar. 31



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

Libraries in the News

[Artist, writers join protest against NYPL renovation](#)

New York literary heavyweights are joining the opposition to the city's plans to renovate the New York Public Library's central branch. Pulitzer-winning cartoonist Art Spiegelman contributed a cartoon to the Library Lovers League, the organization coordinating the protest to the plan. In the image, a vicious, dollar sign-spotted hyena rips books dripping in blood out of the body of the iconic lion statue in front of the 42nd street branch. The caption is simple: "Don't Gut Our Lions."...

New York Daily News: Page Views, Mar. 28



[Meridian school board looks to replace Part-Time Indian](#)

Sherman Alexie's *Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* will stay out of Meridian (Idaho) School District's curriculum while school officials look for a replacement. After two hours of emotional public testimony (videos [here](#) and [here](#)) on April 1, trustees voted 2-1 to [keep in place](#) a hold on the book. Trustees say they want school officials to look for a book covering Native American cultural issues, but written at a higher reading level....

Boise Idaho Statesman, Apr. 2; Idaho Education News, Apr. 1



[Kansas library gun ban fails](#)

A Kansas City, Kansas, lawmaker's attempt to keep guns out of libraries has failed. Sen. Pat Pettey (D-Kansas City) introduced an amendment to House Bill 447 that would have carved out special rules on concealed carry for libraries and community centers. In 2017, libraries will not be able to prohibit concealed weapons unless they have a metal detector and a security guard....

KMBZ-AM, Kansas City, Mo., Apr. 2

[Books behind bars](#)

Kim Parry writes: "Beginning the summer of 2012, a group Canadian librarians in Winnipeg came together to discuss the lack of library services in the prison system in the province of Manitoba. The newly formed Prison Library Committee started a weekly drop-in library service at the Winnipeg Remand Centre. This article explores the importance of prison library services in the current context of prisons in Canada through our grassroots voluntary prison library service."...



In the Library with the Lead Pipe, Mar. 26

[Memorial for retired librarian killed in mudslide](#)

The time to formally honor and remember people killed March 22 in the Oso, Washington, mudslide begins April 5 with a [memorial service](#) for Linda McPherson (right). McPherson had been a branch manager of the Darrington Library and a longtime Darrington School Board member. She retired from the Sno-Isle Libraries branch in 2011 after 28 years as a librarian in Darrington....



Everett (Wash.) Herald, Mar. 28

[How San Diego school libraries came to grief](#)

Christie Ritter writes: "San Diego's school libraries will be open at least one day a week next school year. That's actually the good news. Some schools' libraries have been closed for years. Even worse: Many of the libraries sitting empty are gleaming new facilities filled with comfy sofas, rows of computers, and shelves full of books. A guaranteed day each week is at least a step in the right direction. How did things get to this point?"...



Voice of San Diego, Mar. 27

[Akron school e-library gets help from LeBron James](#)

Students in every elementary building in Akron (Ohio) Public Schools, are patrons of the nation's most expansive e-library, an online clearinghouse with a vast catalog of electronic books. With more than 3,400 ebooks available, teachers can expand the library by simply requesting new titles. No cost. No fuss. And it's all thanks to the growing crowd of supporters who have locked step with basketball player LeBron James in his continued commitment to his hometown....

Akron (Ohio) Beacon Journal, Mar. 27

[Hawks pose danger to library visitors in Florida](#)

Residents in Port Orange, Florida, said red-shouldered hawks have become a big nuisance at the Volusia County Public Library's regional branch in the city. Library staffers are stocking up on umbrellas for guests to use as protection against the hawks. County officials said a nest in a nearby tree has made the hawks more protective of their young. [Three persons](#), including one library employee, have been scratched on the head by the birds, which are a federally protected species....



WFTV, Orlando, Fla., Mar. 28; *Daytona Beach (Fla.) News-Journal*, Mar. 29

[In South Korea, new libraries aren't just about books](#)

On March 22, the acclaimed pianist Cho Jae-hyuck was performing a free concert in Paju, a city northwest of Seoul in Gyeonggi Province. But while performing is nothing unusual for Cho, the location—a library—was. Cho's concert was held to a packed house in the 300-seat Solgaram Art Hall in Garam Library. About 100 libraries in Gyeonggi are home to at least one center dedicated to some other function than book lending or reading. Most of the construction costs were provided by local governments....

Seoul Korea *JoongAng Daily*, Mar. 29



[UK garbage man salvages 5,000 WWI photos over 36 years](#)

A former garbage man has amassed one of the UK's best collections of First World War photographs after spending decades rescuing them from rubbish piles and bins. Bob Smethurst spent 36 years working as a refuse collector and began saving the remarkable pictures during the 1970s. He now has more than 5,000 photographs capturing everything from the horror of the trenches to haunting images of young friends smiling together before battle....

The Daily Telegraph (UK), Mar. 24



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Issues

[James Neal testifies on Fair Use](#)

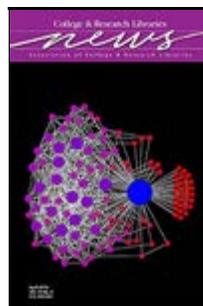
James Neal (right), university librarian and vice president for information services at Columbia University, testified to the US House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet on April 2 at a hearing on preserving and reusing copyrighted work. The hearing, "[Preservation and Reuse of Copyrighted Works](#)," took place at 2 p.m. Eastern time in the Rayburn House Office Building, room 2141....

ALA Office of Government Relations, Apr. 1



[Libraries transforming the campus: The Harwood approach](#)

Nancy Kranich, Megan Lotts, and Gene Springs write: "What would it look like if an academic library turned outward and helped transform its campus community? This is the question that several librarians at Rutgers University Libraries asked when we began deploying tools created by the Harwood Institute for Public Innovation to conduct community conversations with the aim of recalibrating our interactions on campus. Although a few public libraries have previously used the Harwood framework, Rutgers has pioneered applying this approach in an



academic library.”...

College and Research Libraries News 75, no. 4 (Apr.): 182–186

[Library-bookstore partnerships](#)

Laura Hazard Owen writes: “It may seem as if libraries and bookstores are in competition, but they have a shared mission of reaching more readers. By teaming up, and even sharing space, libraries and bookstores could help each other solve their problems. For instance, libraries often have long wait lists for new titles. Bookstores could help fill in the gaps for books that readers want right away. Bookstores and libraries could hold author signings together, with the library hosting the event and providing the space, and the bookstore selling the author’s books.”...

New York Times: Room for Debate, Mar. 26

[Libraries test a model for setting monographs free](#)

Jennifer Howard writes: “Librarians love to get free books into the hands of scholars and students who need them. Publishers love it when their books find readers—but they also need to cover the costs of turning an idea into a finished monograph. Now a nonprofit group called [Knowledge Unlatched](#) is trying out a new open-access model designed to make both librarians and publishers happy. Here’s how the unlatching works.”...

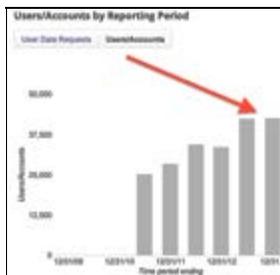
Chronicle of Higher Education: The Wired Campus, Apr. 1



[Google stats show government data demands have leveled off](#)

Google published a ninth update to its semiannual Transparency Report on March 27 and, for once, there’s a flicker of good news for those concerned about the growth of government surveillance. Unlike previous updates, which showed rapid jumps in requests, the [new update](#) shows that the number of Google accounts subject to government demands for users’ identities held steady at about 42,000 requests compared to the previous six-month period....

GigaOM, Mar. 27; Official Google Blog, Mar. 27



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Innovative acquires Polaris](#)

Library technology company Innovative has acquired ILS provider Polaris Library Systems. The combined companies will be led by Innovative CEO Kim Massana (on the left). Bill Schickling, former Polaris President and CEO, will join Innovative as vice president for public library products. The [FAQ for customers](#) is available....

Innovative, Apr. 1



[Amazon FireTV, hands-on](#)

Leslie Horn writes: “Amazon [pitched](#) its FireTV as a streaming device to end all streaming devices. The company touted its simple and

effective search, as well as its open ecosystem boasting enough apps to burn your eyes out. We spent some time messing with the Fire TV and found that for the most part, it makes good on those promises." Watch the [video](#) (2:43)....

Gizmodo, Apr. 2; Vimeo, Apr. 2



[Microsoft introduces universal apps](#)

Brad Chacos writes: "The holy grail is real: At the April 2 Build conference keynote, Microsoft CVP of Operating Systems David Treadmill announced that universal apps will be available for the Windows ecosystem, thanks to Windows RunTime coming to Windows Phone 8.1. In other words, developers will be able to write one app using common code and have it work across phones, tablets, *and* PCs—something that Apple and Android can't claim." Mouse and keyboard [improvements](#) are also coming to Windows 8.1 on April 8....

PC World, Apr. 2; Lifehacker, Apr. 2

[Five apps that take Chromecast to the next level](#)

Janko Roettgers writes: "Chromecast is primarily used to access video services such as Netflix, YouTube, and Hulu Plus, but Google's streaming stick has the potential to do a whole lot more. For a glimpse at Chromecast's future—and a more interactive Chromecast experience—check out these five apps."...

GigaOM, Mar. 26



[Microsoft Office for iPad](#)

Ashley Feinberg writes: "After Office for iOS proved itself a pretty big disappointment to anyone who was hoping to actually *do* things with the app, the long-anticipated [Office for iPad](#) has finally hit the App Store. It's okay; you can let out a sigh of relief. This time, Microsoft got it right." Watch the [video](#) (2:59)....

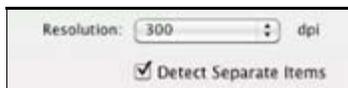
Gizmodo, Mar. 27; Vimeo, Mar. 27



[The basics of scanning](#)

Mike Ashenfelder writes: "In the interest of helping people create the best possible digitization of their photos and documents for preservation, we have produced a how-to video that we will be releasing soon. In the meantime, here is a brief introduction to scanning that we hope will demystify the process. In this post we will just look at scanning and digitizing photos."...

The Signal: Digital Preservation, Mar. 27



[Chicago's analytics could be coming to your city](#)

Jason Shueh writes: "Recently Chicago unveiled its new predictive analytics initiative, dubbed the SmartData Project, that aims to serve the city with data-driven predictions and insights for its many



departments and services. The platform is connected to WindyGrid, a hub housing information from every department in real time. The project is meant to be a template for cities to craft predictive analytics systems of their own. Here are three reasons why it might go beyond the Windy City."...

Government Technology, Apr. 1

[Silly things about RFID tags](#)

Melanie A. Lyttle and Shawn D. Walsh write: "We're not going to tell you that choosing RFID for your library is a bad idea because it's definitely not. But we are going to say, go into this experience with a good sense of humor because you may need it. In fact, it's how your staff works through the quirks that crop up during the conversion process that will tell you volumes about the staff you have in your library."...

Public Libraries Online, Apr. 1



[Go back to the Top](#)

E-Content

[Ann Arbor has spirit](#)

James LaRue writes: "I was pleased to see this March 26 [article](#) in CNN Money about the Ann Arbor (Mich.) District Library's partnership with indie record label Ghostly International. In brief, the library will offer Ghostly's entire digital catalog (and that of associated Spectral Sound), for free, to local library patrons. The songs can be streamed or downloaded, without DRM. There are five things I like about this effort."...

AL: E-Content, Mar. 31; CNN Money, Mar. 26



[The mystery of the missing ebooks](#)

James LaRue writes: "As of March 20, the Sony Reader Store has closed its virtual doors. The good news: At no additional charge, Sony is transitioning its customers (and their purchases) over to Kobo. Its [FAQ](#) answers most of the questions users will have. Sony hardware will continue to operate. But this post isn't just about that transition. It's about a discovery I made in the process: I've lost some ebooks."...

AL: E-Content, Apr. 1

[How to connect ebooks and students](#)

Are you considering adding ebooks to your school? Would you like a roadmap to avoid pitfalls and maximize success for this 21st-century learning tool? Join *Booklist* and OverDrive for this free webinar on April 22, in which teachers and school librarians discuss how they started their ebook collections, how they overcame challenges along the way, and what



they learned from other implementation success stories....

Booklist, Apr. 1

[License to loan](#)

Library directors at 66 liberal arts colleges on March 28 called for academic libraries to reject licensing agreements with publishers that impose restrictions on how ebooks can be accessed and shared. In a [statement](#) released by the Oberlin Group, a consortium of college libraries, the directors point to the “ecosystem of sharing” that academic libraries at small colleges depend on to plug gaps in the resources they offer—services such as interlibrary loan, for example....

Inside Higher Ed, Mar. 31

[How copyright laws keep ebooks locked up](#)



Hilmar Schmundt writes: “Interlibrary loans were formalized in Prussia in 1893 with an ‘edict pertaining to lending,’ but it doesn’t apply to the new electronic world. Today, publishing houses dictate their conditions to libraries, motivated by their justifiable fear of pirated copies. Unfortunately, it is honest readers who have to pay the price. Many publishing houses don’t issue licenses for loaning out ebooks: Influential German publishers such as Droemer Knauer, Kiepenheuer & Witsch, S. Fischer, and Rowohlt, for example, are nowhere to be found on the German-language online lending library [Onleihe](#).”...

Der Spiegel, Mar. 28

[An American in Paris](#)

Alan S. Inouye writes: “In late March, I had the privilege of talking about US library ebook lending at the Salon du Livre—the [Paris Book Fair](#). The ebook market in France is much smaller than in the United States, by roughly an order of magnitude. This contrast was clear as I walked down every aisle of the fair—I encountered only a handful of ebook vendors and saw little presence from technology companies in general. Given the state of the French ebook market overall, it is not surprising to learn that the French library ebook evolution is in its infancy.”...



AL: E-Content, Mar. 28

[Digital collections for the high school library](#)

Lura Sanborn writes: “Many changes have occurred in the course of the technological revolution during the past three years. Perhaps the most important change is the widespread acceptance and use of ebooks and e-content. E-content is no longer a clever novelty outlier, but rather a naturally expected part of a library’s collection. This is a guide to the most highly recommended e-content appropriate for the high school library.”...

School Library Monthly 30, no. 6 (Mar.)

[Paper vs. digital is an exhausted debate](#)

Nick Harkaway writes: “The digital revolution is going into a decline, bookseller Tim Waterstone [told](#) the Oxford literary festival. Well, it’s an attention-grabbing statement, ideally suited to our culture of assertive headlines, but it’s probably not true. That’s not to say that the rapid growth of digital will necessarily continue, either, certainly not in markets that are already saturated with handheld devices.”...

The Guardian (UK): Books Blog, Mar. 31; *The Daily Telegraph* (UK), Mar. 31

[Managing a Library of Congress worth of data](#)

Kate Zwaard and David Brunton write: "The Library of Congress's digital collections are growing at a rate of 1.5 terabytes per day (that means, by the popular measure, that we collect a 'Library of Congress' worth of data each week). The Repository Development Center, where we work, builds software and services to help manage and preserve LC's digital collections.



There has been so much news lately about the challenges the government faces in making software that we'd like to share with you some of what has worked for us."...

The Signal: Digital Preservation, Mar. 28

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Books & Reading

[The Hub challenge goes to school](#)

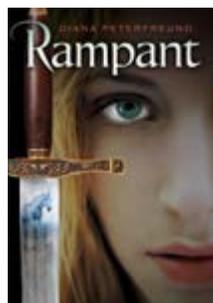
Hannah Gómez writes: "Are you aware of the [Hub Reading Challenge](#)? Are you participating this year? Read as many of YALSA's award-winning, honored, or selected titles from the past year as possible (or at least 25). I'm lucky enough to work at a school where encouraging students to read for pleasure isn't all that difficult. So when I set out to develop a reading challenge based on the Hub Reading Challenge, I wasn't sure if it would be overkill or icing on the cake."...



YALSAblog, Mar. 31; YALSA The Hub, Feb. 3

[What would Buffy the Vampire Slayer read?](#)

Brandi Smits writes: "For several months now I have been creating recommendation lists for some notable characters for TV. I've been putting this one off, mainly because I am slightly intimidated to take on a Whedonverse show. So please forgive me if I unsuccessfully tackle the pop culture phenomenon, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. I don't want to jump the gun, but did Buffy actually read *Dracula* by Bram Stoker? If not, then I definitely am tossing that title to her. Honestly, it's more of a textbook for her than recreational reading, but so what?"...



YALSA The Hub, Mar. 27

[Fashion hits and misses from YA historical fiction book covers, part 2](#)

Laura Perenic writes: "I love historical fiction. The drama, the intrigue, and, oh—the fashion. I just assume all the period details regarding clothing are accurate. Turns out a lot of books from specific dates and locations feature outfits as cover art that either haven't been invented yet or were way out of fashion. I was eager to know if these mistakes were being made in YA historical fiction. Here are some examples of books that got it right and those that got it wrong."...

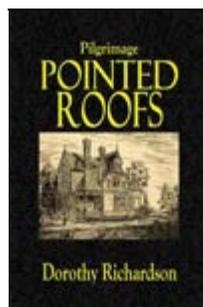


YALSA The Hub, Apr. 1

[10 writers who use stream of consciousness well](#)

May Huang writes: "A narrative technique that has perplexed and fascinated readers for centuries, the stream-of-consciousness technique has been used by many writers to trace the seamless (and oft erratic) musings of characters such as Mrs. Dalloway and Stephen Dedalus. Here are 10 writers whose works, ranked among the finest in English literature, feature the stream-of-consciousness technique."...

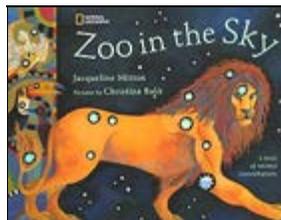
Owiklit, Mar. 22



[Inspired by Cosmos: A science reading list for kids](#)

Alexis Walker writes: "Have you been captivated by *Cosmos: A Spacetime Odyssey*, the recent follow-up to Carl Sagan's seminal documentary series *Cosmos: A Personal Voyage*? While the engaging style would likely draw in high-school and perhaps middle-grade students, it might be a bit too advanced for the younger crowd. But why wait to introduce them to basic concepts of the cosmos they live in? Here is a starter reading list for kids for that exact purpose."...

New York Public Library blogs, Mar. 28



[Beginner's guide to the professional book review](#)

Anna-Sophia Zingarelli-Sweet writes: "Book reviews are one important (and fun) avenue of professional involvement that many library school students aren't aware of. Book reviewing is a volunteer opportunity offered by numerous LIS publications and professional organizations. Reviews are often assigned based on specialized expertise, so if you have another graduate degree or a lot of prior experience, they can be an especially good fit. Your book reviews will become a public part of your professional persona, so think carefully about what kinds of venues are a good match."...

Hack Library School, Mar. 26



[The big bookish Netflix roundup](#)

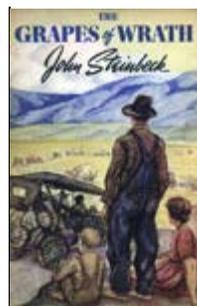
Josh Corman writes: "Netflix's instant streaming catalog is a wonderful thing, made more wonderful by the immense number of bookish TV shows, feature films, and documentaries to which it grants us access. Unfortunately, it can be difficult to find things, especially if a given title doesn't fit into the algorithm that suggests what you might like to watch next. Here is a huge list of what the bookish side of Netflix has to offer. Enjoy responsibly (and don't neglect your books; they have feelings too)."...

Book Riot, Mar. 27



[The Grapes of Wrath: 75 years later](#)

Anna Clark writes: "Published in 1939, John Steinbeck's opus was discussed, banned, burned, and sold in wildly high numbers before winning two of literature's biggest prizes. Nowadays, *The Grapes of Wrath* has a much more staid reputation—the novel is a Common Core text for 9th and 10th graders, and

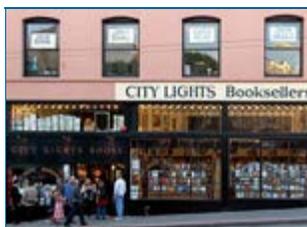


everyone from the *New York Times* to a Los Angeles theater company is publishing teaching guides to the novel. Its mainstreaming gives it a certain veneer of conventionality, despite the radical and provoking story that once incited a backlash."...

Pacific Standard, Apr. 1

[Top literary cities in the US](#)

Gabriella Tutino writes: "What determines a city as 'literary?' It's not enough to have a large library, unique bookstores, or be the birthplace of a famous writer. Nor is it enough to be one of the [top literate cities](#) in the United States. If anything, a literary city is a blend of the historical, cultural, and modern parts of literature, encouraging and inspiring future generations to appreciate and take part in the literary world. Here are a handful of US cities that fit that profile."...



Highbrow Magazine, Mar. 28; Central Connecticut State University

[10 of the most bizarre books ever written](#)

Andrew Handley writes: "If literary history teaches us one thing, it's that people were just as confused and immature in the Middle Ages as they are now. From unsolvable codes to [13th-century doodles](#) in the margins of bibles, history is like an all-encompassing high school cliché that never comes to an end. These books span the course of written history, and they're all utterly bizarre."...



Listverse. Mar. 30

[The Voynich Manuscript: The world's most baffling book](#)

Karl Shuker writes: "Amid the vast store of knowledge contained within Yale University's Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library is a unique manuscript lavishly illustrated with color paintings of strange plants and astronomical and astrological symbols, not to mention a varied selection of what its researchers refer to as 'nymphs.' The only problem is that the ornate script of the text in the [Voynich Manuscript](#) is written in a wholly unknown language that has withstood all attempts in modern times to decipher it."...



The Eclectarium of Doctor Shuker, Apr. 2

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tips & Ideas

[UNC's Wikipedia Edit-a-thon](#)

Guitarist Elizabeth Cotten, politician Howard Lee, and the Royal Ice Cream sit-in were among the Wikipedia topics getting new entries or updates March 30 at an event at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Wilson Library. The North Carolina Collection's second "Edit-a-thon," focusing on African-American history in North Carolina, was organized with the goal of adding information to the online encyclopedia....

Raleigh (N.C.) News and Observer, Mar. 30



[Cengage Learning emerges from Chapter 11](#)

Cengage Learning, a global educational content and technology services company for the higher education and K–12 library markets, announced April 1 that it has emerged from Chapter 11, having completed its financial restructuring. Cengage Learning has eliminated approximately \$4 billion in funded debt. Watch the [video message](#) (4:03) from Cengage Learning CEO Michael Hansen....

Gale Cengage



[Family programming for Autism Awareness Month](#)

Renee Grassi writes: "Our Children's Department is trying something new this April for Autism Awareness Month. As a way to continue our outreach efforts to children with special needs into the library, we will be hosting our first-ever inclusive family film program entitled Sensory-Friendly Family Film. Our idea of a family film program designed especially for children with special needs is modeled after AMC Theatre's own series of [Sensory-Friendly Films](#)."...

ALSC Blog, Mar. 27



[The Smithsonian's first woman employee](#)

Pamela M. Henson writes: "As we celebrate Women's History Month at the Smithsonian, you might ask who was the first woman to secure a paid position at the Smithsonian? Jane Wadden Turner (1818–1896) was appointed a library clerk in 1857 after being trained by her brother. After her brother's death in 1859, Turner was placed in charge of the library. After her retirement in 1887, a woman was not appointed chief of the Smithsonian Library until 1942."...

The Bigger Picture, Mar. 27

[The Cybermobile of the Adirondacks](#)

Orty Ortwein writes: "Starting in January 2001, the Four County Library System, headquartered in Vestal, New York, began sending out the Cybermobile. While not the first to provide library patrons with internet access, this bookmobile was the first in America to do so by satellite. Located deep in the Catskills and Adirondacks, the four counties of Broome, Chenango, Delaware, and Otsego were so isolated as to not even be completely accessible by land line."...

Bookmobiles: A History, Apr. 1



[Librarians are number 43 on the happy list](#)

The UK Cabinet Office has been looking at the relationship between different jobs and levels of life satisfaction (happiness). The happiest workers, the research suggests, are vicars and priests. Librarians, with a medium average income of £24,584 (\$40,963 US), come out to number 43 on the list—right behind authors, and just above lawyers and accountants....

BBC News, Mar. 20

[Becoming a solo librarian](#)

Michael Rodriguez writes: "My mentor recently forwarded me a thrilling [job ad](#) for a solo librarian at the Charles Darwin Foundation Research Station, located in Ecuador's beautiful Galápagos Islands. As the only professional librarian present, the successful candidate would get to do digital curation, cataloging, collection development, reference, budget planning, staff management, ILS, and building maintenance. This ad got me thinking about solo librarianship, both the challenges and the amazing opportunities this work presents."...

Hack Library School, Mar. 27



[Who's a librarian?](#)

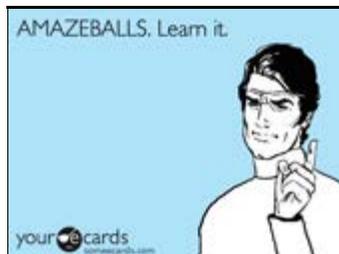
Jacob Berg writes: "A librarian is someone who works in a library, provided a library is a collection of information that is organized in some systematic fashion. The collection can be physical. The collection can be digital. Do you teach people how to use that collection, or help them use it? Congratulations! You're a librarian." A further examination of [credentialing](#) follows....

BeerBrarian, Mar. 27, 31

[Net fragments](#)

Teddy Wayne writes: "This. I mean I just can't. #LOVE. If you're on social media, you've likely read, or written, a statement like those above: a single word or incomplete sentence accompanying a link or photo. For lack of a universally agreed-upon term, let's call them 'fragments.' What these concise expressions most closely resemble are marginalia in middle school yearbooks, the kind of hyperbole young people are prone to traffic in, like, all the time. Except now, otherwise literate adults are intentionally simplifying their online language while inflating their emotional response, all for public consumption."...

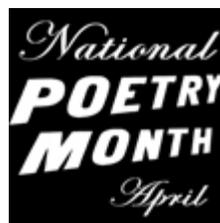
New York Times, Mar. 28



[It's National Poetry Month](#)

Since its inauguration by the Academy of American Poets in 1996, every April has been celebrated as [National Poetry Month](#). Schools, libraries, publishers, booksellers, and poets across the United States all come together to celebrate poetry in American culture. Interested in helping to celebrate poetry? Check out [30 ways to join](#) the festivities this month. Julie Greller has [24 poetry websites](#) you should check out....

Fine Books Blog, April 1; Academy of American Poets; A Media Specialist's Guide to the Internet, Mar. 20

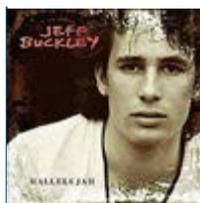


[25 items added to National Recording](#)

Registry

Jeff Buckley's haunting single "Hallelujah" from his one and only studio album; Lyndon B. Johnson's massive collection of presidential conversations; Isaac Hayes's landmark soundtrack album *Shaft*; and "The Laughing Song" performed by the nation's first black recording artist are among the newest recordings selected for induction into the Library of Congress National Recording Registry. Librarian of Congress James H. Billington announced the selection of 25 sound recordings to the registry on April 2....

Library of Congress, Apr. 2



Open access maps at NYPL

The New York Public Library's Lionel Pincus and Princess Firyal Map Division has released more than 20,000 cartographic works as high-resolution downloads. The library is distributing these images under a Creative Commons CC0 1.0 Universal Public Domain Dedication. The maps can be viewed through the NYPL [Digital Collections](#) page and downloaded through the [Map Warper](#), a special feature that helps place historical maps in a modern visual field. Watch this [video](#) (3:45) to tour the Map Warper site and learn how to rectify a map yourself....

New York Public Library, Mar. 28; YouTube, Mar. 13



Placing Literature launches two collections

The Placing Literature project has launched its first two literary collections highlighting novels that take place in specific geographic locations. The collections—[Queensland](#), Australia, and [Catalonia](#), Spain—are curated by the State Library of Queensland and Espais Escrits (Written Spaces: The Catalan Literary Heritage Network). The 500 places mapped by the two organizations have been added to Placing Literature's existing database of 1,900 literary places around the world....

Placing Literature, Apr. 1



38 jobs for kids ages 12–17

Julie Greller writes: "April has begun and before you know it, students will be thinking of summer vacation and how they can earn money. The current job market is tough for teenagers, but with a little effort on their part, they can do something interesting. Here is my updated list ([PDF file](#))."

A Media Specialist's Guide to the Internet, Apr. 1

Fascinating secret collections unearthed

Alison Nastasi writes: "Sometimes there's nothing more exciting than a secret. In the case of these secret collections—art, writings, and entire worlds—the inner obsessions of their creators and keepers have proven to be strangely beautiful and endlessly fascinating. We explored the works and private lives of secret artmakers and collectors, unearthing an otherness and uniqueness that we can't seem to get enough of." A good example is the street



photography of [Vivian Maier](#) (above), now on [exhibit](#) at the Chicago Public Library....

Flavorwire, Mar. 30

[Keeping Up with MOOCs](#)

The latest edition of [Keeping Up With...](#) ACRL's online current awareness publication featuring concise briefs on trends in academic librarianship and higher education, is now available. This month's issue features a discussion of [MOOCs](#) by Carmen Kazakoff-Lane....

ACRL Insider, Mar. 28

[Cornell library acquires presidential textiles](#)

Cornell University Library's newly acquired textile collection—with a strong Cornell connection—of more than 100 items from the 19th and the 20th centuries is now part of Cornell's world-renowned Collection of Political America in the Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections. The textiles, a donation from the estate of quilter Lucinda Reddington Cawley, include such items as sashes and fabrics printed with presidential portraits and scarves that were souvenirs from World Fairs....



Cornell Chronicle, Mar. 27

[Navigating the logistics of death](#)

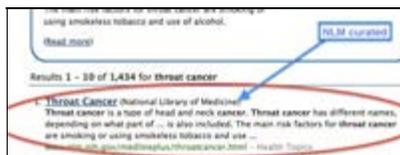
Tara Siegel Bernard writes: "The number of end-of-life planning and document storage sites, like [Everplans](#), [AfterSteps](#), and [Principled Heart](#), is on the rise. [Other websites](#) deal with a specific piece of planning, such as online memorials, sending emails from the grave, or what should happen to your Facebook account. Here's a closer look at how some of them work."...



New York Times, Mar. 28

[Help with MedLine Plus](#)

Christine Gorman writes: "One of the things I like so much about MedlinePlus (a service of the National Library of Medicine) is that the medical librarians at NLM have already done a lot of the heavy lifting for you. I thought I'd give some detail about what I mean, using a search for trustworthy information about '[throat cancer](#).' There are two things to point out."...



Scientific American: Observations, Mar. 31

[St. Paul Public Library: Sharing more than books](#)

Google recently visited St. Paul (Minn.) Public Library and made this excellent short [video](#) (2:31) about its work with refugees. Library Manager Rebecca Ryan (right) explains the Mobile Workplace, which brings technology to Somali, Hmong, and Karen refugee populations in the area who need to learn computer skills and job search techniques....



YouTube, Mar. 13

[Unpacking an erotic icon: The sexy librarian](#)

Dustin M. Wax writes: "I recently came across a blog post, [Naughty](#)

[Librarians and the Eroticism of Intellect](#), by J. M. McFee, which purports to explain the enduring appeal of the image of the 'sexy librarian' in modern life. Unfortunately, in the absence of any sort of historical or cultural context, I found McFee's musings rather toothless. The sexualization of the librarian does not stand alone in our cultural erotics. While I can't profess to have the whole story, I hope to give at least an outline of what the whole story might look like."...

Savage Minds, Mar. 26; Omniscious Almanac, Aug. 22, 2012

[CARL Newsletter: April Fool's edition](#)

The special preconference edition of the *California Academic and Research Libraries Newsletter* is now available. It includes an interview with CARL President Emeritus Amy Wallace, tips on attending your first CARL conference, reports from the Biker Librarians Round Table and the Northern California Magickal Libraries Interest Group, and a special offer on CARL Glass....

California Academic and Research Libraries, Apr. 1



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

american libraries DIRECT

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | April 9, 2014

Poet-to-Poet Project

Students Watch,
Write, and Submit
Poems for
**national
poetry month**

[poets.org >](http://poets.org)

STEM Gale eBook Collections on GVRL
Monograph titles from Springer, Elsevier, and more.
View the title list »

american libraries BUYERS GUIDE

American Libraries Online

[Public libraries take center stage in financial literacy](#)

The US Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has announced a new partnership with public libraries to help them become a trusted source for unbiased financial education information and resources in their communities. The [announcement](#) of the CFPB Community Education Pilot Project was made at an April 7 press conference in Chicago during [Money Smart Week](#). CFPB Senior Content Specialist Dan Rutherford said the bureau plans a five-pronged strategy for its initiative. Watch the archived event [here](#)....

American Libraries news, Apr. 7



[Job hunting goes higher tech](#)

Chris Francis writes: "Queens (N.Y.) Central Library recently added a kiosk that potential employees can use to search and apply for jobs on the spot. New York City-based app developer Apploi provided the library with a special tablet device kiosk in March through its [Jobs4Five](#) program—an initiative that aims to bring the job searching technology of the internet to those who can least afford it. Apploi's job searching app, Apploi Job Search, powers the kiosk tablet."...

AL: The Scoop, Apr. 8



[London Book Fair 2014](#)

Claire Bushey writes: "Libraries in the United Kingdom recently launched two pilot programs designed to expand patrons' access to ebooks and academic research, speakers said April 8 at a [London Book Fair](#) seminar on public libraries going digital. It didn't take any arm twisting to sign up publishers for a pilot program to expand UK library patrons' access to academic research."...



Follow @amlibraries



[2014 Annual Conference and Exhibition](#), Las Vegas, June 26–July 1. Stories matter: Dig into why, and get 13 tips (and one cautionary note) for powerful narratives that drive social impact at the [PR Forum](#) with strategic communications expert Eric Friedenwald-Fishman.

AL: The Scoop, Apr. 8

[Another Story: Leading from all sides](#)

Joseph Janes writes: "I'm in a meeting as I write this. As I sit here, I'm struck by the various roles people play within our organization and particularly the different ways in which my colleagues lead and follow. We've all experienced many kinds of leaders, from the jumping-on-tables, man-the-barricades style to the quiet inspirer to the lead-by-example type, all of which can work—or not. Finding one's own style is an essential aspect of developing a 'leaderly' approach."...

American Libraries column, Mar./Apr.

[Library Design Showcase submissions](#)

American Libraries is now accepting submissions for the 2014 Library Design Showcase, our annual feature celebrating new and newly renovated or expanded libraries of all types. The showcase will be featured in our September/October 2014 issue. The deadline for submissions ([PDF file](#)) is May 31....

American Libraries, Dec. 9, 2013



[AL Live on copyright](#)

In "[Copyright Conundrum](#)," a panel of experts will discuss the challenges we face and strategies you can use to help navigate copyright in this rapidly evolving area. Tune in at 2 p.m. Eastern time on April 10 for this [free, streaming video broadcast](#)....

American Libraries, Mar. 21

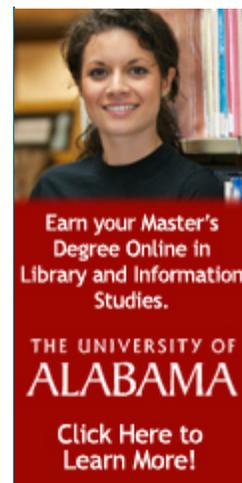
[Go back to the Top](#)



ALA News

[ALA to host invitational summit](#)

ALA will host an invitational summit, "[Libraries From Now On: Imagining the Future](#)," May 2–3 at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. The summit will bring together thought leaders from the library community—as well as a broad spectrum of educational organizations, federal agencies, and foundations that work with libraries—to begin a national conversation. Four keynote speakers will



[Download or request](#)

the new ALA Editions catalog for Spring / Summer 2014 titles. Save up to 20% when you order more than \$100.

**Libraries
on Film**

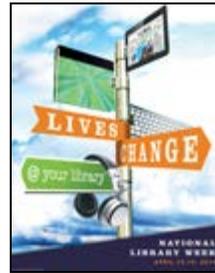
challenge the summit participants to imagine a library of the future. The summit will serve as a kickoff to ALA's planned Center for the Future of Libraries....

Office of ALA Governance, Apr. 4

[National Library Week celebrates the role of libraries](#)

Communities nationwide will celebrate the contributions of libraries and library workers during [National Library Week](#), April 13–19 ([#nlw14](#)). This year's theme is "Lives Change @ your library." April 15 is [National Library Workers Day](#), a day for library staff, users, administrators, and Friends groups to recognize the valuable contributions made by all library workers. On April 16, [National Bookmobile Day](#) celebrates the dedicated library professionals who provide this valuable and essential service. April 17 is [Celebrate Teen Literature Day](#), raising awareness among the general public that YA literature is a vibrant, growing genre....

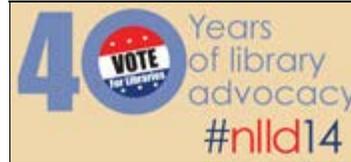
Public Information Office, Apr. 8



[Now is the time to stand up for libraries](#)

With all that's happened in D.C. in the past year—threats to eliminate the federal agency that administers funding to libraries, legislation to stifle open access, and the government shutdown—now is the time, more than ever, to stand up for libraries. [Register](#) now for this year's [National Library Legislative Day](#) ([#nlld14](#)), a two-day advocacy event May 5–6 where hundreds of library supporters, leaders, and patrons will meet with their legislators to advocate for library funding....

District Dispatch, Apr. 9



[Choose Privacy Week, May 1–7](#)

Each year on May 1, librarians, library users, and privacy advocates come together to observe [Choose Privacy Week](#), an annual event promoting the importance of individual privacy rights. But protecting and promoting privacy shouldn't be a one-off annual event. Libraries and librarians should provide privacy programming and resources throughout the year, whether the topic is government surveillance, data mining, identity theft, or threats to personal privacy from implementation of emerging technologies....

Office for Intellectual Freedom, Apr. 9



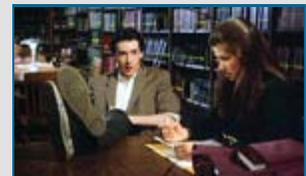
[ALA calls for broadband funding boost](#)

On April 7, ALA requested ([PDF file](#)) the Federal Communications Commission to deploy newly identified E-rate program funding to boost library broadband access and alleviate historic shortfalls in funding for internal connections. In response to the FCC's March [Public Notice](#), the ALA recommended making use of existing high-speed, scalable networks to increase library broadband speeds, improve area networks, and further explore cost efficiencies through new consortium approaches....

Office for Information Technology Policy, Apr. 7



[Super](#) (2010). Rainn Wilson as hapless short-order cook Frank D'Arbo decides to turn his life around by becoming a superhero, The Crimson Bolt. He poses as a student with a fake beard, goes to the college library to read comics about superheros, and asks the librarian (played by Laurel Whitsett) where he can find information on recent crimes. She locates abundant drug dealing on the internet and tells him the worst activity is on Euclid Street.



[The Sure Thing](#) (1985). John Cusack as Gib Gibson and Daphne Zuniga as Alison Bradbury meet in the library of an Ivy League college to study English, but Gib gets bored and says they should go exploring. They wind up on the library roof where Gib identifies constellations.



[Free webinar series continues with “Literacy Innovations”](#)

ALA President Barbara Stripling’s “Libraries Change Lives” monthly webinar series continues with “Literacy Innovations in Libraries” on April 21. This free webinar will focus on methods, techniques, and ideas to help keep libraries of all types on the forefront of innovative trends in the profession. [Registration](#) is open, mandatory, and limited to the first 100 participants who arrive in the virtual room....

Office for Library Advocacy, Apr. 8

[Popular sessions from Midwinter](#)

Recordings of a select group of sessions from the 2014 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia are being made [freely available](#) to allow ALA members and others to enjoy, learn, discover, or revisit speakers and other events from the meeting. No login is required. Recordings include the Auditorium speakers, the *Booklist* Author Forum, Ishmael Beah, Andrew Slack, and James McBride....

Conference Services, Apr. 7



[Vote in the ALA elections on your smartphone](#)

Did you know that you can vote in the 2014 ALA elections on your smartphone and other mobile devices? Just log in using the URL and credentials that were sent to you in March; it’s that easy.

And when you’ve finished voting, you can download an “I Voted in the ALA Election” badge that you can attach to your Facebook page, tweets, or wherever you want. The polls will close at 11:59 p.m. Central time on April 25....

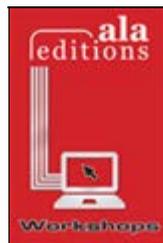
Office of ALA Governance, Apr. 4



[Ask an RDA expert](#)

ALA Editions will hold a new workshop, “[Ask an RDA Expert: Bibliographic Description](#)” with Adam Baron, May Chan, and Marcia Salmon. Formatted as an open forum, this three-hour workshop will take place on April 25. Participants can drop in at their convenience to obtain and share information on the RDA-related issues that matter most to them. Registration is available through the ALA Store....

ALA Editions, Apr. 8



[Word-of-mouth marketing workshop](#)

ALA Editions is hosting a 90-minute workshop, “[Word-of-Mouth Marketing: The Most Powerful Marketing Strategy, and You Can Afford It!](#)” with Peggy Barber on May 22. Learn how to deliver a more compelling message than commercial brands with this proven system in place. Word-of-mouth marketing is a team sport. Bring your staff together and start planning your message. Registration is available through the ALA Store....

ALA Editions, Apr. 8

[Popular books for young readers](#)

Featuring contributions by active librarians from around the country, [Popular Picks for Young Readers](#), published by ALA Editions for ALSC, offers a goldmine of quality books for children. Edited by Diane Foote,

[Surrender Dorothy](#)

(1998). Jason Centeno as Denis wants to turn his roommate Lanh (Kevin DiNovis) into a woman, so he visits the Free Library of Philadelphia to look up surgical procedures.



[Suspect](#)

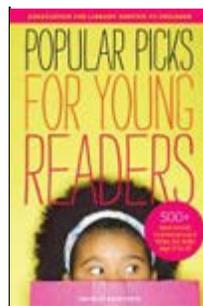
(1987). Public defender Kathleen Riley (Cher) and juror Eddie Sanger (Dennis Quaid) are nearly caught by Judge Helms (John Mahoney) as they collaborate in looking for an incriminating case. Filmed in a law library in Washington, D.C.

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](#).



this guide spotlights more than 500 titles published within the last four years. Ranging from books for newborns through readers to age 14, the selected books encompass a wide variety of formats and themes to reflect the diversity of contemporary society....

ALA Editions, Apr. 3



[Fundamentals for the academic liaison](#)

The changing higher education environment requires a new kind of relationship among faculty, academic liaisons, and students. Written in a straightforward way that lends itself to easy application,

[Fundamentals for the Academic Liaison](#), published by ALA Neal-Schuman, is a core resource for any LIS student or academic librarian serving as a liaison. Richard Moniz, Jo Henry, and Joe Eshleman lay out the comprehensive fundamentals of the discipline....

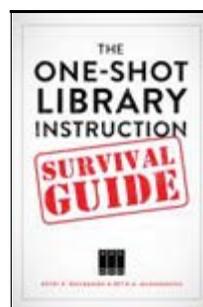
ALA Neal-Schuman, Apr. 7



[One-shot library instruction](#)

Faced with planning a one-shot library instruction session, librarians can feel hard-pressed to squeeze in all their library has to offer. Authentic learning with student interaction may seem unattainable in only an hour, but it's not. As Heidi E. Buchanan and Beth A. McDonough demonstrate in [The One-Shot Library Instruction Survival Guide](#), published by ALA Editions, the keys are communicating clearly with the course instructor, developing a realistic plan, and employing effective teaching strategies....

ALA Editions, Apr. 7



[Go back to the Top](#)



Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Adult fiction](#)

Coleman, Reed Farrel. *The Hollow Girl*. May 2014. 304p. Tyrus, hardcover (978-1-4405-6202-4).

After an ugly bout with cancer and the death of his girlfriend, Moe Prager (*Onion Street*, 2013) makes herculean efforts to drown himself in booze until a gut-twanging mystery

Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST

[Children's Librarian.](#)

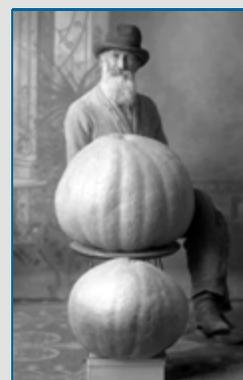
District of Columbia Public Library. DC Public Library continues its transformation. Many wonderful things are happening here. If you enjoy a rewarding work environment where your hard work can truly make a difference, come join us! All positions require excellent customer service skills, commitment to public service and the willingness to learn and embrace change....



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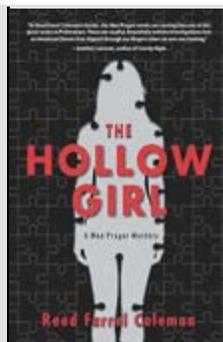
@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The [W. R. Gray](#)

lures him back to reality. Nancy Lustig, an unforgettable woman from his first case, begs Moe to find her missing daughter, Sloane Cantor. Sloane achieved fame years ago as the Hollow Girl when she launched a fabricated online video diary, ending in a faked suicide that caused mass chaos as enraptured viewers clogged 911 lines nationwide. Right after Moe starts poking around, the bodies of two of Sloane's "friends" turn up, casting doubt on theories that Sloane may simply be taking a secret vacation....



[Reading and drinking](#)

Bill Ott writes: "With National Library Week approaching, I think it's high time we celebrate an aspect of reading that is too often overlooked: the special pleasures of reading and drinking—and, more particularly, reading and drinking in bars. Typically, we promote reading with pictures of shawl-draped women lounging on couches in front of fires and holding books, or, alternatively, kids peering intently at iPads. What we need, I'm arguing, is pictures of men *and* women, old *and* young (including, of course, new adults of the post-21 variety), sitting by themselves in quiet bars while reading and enjoying the adult beverage of their choice."...

The Back Page, Apr. 1



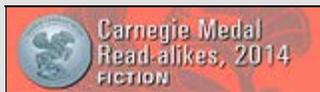
[Carnegie Medal read-alikes, 2014: Nonfiction](#)

Brad Hooper writes: "With the [announcement](#) of the six shortlisted titles for the 2014 Andrew Carnegie Medals for Fiction and Nonfiction, librarians and library patrons will be scrambling to read all the finalists before the winners are announced on June 28, during the ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas. But for those who have already read the full shortlist, why not try some read-alikes?"...



[Carnegie Medal read-alikes, 2014: Fiction](#)

Donna Seaman writes: "The finalists for this year's Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction tell richly imagined, acutely observed, and profoundly involving stories of loss and dreams, immigration and alienation, in Nigeria, New York, Las Vegas, Europe, and a small Haitian fishing village. There's a lot to work with there for those after read-alikes, and the following list should keep literary-fiction devotees going long after the Carnegie winners have been announced."...



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

[Studio photographic collection](#)

hosted by Fort Hays State University, Kansas, features some 29,000 images from glass plate negatives that were produced by W. R. Gray Studio in St. John, Kansas. The original negatives are located in the Stafford County (Kans.) Historical Museum. The names of the people photographed are given as they are written (and sometimes misspelled) in the ledger; they are the payees, or the persons who paid for the photos. The Gray Studio was in operation in St. John from 1905 to 1981.

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

"A public library can mean different things to different people. For me, the library offers our best example of the public commons. For many, the library upholds the nineteenth-century belief that the future

[Go back to the Top](#)

Las Vegas Update

[Conference web badges](#)

Share that you're participating in the 2014 Annual Conference by displaying one of these badges on your site, whether you are attending, speaking, tweeting, sponsoring, or exhibiting...

Conference Services



[The ultimate Las Vegas movie supercut](#)

Ashley Burns writes: "Robert Jones is back with yet another of his amazing supercuts. This time Jones is taking on Las Vegas as the ultimate movie setting with this [montage](#) (9:28) of the many, many times that the City of Sin has played the backdrop for some of the best films ever made, and a few of the worst, most unoriginal plots ever imagined. Either way, Hollywood's love affair with Vegas is stronger than ever, from classics to modern cliché comedies to paycheck movies." Here are lists of films [set](#) and [shot](#) in Las Vegas....

Uproxx: Film Drunk, Mar. 31; YouTube, Mar. 30; Wikipedia



[Trakdot keeps track of your luggage](#)

By the numbers, lost luggage is a relative rarity. The US Department of Transportation figures show just 3.22% of bags were mishandled in 2013. Still, thousands of pieces of luggage go missing every day. Enter Trakdot, a tiny, AA battery-operated transmitter that slips into suitcases and connects to cellphone towers to report its position. Users with a smartphone app can track the position of their bag. FAA approved for flight, Trakdot can also send SMS text messages or email alerts indicating the bag's location....

WFLD-TV, Chicago, Mar. 31



[Las Vegas = Number 1](#)

Las Vegas has been named the number 1 trade show destination for the 20th consecutive year, according to the Trade Show News Network's (TSNN) "2013 TSNN Top 250 Trade Shows in the United States" list. Las Vegas hosted 53 of the largest shows. Its two closest competitors are Chicago with 29 shows and Orlando hosting 24....

Exhibitor, Apr. 3

Division News

[IMLS summit: School librarians and student achievement](#)

Fifty research scholars will gather in Chicago to participate in AASL's Institute of Museum and Library Services research summit. Focused on setting an agenda for future school library research, the "Causality: School Libraries and Student Success (CLASS)" summit will

of democracy is contingent upon an educated citizenry. For others, the library simply means free access to the Internet, or a warm place to take shelter, a chance for an education, or the endless possibilities that jump to life in your imagination the moment you open the cover of a book."

— Robert Dawson, author of *The Public Library: A Photographic Essay* (Princeton Architectural Press, 2014), on his [website](#).

@ [More quotes...](#)

Calendar

Apr. 13–19:
[National Library Week.](#)

Apr. 15:
[National Library Workers Day.](#)

Apr. 16:
[National Bookmobile Day.](#)

Apr. 17:
[Celebrate Teen Literature Day.](#)

Apr. 17:
[Institute of Museum and Library Services.](#)

public hearing, "Libraries and Broadband: Urgency and Impact," Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, Washington, D.C.

Apr. 23:
[World Book Night US.](#)

May 1–7:

take place April 11–12. The summit will result in a white paper to be published in May, and the white paper and research findings will be presented June 29 during the 2014 ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas...

AASL, Apr. 8

[Sheehan appointed RBM editor](#)

ACRL has named Jennifer K. Sheehan (right) as the next editor of *RBM: A Journal of Rare Books, Manuscripts, and Cultural Heritage* (RBM). Sheehan is currently a member of the RBM editorial board and brings in-depth knowledge of the world of rare books and manuscripts to the biannual publication. She will serve as editor-designate starting immediately with her term as editor beginning in July...

ACRL Insider, Apr. 9



[ACRL-Choice webinars](#)

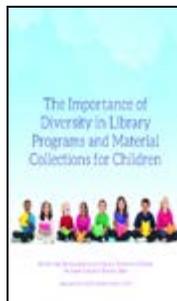
The ACRL-Choice webinar program connects academic and research librarians with a host of content and service providers, publishers, and other experts who serve their market. It returns this spring and summer with an exciting new roster of speakers discussing issues pertinent to today's academic library landscape. Topics include language acquisition, RDA, expert databases, STEM education, and Routledge handbooks...

ACRL, Apr. 7

[New ALSC white paper on importance of diversity](#)

ALSC has published a new white paper, *The Importance of Diversity in Library Programs and Material Collections for Children*, written by Jamie Campbell Naidoo. The white paper explores the critical role libraries play in helping children make crosscultural connections and develop skills necessary to function in a culturally pluralistic society. The paper calls for libraries to include diversity in programming and materials for children as an important element in meeting their communities' needs...

ALSC, Apr. 8



[There's still time to plan for Preservation Week](#)

Preservation Week will be held April 27–May 3. Two free webinars will be offered during that week: on April 29, [Low-Cost Ways to Preserve Family Archives](#) and on May 1, [Preserving Scrapbooks](#). Registration is required...

ALCTS, Apr. 8



[Kylie Pepler to speak at ASCLA President's Program](#)

"Connected Learning and Libraries: At the Intersection of the Arts, Media, New Technologies, and Informal Learning," ASCLA's President's Program, will take place June 29 during the 2014 ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas. It features Kylie Pepler (right), advisor to the Connected Learning Research Network...

ASCLA, Apr. 8



[New date and format for Printz program at Annual](#)

[Choose Privacy Week.](#)

May 8–10:

[LOEX](#), Annual Conference, Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, Grand Rapids, Michigan. "Creative Visualization: The Art of Information Literacy."

May 10–14:

[Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials](#), Annual Conference, Radisson Downtown, Salt Lake City. "Family, Local, and Micro-Regional Histories and Their Impact on Understanding Ourselves."

May 12:

[Content Delivery Summit 2014](#), New York Hilton Midtown, New York City.

June 20–25:

[Next Library Conference](#), Chicago Public Library.

July 15–17:

[Open Knowledge Festival](#), Kulturbrauerei, Berlin.

July 16–18:

[Frontiers of Democracy Conference](#), Tufts University, Boston.

Aug. 13–15:

[Pacific Northwest Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Helena, Montana. "Mining the Past to Plan for the Future."

Sept. 28–30:

[International Library](#)

Beginning with the 2014 ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas, the Michael L. Printz Program and Reception will be held on Friday night (June 27), a time slot formerly held by the *Booklist* Books for Youth Annual Forum. This year's Printz Program will also feature a new format; Marcus Sedgwick, the 2014 Michael L. Printz winner, will deliver a speech. Librarians and teens wanting to submit a question for the Printz Program and Reception may do so [online](#) by June 1
YALSA, Apr. 8

[RUSA President's Program](#)

The RUSA President's Program during ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas on June 28 is titled "[Our Values, Ourselves: Examining Our Values and What Others Value about Us.](#)" The program will bring together a multitude of leaders within the library industry for a comprehensive overview of how our values and self-perceptions affect how we provide services within our communities. The panel includes Wayne Bivens-Tatum, Wayne Wiegand, Lisa Carlucci Thomas, and Jeanne Goodrich....
RUSA, Apr. 8

[United for Libraries' Gala Author Tea](#)

Laurie R. King (right), Jean Kwok, James Rollins, and Heather Gudenkauf will be among the featured authors at United for Libraries' Gala Author Tea, sponsored by ReferenceUSA, on June 30 at the ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas. Authors will discuss their writing lives and forthcoming books. Register through the [Annual Conference website](#)....
United for Libraries, Apr. 8



[Explore a new digital media commons](#)

LLAMA will present a webinar on "A New Digital Media Commons for Northeastern University" on May 7. The webinar will present practical techniques that were used during the 2012 renovation of the main library of Northeastern University in Boston that created a new setting for collaborative learning. The result was a new Digital Media Commons that completely changes the way in which students, faculty, and staff learn, educate, and collaborate. [Register](#) online....
LLAMA, Apr. 9



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Awards & Grants

[2014 Andrew Carnegie Medals: The shortlist](#)

ALA announced on April 7 the six books shortlisted for the 2014 Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Nonfiction. The medals are awarded for the best fiction and nonfiction books written for adults in the previous year and published in the United States. The two winning titles (one fiction, one nonfiction) will be announced at a popular celebratory event on June 28 at the 2014 ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas. The medals and \$5,000 checks will be presented to the winning authors....
AL: The Scoop, Apr. 7



[Symposium](#). The Southport School, Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia. "Embracing New Landscapes."

Oct. 12–15:

[Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa](#). Annual Conference, SkyCity Convention Centre, Auckland. "Connect and Thrive."

Oct. 17:

[The Conference for Entrepreneurial Librarians](#). Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. "Take Risks, Embrace Change!"

@ [More...](#)

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American Libraries Direct



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[2014 Scholastic Library Publishing Award](#)

Sylvia Vardell (right), professor of library and information studies at Texas Woman's University, has been selected to receive the 2014 ALA Scholastic Library Publishing Award. This recognition is given annually to a librarian whose unusual contribution to the stimulation and guidance of reading by children and young people exemplifies achievement in the profession....

Office of ALA Governance, Apr. 8



[Beth M. Paskoff wins Beta Phi Mu Award](#)

Beth M. Paskoff (right), director of the Louisiana State University School of Library and Information Science, is the 2014 recipient of the Beta Phi Mu Award, given annually to a library school faculty member or to an individual for distinguished service to education for librarianship. The \$1,000 award is contributed by Beta Phi Mu, the library and information studies honor society....

Office of ALA Governance, Apr. 8



[2014 Carnegie-Whitney Grant winners](#)

The ALA Publishing Committee has announced its 2014 Carnegie-Whitney Grant winners, whose proposed projects promote reading or the use of library resources. The grants support the preparation, in print or electronically, of popular or scholarly reading lists, webliographies, indexes, and other guides to library resources that will be useful to users of all types of libraries....

ALA Publishing, Apr. 8

[2014 Coretta Scott King Book Donation Grants](#)

The Tubman agency in Minneapolis, Hope House in Washington, D.C., and Abode Services in Fremont, California, have been selected to receive 2014 Coretta Scott King Book Donation Grants. Awarded each spring, the grant program donates books originally submitted for consideration for the Coretta Scott King Book Awards to three organizations to enhance their collections. All three winners will receive more than 100 titles submitted for the 2014 awards, including a full set of winner and honor titles....

Office for Literacy and Outreach Services, Apr. 7

[Apply for a Citizens-Save-Libraries grant](#)

Applications for cycle two of the Citizens-Save-Libraries grants from United for Libraries, made possible by a grant from the Neal-Schuman Foundation, are [due](#) May 5. The 10 libraries selected will receive two days of on-site consultation by advocacy experts, who will help Friends groups, library directors, and trustees develop individual blueprints for advocacy campaigns....

United for Libraries, Apr. 8

[Benson Collections receive Mellon grant](#)

The LLILAS Benson Latin American Studies and Collections at the University of Texas at Austin have received a grant of \$149,000 from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to carry out a project titled "Post-Custodial Archival Development and Digital Scholarship: Learning from Latin America." The grant will boost archival development and enable collaboration between



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ISSN 1559-369X

Latin American studies scholars and archivists to identify collections with a high potential for scholarly impact....

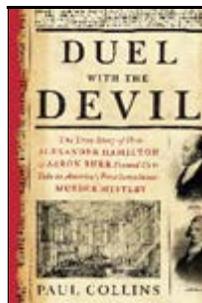
University of Texas Libraries, Apr. 8

[2013–2014 New York City Book Awards](#)

Founded in 1996, the New York City Book Awards honor books of literary quality or historical importance that, in the opinion of the selection committee, evoke the spirit or enhance appreciation of New York City.

As part of the awards, the New York Society Library also presents the Hornblower Award to an excellent New York City-related book by a first-time author. The history award went to Paul Collins for *Duel with the Devil: The True Story of How Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr Teamed Up to Take on America's First Sensational Murder Mystery* (Crown)....

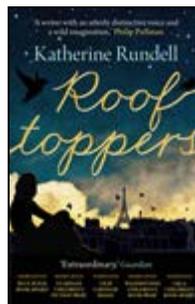
New York Society Library, Mar. 20



[2014 Waterstones Children's Book Prize](#)

The winners of the 2014 Waterstones Children's Book Prize were announced at an April 3 ceremony at Waterstones flagship bookstore in London's West End. The overall winner, and winner of the Best Fiction prize for ages 5–12, was Katherine Rundell's *Rooftoppers* (Faber and Faber). The winner of the Best Picture Book category was *Open Very Carefully* by Nicola O'Byrne (Nosy Crow), while the Best Book for Teens category was won by Holly Smale's *Geek Girl* (HarperCollins)....

The Guardian (UK), Apr. 3



[Go back to the Top](#)

american libraries
▶ LIVE

Get the inside scoop on pressing library topics.

Libraries in the News

[Galante will stay on at Queens Library](#)

In a special session on April 3, the Queens (N.Y.) Library board of trustees deadlocked on a motion to force embattled President Thomas Galante (right) to step down temporarily from his job. The vote followed Borough President Melinda Katz's call March 31 for Galante to take a leave of absence following more than two months of criticism over the nonprofit executive's compensation and the library's operations. Galante has been under close watch with the city comptroller conducting a high-profile audit of the library's operations and the FBI looking into construction contracts the city awarded to an associate....

Queens (N.Y.) TimesLedger, Apr. 4

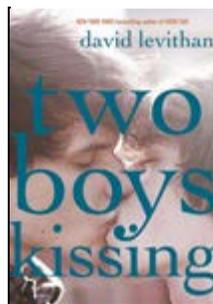


[Two Boys Kissing challenged in Virginia](#)

Fauquier County (Va.) Public Schools has received a request from a parent to withdraw from the high school library collection the book *Two Boys Kissing* by David Levithan. The novel is about two 17-year-old boys who take part in a 32-hour marathon of kissing

to set a new Guinness World Record. A school committee at Fauquier High School decided to retain the book, but the parent is appealing the decision to the superintendent. A review committee will consider the request on April 23....

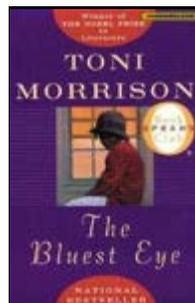
Fauquier (Va.) Times, Apr. 4



[Oklahoma mom wants to dump *The Bluest Eye*](#)

Parents are requesting a book be pulled from the shelves of the Durant (Okla.) High School library after noting its content. The 1970 novel *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison is the story of an 11-year-old African-American girl in Ohio in the early 1940s, who prays for her eyes to turn blue so that she will be beautiful. Michelle Williams made a formal request to have the book removed from the library because its depiction of rape is too sympathetic to the rapist....

Durant (Okla.) Democrat, Apr. 8



[Miami-Dade library advocates push for higher taxes](#)

With Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Giménez floating the idea of a property-tax hike, groups that could benefit from the new dollars are urging him to take the hint and run with it. Giménez revealed last month he would consider raising taxes to fund libraries, parks, and cultural institutions if voters first endorsed the idea in a straw poll this summer. Now advocates for those causes are putting pressure on the mayor to follow through on his trial balloon and pursue the tax increase....

Miami Herald, Apr. 7

[Library had "excessive" budget surpluses for six years](#)

A new state audit has found that the North Shore Public Library in Shoreham, New York, had a surplus of between \$2.1 million and \$2.4 million every year from 2006 to 2012. The state comptroller called the surpluses "excessive" and said they were racked up without transparency, limiting local taxpayers' abilities to make budget decisions. Library Director Laura Hawrey (above) said the library felt it was being prudent by reserving the surplus funds for retirement, pensions, and insurance. Now they have to give the [balance](#) back....

News 12 Long Island, Apr. 7; Office of the State Comptroller



[NCSU library featured in PBS *Cool Spaces!* series](#)

North Carolina State University's James B. Hunt Jr. Library (right) is getting profiled in April in the nationally syndicated PBS series, [Cool Spaces!](#), a new prime-time program that promises to "profile some of this century's most exciting architecture in the US." Sponsored by the



American Institute of Architects and hosted by Boston architect Stephen Chung, the series focuses on presenting “cutting-edge, contemporary public buildings and spaces and the daring architects who push the boundaries of design and materials.”...

NCSU Libraries News, Apr. 2

[Ellen’s favorite librarian: An update](#)

Kirby Thomas (on the left), librarian at Christa McAuliffe Elementary School in Broken Bow, Oklahoma, walked the red carpet April 6, courtesy of Ellen DeGeneres. The talk show host asked Thomas to interview stars at the Academy of Country Music Awards. How did Kirby become Ellen’s favorite librarian? In



February, Ellen [surprised](#) Kirby with a \$25,000 check, among other gifts for her students. Watch the [video](#) (3:09)....

KJRH-TV, Tulsa, Okla., Feb. 20, Apr. 8; *Ellen*, Apr. 8

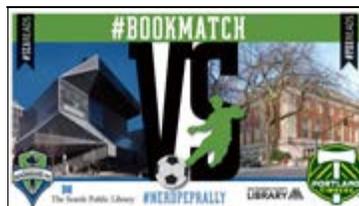
[Three schools bring back librarians](#)

Five years later, three schools in Ashland, Massachusetts, are getting their librarians back in the fall after the school department set aside money for three part-time positions in the 2015 budget. Cuts in the 2009 budget forced the school department to get rid of librarians and library aides at all Ashland schools except the high school. School Committee Chairwoman Laurie Tosti said, “We couldn’t go another year without the libraries.” With only parent volunteers, students were not getting the library skills they needed to prepare for high school....

Framingham (Mass.) *MetroWest Daily News*, Apr. 7

[Portland tops Seattle in #Bookmatch clash](#)

In a heated and fun rivalry competition between the Multnomah County Library in Portland, Oregon, and the Seattle (Wash.) Public Library, soccer fans helped propel Portland to victory. Set up as a



[#Bookmatch](#) to see which library could answer the most book recommendation queries on Twitter over the course of 90 minutes on April 3, Portland fans pulled through 206–195. As the loser, Seattle Public Library must now create a display in their space about Portland with their staff also wearing Portland Timbers gear....

Portland Timbers: *The Backcut*, Apr. 4

[Washburn settles Bearman lawsuit](#)

Michelle Canipe’s lawsuit against Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas, and dean of libraries Alan Bearman was settled out of court March 11. Canipe, a former instructional librarian at Washburn’s Mabee Library from January 2010 to May 2011, filed charges in 2011 against Bearman and the university for sexual harassment, discrimination, and creating a hostile work environment. After more than seven hours of mediation, a settlement was reached that was mutually acceptable....

Washburn Review, Apr. 2

[The promise of libraries in Myanmar](#)

Wendy Rockett and Wine Wai Wai Win write: “Libraries and reading have a special place in Myanmar society. Yangon,



the country's largest city, is teeming with book vendors and libraries. The American Center and British Council libraries were venerated sources of up-to-date publications during Myanmar's deepest periods of isolation, but smaller community libraries (like the one above) have cropped up in response to community needs." University libraries in Myanmar have also acquired [e-collections](#) with thousands of digital books and journals to help them catch up after decades of isolation under military rule....

In Asia, Apr. 2; BBC News, Apr. 1

[New Turkish children's library](#)

Amid concerns over the declining number of children's libraries in Turkey, a pioneering new attempt is being made to encourage children and their families to take up the reading habit. Turkey's first Interactive Library for Children, opened recently in Istanbul, has become home to both local and foreign youngsters in an attempt to broaden the traditional library into a center for the whole family. At the library, families come together with their children to read and play with them....



Anadolu Agency, Apr. 5

[Go back to the Top](#)

Issues

[IMLS public hearing on broadband](#)

On April 17, the Institute of Museum and Library Services will hold a public hearing, "Libraries and Broadband: Urgency and Impact," to examine the need for high-speed broadband in America's libraries. The hearing, held at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library in Washington, D.C., will explore ideas for streamlining and increasing the efficiency of the e-rate program and making use of high-speed connections to drive education, community, and economic development. The event will be streamed on [YouTube](#) and [Google+....](#)

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Apr. 7

[We the People petition on IMLS](#)

The current proposed House Budget says "The federal Institute of Museum and Library Services is an independent agency that makes grants to museums and libraries. This is not a core federal responsibility." This petition asks the administration to release a statement that having an informed and literate citizenry and protecting cultural heritage are priorities and that funding institutions that contribute to this work is indeed a core federal responsibility....

We the People, Apr. 3



[Restoring CC attribution to Flickr](#)

Cory Doctorow (right) writes: "For years, Flickr has been one of the most important repositories of Creative Commons imagery in the world; now,

thanks to a new design by Yahoo, it's all but useless for serving and attributing the CC-licensed images it's been entrusted with by museums, galleries, national archives, libraries, and millions of individuals." [Cory Dodt](#) and [Alan Levine](#) have both [created](#) bookmarklets that take the structured license data in a Flickr image page and extract the metadata and CC license link. But the Brooklyn Museum, sensing disaster, has already [pulled out](#) of Flickr Commons....

Boing Boing, Apr. 7; Free Technology for Teachers, Apr. 7; Adactio, Apr. 7



[On the right to link](#)

Dan Cohen writes: "On April 4, the Digital Public Library of America filed a comment with the US Copyright Office on its study of the [Right of Making Available](#). This proposed right, which would be an explicit addition to existing copyright law in the United States, strongly restricts the ability to link to materials on the open web, reserving for copyright holders 'communication to the public' of the existence of works on the internet."...

DPLA Blog, Apr. 4

[European Union votes Net neutrality into law](#)

The European Parliament has passed a major package of telecom law reform, complete with amendments that properly define and protect net neutrality. The amendments ([PDF file](#)) were introduced by the Socialist, Liberal, Green, and Left blocs after the final committee to tweak the package left in a [number of loopholes](#) that would have allowed telcos to start classifying web services of their choice as "specialized services" that they can treat differently....

GigaOM, Mar. 18, Apr. 3

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Tech Talk

[Samsung Galaxy S5](#)

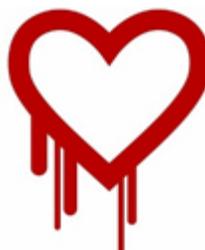
Sascha Segan writes: "The Samsung Galaxy S5, to be released officially on April 11, is America's best-performing smartphone, bringing excellent voice quality, a terrific camera, speedy performance, and the best screen we've seen on a handheld yet. It's better than last year's Galaxy S4 in many ways. Mainstream smartphone fans, people who like to surf the web, and shutterbugs will thrill to this model, making it one of our two Editors' Choices for T-Mobile smartphones."...

PC Magazine, Apr. 9



[The Heartbleed bug: Should you panic?](#)

Chandra Steele writes: "Heartbleed, a bug within OpenSSL, is [making headlines](#) this week, and while it might seem like a rather technical issue, it has some real-world ramifications that could affect the online services you use every day. Even worse, there's really no way to tell what malicious activity has occurred thanks to Heartbleed. If you are just a



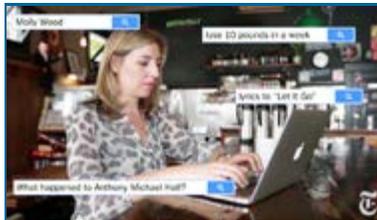
regular internet user like the rest of us, you undoubtedly have a few questions.”...

PC Magazine, Apr. 8–9

[Sweeping away a search history](#)

Molly Wood writes: “Your search history contains some of the most personal information you will ever reveal online: your health, mental state, interests, travel locations, fears, and shopping habits—information most people would want to keep private. Unfortunately, your web searches are carefully tracked and saved in databases. Fortunately, Google, Bing, and smaller companies provide ways to delete a search history or avoid leaving one.” Watch the [video](#) (2:27)....

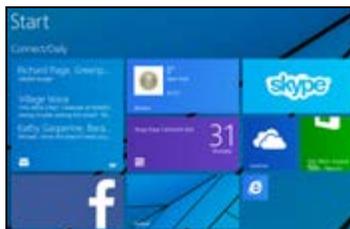
New York Times: Personal Tech, Apr. 2



[Microsoft Windows 8.1 Update](#)

Michael Muchmore writes: “The [Windows 8.1 Update](#) released at Microsoft Build on April 2 can be viewed as both a step backward and a step forward for Microsoft’s vision of a hybrid OS that’s equally comfortable on tablets, slates, laptops, and desktops. In the first version of its daring two-in-one OS bet, the company put nearly all the focus on the touch interface. With this update, mouse and keyboard users finally get the attention they’ve been clamoring for.”...

PC Magazine, Apr. 2–3



[Tools to make the most of Flickr](#)

Alan Henry writes: “Flickr is a great tool to organize your photos and share them with the world. Plus, ever since Flickr got an overhaul and tons of free space, it’s a great place to back up your photos too. Still, it can be even better with a few useful tools from the user community. Here are some of the best.”...

Lifehacker, Apr. 3



[Two more 3D printers from XYZprinting](#)

Signe Brewster writes: “It’s no secret that Asia wants to rule the world of 3D printing. A prime example is XYZprinting, a subdivision of Taiwanese electronics giant Kinpo Group. XYZprinting revealed its first 3D printer at the Consumer Electronics Show this year: a \$499 desktop machine known as the da Vinci. Now it is releasing two more desktop printers priced at \$649 and \$849. That’s still far cheaper than most US printers.”...

GigaOM, Apr. 3



[Never fax a document again](#)

Chris Hoffman writes: “Fax machines are still trucking along in offices around the world. Government agencies, lawyers, doctors, and other slow-moving organizations often still require faxes—at best, it’s a necessary evil. There are plenty of alternatives to faxing. If you aren’t limited by laws or because the person on the other end demands you use fax, try



one of these alternatives.”...

How-To Geek, Apr. 7

[The best cloud storage solutions](#)

Jill Duffy writes: “If you don’t have a service for storing and syncing your data in the cloud, you need one. You might even need more than one.



Many of the best solutions do something specific, like handle photos exceptionally well and make them easier to share. Using multiple services allows you to compartmentalize your data, which in turn may let you take advantage of the free space allotments most services offer. Here are the best online cloud storage solutions.”...

PC Magazine, Apr. 2

[How to back up your cloud](#)

Eric Griffith writes: “There are many ways to back up your local data to the cloud (see above). Online backup is everywhere, simple to set up, and accessible on most internet-connected devices. But that doesn’t help with all that content you created online. That’s why it’s best to step in occasionally and preserve your Facebook, Twitter, Google, Yahoo, LinkedIn, and Evernote data.”...

PC Magazine, Feb. 17

[Safety tips for people stuck with Windows XP](#)

Rafe Needleman writes: “On April 8, Microsoft stopped supporting Windows XP. What if you’re stuck with a computer using



XP? What’s going to happen to you and your computer? Nothing you’ll notice, at least not right away. [Windows XP](#) will continue to work. But your risk of a security breach into your computer increases over time. You can decrease your exposure in a few ways.” If you *can* upgrade, [here’s how](#)....

Yahoo Tech, Apr. 7–8; PC Magazine, Apr. 8

[Five things to do before you ditch your old gadgets](#)

Dan Tynan writes: “Getting rid of your old electronics? Whether you’re [donating, reselling, or recycling](#) your aging gear, you’ll want to take the following steps to make sure your data stays safe and your gear goes where it’s supposed to. And, no, these steps are not optional.”...

Yahoo Tech, Apr. 7

[The birth of multipurpose computers](#)

Peggy Aldrich Kidwell writes: “On April 7, 1964, 50 years ago, IBM Corporation announced a family of room-sized computers known as the System 360. Different versions of the IBM 360 met the needs of business and technical customers. To emphasize the full circle of applications, IBM called the computer the 360. Monthly rentals for models of the IBM System/360 started at \$2,700 and went up to \$115,000. This included software.”...



O Say Can You See?, Apr. 7

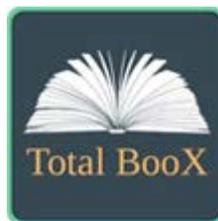
[Go back to the Top](#)

E-Content

[Tick tock, Total Boox](#)

James LaRue writes: "A vendor somewhere just had to try this approach: metered reading. And now someone has. Yoav Lorch is the engaging and insightful CEO of an Israeli company called [Total Boox](#). I met with him at PLA in March, and got a guided tour of his product. Total Boox is based on the premise that most of the usage limits that apply to physical books make no sense at all when applied to their digital counterparts. But consider the Total Boox approach from the standpoint of the library patron."...

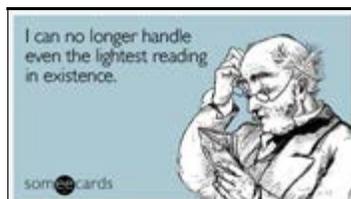
AL: E-Content, Apr. 4



[Serious reading takes a hit](#)

Michael S. Rosenwald writes: "Claire Handscombe has a commitment problem online. Like many web surfers, she clicks on links posted on social networks, reads a few sentences, looks for exciting words, and then grows restless, scampering off to the next page she probably won't commit to. But it's not just online anymore. She finds herself behaving the same way with a novel. To cognitive neuroscientists, her experience is the subject of great fascination and growing alarm."...

Washington Post, Apr. 6



[Random House ebooks available through EBSCO](#)

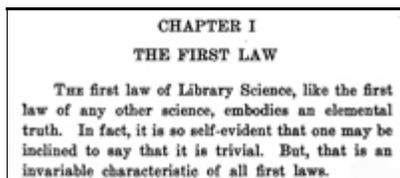
EBSCO Information Services is now offering more than 30,000 popular fiction and nonfiction ebooks published by Random House. The partnership will help librarians acquire high-demand titles in a cost-effective way since there are no markups or fees of any kind on EBSCO ebook titles....

EBSCO, Apr. 8

[Why I don't buy print reference books](#)

Bonnie Swoger writes: "For students (and many librarians and faculty), using print resources is annoying, time-consuming, and generally not worth the effort. A quick Google or Wikipedia search can generally help me define concepts, understand acronyms and abbreviations, and get a brief overview on a topic. So why won't I usually consider buying an electronic version of a specialized encyclopedia in order to push students toward resources that are more reliable than Wikipedia?"...

Scientific American: Information Culture, Apr. 4



[Navigating the ebook reader market](#)

Robert Harington writes: "This post is born of frustration: It is the good sort of frustration, however. You know—that feeling of being overwhelmed by choice in a sea of options, and all seem like good ways to go. So it is with ebook readers. There are so many out there, and many of them are good, if not downright fantastic. But there are variations in how they work and the features they provide, so I will describe a few of these and some of their pros and cons."...

The Scholarly Kitchen, Apr. 3

[Defining digital social sciences](#)

Lisa Spiro writes: "I'm finding some significant points of intersection between digital humanities and digital social sciences. What are we to

make of the connections between humanities and social science research? And what does digital research in social sciences entail, anyway? While 'digital humanities' is itself a fuzzy term, 'digital social sciences' seems to be even less well defined."...

dh+lib, Apr. 9

[Go back to the Top](#)

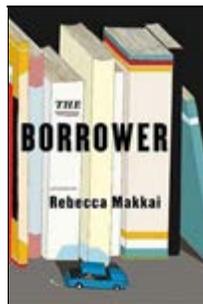
Books & Reading

[15 books about libraries and librarians](#)

Joelle Herr writes: "All of the library love in preparation for National Library Week got us thinking about our favorite books about libraries and librarians, so we decided to put together a list of them.

Featuring cats, bookmobiles, archivists, time travelers, even Dracula—these 15 books will inspire a renewed appreciation for a place that is, in the words of Jamie Ford in his novel *The Songs of Willow Frost*, 'like a candy store where everything is free.'"...

BookPage, Apr. 1



[Where's the African-American Harry Potter?](#)

Ashley Strickland writes: "According to the [Cooperative Children's Book Center](#), fewer children's books were written by Latinos or African Americans in 2013 than in previous years. Numbers increased slightly for American Indians and Asian Americans. In 2014, the movement to publish more authors of color and write multicultural main characters remains slow and incremental. Even though YA literature is enjoying a golden age, lead characters of color or LGBT characters are still slow to appear in popular mainstream young adult fiction."...

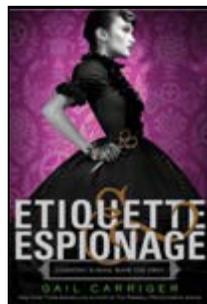
CNN, Apr. 9; Cooperative Children's Book Center



[What would Captain America read?](#)

Katie Shanahan Yu writes: "*Captain America: The Winter Soldier* debuted in theaters this weekend. It's an entertaining new installment to the Marvel universe and one that has certainly shaken up the status quo for subsequent movies and the Marvel-verse. I thought it would be fun to create a 'What would they read?' list for some of our favorite Captain America characters from *Winter Soldier*."...

YALSA The Hub, Apr. 7



[Rethinking the model for library book groups](#)

Neil Hollands writes: "The tradition of book groups is quite entrenched. For each meeting, we select one common book, which we ask all of our members to read, and then we hold a shared discussion of that title. Is this the best model? For many groups, it is. But if your group needs refreshing, it might be time to rethink the most basic elements of practice. Here is a list of groups for which the one-book model might not be best."...

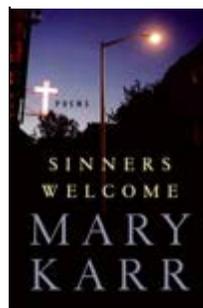
Booklist Online: Book Group Buzz, Apr. 8

[50 essential books of poetry](#)

Emily Temple writes: "It's National Poetry Month, and

you're probably thinking: 'I should really read more poetry. But where do I start?' Well, sound the trumpets, because Flavorwire is coming to the rescue. Here you'll find a list of 50 essential books of poetry that pretty much everyone should read, from the deeply established canonical works to riveting, important books by newer poets, from the Romantics to the postmodernists, from the goofy to the staid."...

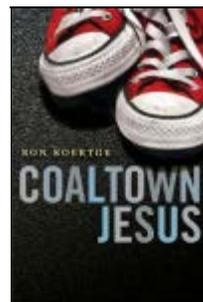
Flavorwire, Apr. 7



[Novels in verse for National Poetry Month](#)

Geri Diorio writes: "What's that? Poetry is too hard? If you would rather not attempt a sonnet, a haiku, or even a limerick, there is a great way to ease yourself into the world of poems—novels written in verse. The tales are so compelling and the verse so subtle, you won't even realize you are reading poetry. It can be astonishing how authors cover deep, dark topics with just a few, perfectly chosen words. Here are a few to get you started."...

YALSA The Hub, Apr. 3



[More National Poetry Month resources](#)

Mary Burkey writes: "Celebrate National Poetry Month by listening to classic, modern, and children's poetry. Here are some for audio links, poet biographies, informational podcasts, and searchable collections of online poems. Plus, stop by Sylvia Vardell's [Poetry for Children](#) blog for incredible free printables of exclusive poems from the stars of children's poetry as well as ready-to-use classroom lessons."...

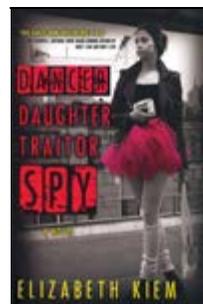
Booklist Online: Audiobooker, Apr. 4



[Russia-infused YA lit](#)

Jessica Lind writes: "Over the past couple of years, it seems that Russia (or the USSR) has been popping up everywhere. What is it about Russia that makes for such an interesting background in YA lit? Is it simply because it is a country that has such a long history filled with royalty, religion, and rebellion? The books that I have included in this post focus on various aspects of Russian history and culture, across a range of historical time periods."...

YALSA: The Hub, Apr. 9

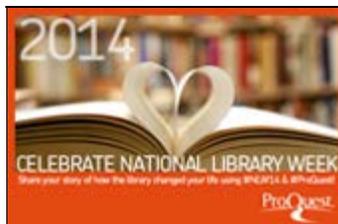


[Go back to the Top](#)

Tips & Ideas

[Open access to ProQuest and Oxford University databases](#)

Database publishers ProQuest and Oxford University Press are celebrating National Library Week, April 13–19, by providing free access through library websites to a rich assortment of their databases. Libraries can



access ProQuest resources [here](#) and can extend complimentary access for up to 30 days. OUP is offering all of its resources free that week; use the username and password found [here](#)....

ProQuest, Apr. 1; Oxford University Press

[CNN Assignment: Your favorite libraries](#)

In honor of National Library Week, April 13–19, CNN wants to hear from people who love to tour and photograph libraries around the world. Tell them about the libraries you love the best and what makes them so special. Share your original photos, and you could be featured in a story on CNN Travel. The deadline is April 14....

CNN, Mar. 31



[The oldest library in the South](#)

Erin Z. Bass writes: "The [Charleston \(S.C.\) Library Society](#) predates the idea of public libraries. When it was founded in 1748, it consisted of volumes of reading material that moved from house to house. Today, the library is about 2,200 members strong, and 2014 celebrates a century of its Beaux Arts–style building near the intersection of King and Queen streets. It is also one of only 16 membership libraries left in the country."...

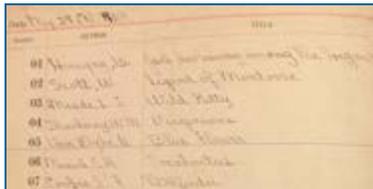
Deep South Magazine, Apr. 7



[Acquiring books and people](#)

Bernadette Lear writes: "I took a deep breath as I entered the Carnegie Library of Beaver Falls to continue my research on the history of public libraries in Pennsylvania. Within 15 minutes, I was elbow-deep in board minutes, librarian's reports, and scrapbooks. Along the way, I found an unrelated, but very thought-provoking item—an old 'accession book.' I don't believe I have ever described one of these in this blog, so perhaps readers would be interested in seeing it (right)."...

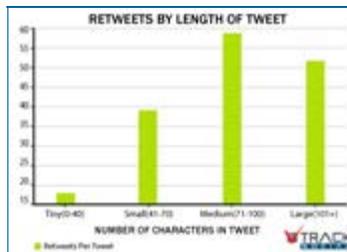
In Search of Pennsylvania Library History, Apr. 5



[The ideal length for everything online](#)

Kevan Lee writes: "Every so often when I'm tweeting or emailing, I'll think: Should I really be writing so much? Curious, I found some answers for the ideal lengths of tweets and titles and everything in between. Many of these could have been answered with 'it depends,' but where's the fun in that? Solid research exists to show the value of writing, tweeting, and posting at certain lengths. Here's the best of what I found."...

Buffer, Mar. 31



[A mobile app for converting weights and measures](#)

Kit Eaton writes: "You probably often convert units of currency or measurement from one type to another. Doing these calculations mentally can be tricky, so



let an app do it. [Convertible: The Ultimate Unit Converter](#) on iOS stands out from many other apps of its type. It can convert between many units, and it's visually pleasing."...

New York Times: Personal Tech, Apr. 2

[Recipe swap: A programming collaboration](#)

Amy Koester writes: "My adult services colleagues and I have been brainstorming ways to offer joint children's and adult programs. We offered our first joint programming endeavor in late March. It wasn't heavily attended, so we still need to figure out how to best advertise this new style of program—but it was fun. It was a Recipe Swap for kids and caregivers. Here are the details."...

The Show Me Librarian, Apr. 2



[School librarians are the heart of the school](#)

Texas Woman's University assistant professors Judi Moreillon and Teresa Starett have produced this [video](#) (5:15) that highlights the importance of school librarians in the educational curriculum.

School librarians across the country asked their principals to appear and add their testimonials to this powerful narrative. Funding was provided by a grant from the Texas Library Association, Demco, and the TWU Dean's Research Funds....

YouTube, Apr. 4



[A look back at board games](#)

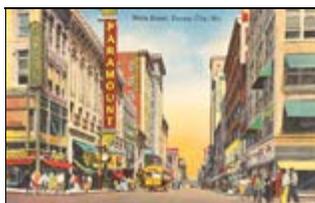
Kristi Finefield writes: "Like many kids and adults, I love playing board games. I've spent many an hour rolling dice and moving around a board in a race against my opponents to either the finish line or to some other goal, like accumulating the most wealth or properties. But I have not yet tried to reach *The Mansion of Happiness* (right) or take *The Road to Washington* or win the *New Game of the Steeple Chase*. These are also board games, though of a much earlier era, and their lively gameboards are part of the LC Prints and Photographs Division's collections."...

Picture This, Apr. 3



[Parlaying vintage postcards into your next great exhibit](#)

Steve Wieberg writes: "For years, the Kansas City (Mo.) Public Library had tucked away in its Missouri Valley Special Collections an array of more than 16,000 vintage postcards that Public Affairs Director Henry Fortunato saw as both overlooked and underutilized. That changed in 2013 when he, Special Collections



Manager Eli Paul, and their respective staffs fashioned some 200 of the cards into one of the most popular and praised exhibits in the library's history."...

Programming Librarian, Apr. 4

[Fishing for a good book](#)

Hunting or fishing for a good book is easy when you check out your public library. This promotional [video](#) (0:30) was created by staff at the Calcasieu Parish (La.) Public Library as a way to market its library services and the wonders of southwestern Louisiana. No books were harmed during the making of this video....

YouTube, Apr. 7



[Harvard book bound in sheepskin, not human flesh](#)

Steve Annear writes: "Science: 1, internet: 0. For one reason or another, an old story [published](#) by the *Harvard Crimson* in 2006 about a collection of books at Harvard Law School Library that are allegedly bound in human skin, crawled to the surface of the internet in late March. But a new [analysis](#) shows that it's not human skin after all—it's actually sheepskin."...

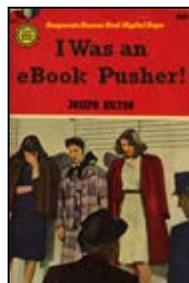
Boston magazine, Apr. 3; *Harvard Crimson*, Feb. 2, 2006; *Et Seq.*, Apr. 3



[Professional library literature](#)

Gene Ambaum writes: "A few years ago I met LisaGenius when Bill and I were doing a speaking gig. She told me she was creating some library-related humor, but she didn't tell me that she was [repurposing](#) lurid paperback covers into naughty library-related titles. Now I'm just hoping she'll write one of these for real." This slideshow features such essential reading as *Pay Your Fines or Die*, *To Hell with Grant Writing*, and *Story Hour with Satan's Spawn*....

Unshelved, Apr. 8



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ALA PUBLISHING | AmericanLibraryAssociation

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

american libraries DIRECT

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | April 16, 2014

Poet-to-Poet Project

Students Watch, Write, and Submit Poems for **national poetry month**

[poets.org >](http://poets.org)

STEM Gale eBook Collections on GVRL
Monograph titles from Springer, Elsevier, and more.
[View the title list »](#)

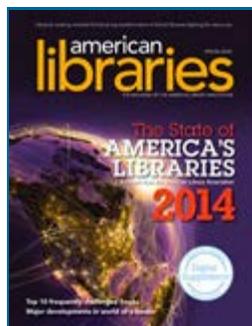
american libraries BUYERS GUIDE

American Libraries Online

[The state of America's libraries, 2014](#)

On April 13, the American Library Association released its report on the *2014 State of America's Libraries* during National Library Week, April 13–19, detailing library trends of the past year. The full text of the report is available both on the [ALA website](#) and as an [American Libraries digital supplement](#). Included in the report are trends associated with academic, public, and school libraries; ebooks and copyright issues; social networking; library construction; legislative issues; and intellectual freedom....

AL: The Scoop, Apr. 14



[Library systems report, 2014](#)

Marshall Breeding (right) writes: "The library technology industry saw sharp competition in 2013, with a wide range of products vying to fulfill ever-rising expectations. This report describes the current trends related to strategic technology products and services and the organizations that create and support them. It covers the major resource management products, discovery services, and other technologies on which libraries rely internally and make available to their customers for access to their collections and services."...

American Libraries feature



[Newsmaker: Judy Blume](#)

Judy Blume's books have been favorites of children and teenagers for three decades. Her 25-plus titles include classics like *Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret* and the Fudge series, featuring put-upon 4th-grader Peter Hatcher and his irrepressible younger brother. Blume (right) is also an outspoken opponent of censorship, a result of attempts through



[Follow @amlibraries](#)



[2014 Annual Conference and Exhibition](#)

Las Vegas, June 26–July 1. With events now on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, you can get to all three [awards celebrations](#)—for the Michael L. Printz Award, the Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Nonfiction, and the Newbery and Caldecott Medals.

the years to ban her own books, which sometimes explore complicated themes such as grief and sexuality....

American Libraries column, Mar./Apr.

[An egg-ceptional benefit exhibit](#)

Easter eggs of every description, some 5,000 in all, are being exhibited as a fundraiser for Schoharie (N.Y.) Free Library every weekend in April through Easter Sunday. The [Mildred Vrooman Easter Egg Exhibit](#) includes elaborate egg-based scenes that feature backdrops and accessories made of materials such as costume jewelry, fur, shell, ribbons, and lace. Proceeds from the sales of a commemorative book on the exhibit, created by Joseph and Berna Heyman, will go to the library as it continues to rebuild its adult fiction collection, which was devastated by Hurricane Irene in 2011....

American Libraries feature, Apr. 11



[Chicago teen program expands and replicates](#)



Timothy Inklebarger writes: "Chicago Public Library will expand its teen-focused YOUmedia program in the summer, offering young patrons increased access to digital technology and workshops on topics such as moviemaking, graphic design, and music recording. CPL Commissioner Brian Bannon said that the program will expand to six new branches. A pop-up version will bring YOUmedia to 12 additional neighborhoods, giving teens one- or two-day experiences with the latest technology."...

AL: The Scoop, Apr. 9

[The London Book Fair](#)

Claire Bushey writes: "The role of academic libraries is changing as open access publishing moves into the mainstream, speakers said April 9 at the London Book Fair. Open access publishing, which makes academic research available for free to end users, is on track to become the most common form of publishing in the sciences, said Cameron Neylon, director of advocacy at the nonprofit San Francisco-based Public Library of Science."...

AL: The Scoop, Apr. 9



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ALA News

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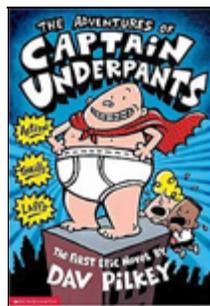


[Download or request](#) the new ALA Graphics catalog for Summer 2014.

Libraries on Film

[Top Ten Frequently Challenged Books of 2013](#)

The Office for Intellectual Freedom collects reports on book challenges from librarians, teachers, concerned individuals, and press reports. In 2013, OIF received hundreds of reports on attempts to remove or restrict materials from school curricula and library bookshelves. The number-one most frequently challenged book of 2013 was Dav Pilkey's Captain Underpants series. The series was also number one in 2012 and placed in the Top Ten in 2002, 2004, and 2005....
OIF Blog, Apr. 14



[IMLS hearing on libraries and broadband](#)

On the morning of April 17, ALA leaders will participate in "[Libraries and Broadband: Urgency and Impact](#)," a public hearing hosted by the Institute for Museum and Library Services that will explore the need for high-speed broadband in American libraries. Larra Clark, director of the ALA Program on Networks, and Linda Lord, ALA E-rate Task Force chair and Maine state librarian, will present on two panels. The hearing will explore innovative library practices, partnerships, and strategies for serving our communities....
Office for Information Technology Policy, Apr. 10



[Standing up for school libraries](#)

ALA President Barbara Stripling writes: "One area of the school that remains a place of trust and opportunity is the school library. School librarians build trust by making a promise that they will empower young people to pursue a lifetime of reading, discovery, learning, and creating. However, school libraries and librarians are in peril." ...

Our Children, Apr./May



[New photo service for Annual Conference attendees](#)

The ALA JobLIST Placement Center will be offering all Annual Conference attendees the opportunity to have a "headshot" photo package created. Any attendee can sign up for a June 28–29 appointment with the conference photography team to have a professional photo taken and set of digital images created for use in job applications, social media, and other networking opportunities.
[Sign up now](#) or on-site....

Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment, Apr. 14

[Nebraskans declare for libraries—in droves](#)

Librarians in Lincoln, Nebraska, decided to remind their patrons that libraries are still viable, important places. To highlight that message, libraries at Lincoln Public Schools, parochial schools, the city, and the 15-county Southeast Library System decided to join a national campaign as part of National School Library Month. For the past two weeks, they've asked students and other patrons to sign the ALA Declaration for the Rights of Libraries. By April 14, they had gathered 11,786 signatures....

Lincoln (Nebr.) Journal Star, Apr. 15

[Remembering Judith Krug](#)

[Sugar Hill](#) (1974).

The Heights Neighborhood branch of the Houston Public Library serves as the location for this film's Voodoo Museum and Research Library.



[Summer of the Monkeys](#) (1998,

Canada). Beverly Cooper plays a 19th-century librarian at the Ridgewell Town Library in Canada who helps a boy (Corey Sevier as Jay Berry Lee) find out how to catch chimpanzees that escaped from a circus.



[Summer School](#)

(1987). Mark Harmon as high-school gym teacher Freddy Shoop brings his summer school class to the library to work on a book report. Filmed at Charles Evans Hughes Jr. High School in Los Angeles.



Judith Krug, founding director of the Office for Intellectual Freedom and the Freedom to Read Foundation, died on April 11, 2009. To honor her memory, FRTF posted a [series of remembrances](#) on the Freedom to Read Foundation blog. If you would like to add a memory, please feel free to [email](#) FTRF.



Watch the [tribute video](#) (8:04) created by *American Libraries* for the foundation's 40th Anniversary Gala....

FTRF Blog, Apr. 11; YouTube, Apr. 21, 2009

[I'm with the banned](#)

Author Lauren Myracle writes: "I don't write about werewolves, but I do write about sex, and plenty of adults don't approve. I want my books to make a difference, and though a novel I've written might be some adult's worst nightmare, it might also be some girl's small saving grace at a time when she's feeling teary and alone. I don't want anyone telling me what I can or can't read, and I don't want anyone telling anyone what he or she can or can't read."...

The Huffington Post, Apr. 9

[Get ready for Día](#)

Debra S. Gold writes: "Although every day is an opportunity to celebrate the joy of reading, April 30, [El día de los niños / El día de los libros](#) (Children's Day / Book Day), founded in 1996 by Latino children's author Pat Mora, Día is a wonderful way for libraries to reach out to their communities and emphasize the importance of advocating literacy to children of all backgrounds. In addition, Día connects them to different cultures through books, craft activities, and recipes."...

ALSC Blog, Apr. 13



[Intellectual freedom course at UIUC](#)

The Freedom to Read Foundation and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign GSLIS are partnering to offer an online graduate-level course on intellectual freedom for LIS students around the country. The course, to be held August 26–October 10, is taught by Emily Knox and is the first education-related project of FTRF's Judith F. Krug Memorial Fund. The enrollment deadline is April 20....

Freedom to Read Foundation, Apr. 15

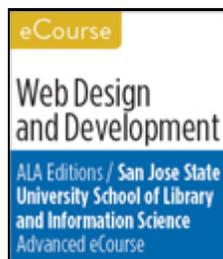
[Join an IFLA Section Committee for 2015–2019](#)

The ALA International Relations Committee is accepting nominations to section standing committees of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. Any ALA member may be suggested for nomination to an IFLA standing committee. Forward nominations to [Delin Guerra](#) at the International Relations Office before November 14....

International Relations Office

[San José State University/ALA eCourse collaboration](#)

ALA Editions has begun a new collaboration with the School of Library and Information Science at San José State University to provide in-depth, advanced eCourses that will last 12 weeks. Faculty from the SJSU information school will conduct the eCourses. The first advanced eCourse to be offered is "[Web](#)



[Two Yanks in Trinidad](#) (1942). Brian Donlevy as gangster Vince Barrows is spotted by the police going into a public library. They storm the place, but he is merely reading about Damon and Pythias because he needs to give a speech that night about his best friend Tim Reardon (Pat O'Brian).

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



[Youth Services Manager](#), Columbus

[Design and Development](#)" with Raymond Dean and begins June 2.

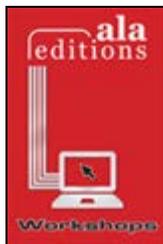
Register through the ALA Store....

ALA Editions, Apr. 15

[How to respond to a security incident](#)

ALA Editions is launching a new 90-minute workshop, "[How to Respond to a Security Incident in Your Library](#)" with Steve Albrecht, on June 12. This session will take the top 10 security, behavior, crime, or emergency-related incidents that occur in libraries and describe the issues, the concerns, and the proper responses. Many of the scenarios involve challenging or problem-inducing patrons, and others will discuss responses to events that staff might not always know how to deal with properly. Register through the ALA Store....

ALA Editions, Apr. 15



[American Sign Language for library staff](#)

ALA Editions is offering a new iteration of its eCourse on "[Basic American Sign Language for Library Staff](#)." ASL interpreter Kathy MacMillan (right) will serve as instructor for the six-week facilitated eCourse starting on June 2. MacMillan will use readings, multimedia resources, and online discussion boards to introduce basic ASL vocabulary and grammar appropriate for use in a library setting. Register through the ALA Store....

ALA Editions, Apr. 15

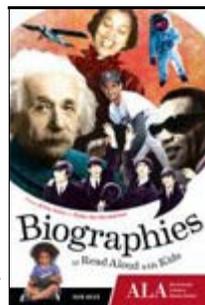


[Read-aloud biographies](#)

The right biography can be as enthralling as any work of fiction, blending facts with gripping storytelling.

[Biographies to Read Aloud with Kids: From Alvin Ailey to Zishe the Strongman](#) is a guide to the best ones for adults to read to kids. Noted children's book authority Rob Reid offers a choice selection of exemplary biographies that will entertain and educate children about a variety of fascinating people and their places in history. The book is published by Huron Street Press....

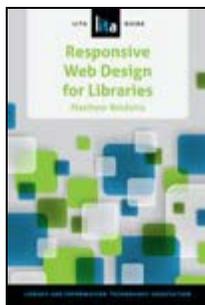
ALA Huron Street Press, Apr. 14



[A LITA guide to responsive web design](#)

By using responsive web design, libraries can build one website for all devices. In [Responsive Web Design for Libraries: A LITA Guide](#), published by ALA TechSource, web developer Matthew Reidsma, named "a web librarian to watch" by ACRL's TechConnect blog, shares proven methods for delivering the same content to all users using HTML and CSS. This guidebook will enable developers to save valuable time and resources by working with a library's existing design to add responsive design features....

ALA TechSource, Apr. 14



[Dazzle them with metaliteracy](#)

In [Metaliteracy: Reinventing Information Literacy to Empower Learners](#), published by ALA Neal-Schuman, information literacy experts Thomas P. Mackey and Trudi E. Jacobson describe the concept of

(Ohio) Metropolitan Library. The Youth Services Manager at Columbus Metropolitan Library embodies excellent customer service while working with families at our locations. Their primary work is leading multiple levels of staff in the Youth Services Programming and Collection Management areas. The person in this position will manage the operation of the Branch in the absence of the manager. The Youth Services Manager will manage, hire, train and evaluate the team that it is assigned to them....



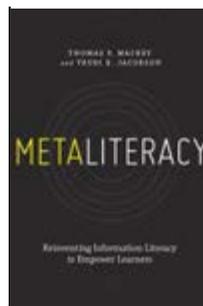
@ More jobs...

Digital Library of the Week



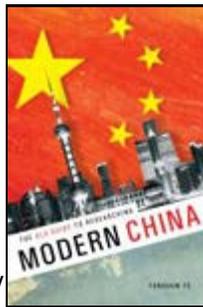
The [Illinois Digital Newspaper Collection](#), hosted by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, combines 1.2 million pages of 44 newspapers in one

metaliteracy, which expands the scope of traditional information skills to include the collaborative production and sharing of information in participatory digital environments. The authors show why media literacy, visual literacy, digital literacy, and a host of other literacies are critical for informed citizens in the 21st century....
ALA Neal-Schuman, Apr. 15



Researching modern China

Covering modern China, not just Chinese culture from a historical perspective, [*The ALA Guide to Researching Modern China*](#), published by ALA Editions, fills a sizeable gap in the literature. Originating as a Carnegie Whitney Award-winning book project, Yunshan Ye's research guide goes beyond a mere list of print resources to reflect the predominant role of digital resources in the changing landscape of scholarly research....



ALA Editions, Apr. 15

Librarians in uniform

Denise Rayman writes: "Continuing our [coverage](#) of ALA during World War I, this post will highlight the now very rare uniforms of the first military librarians. The Library War Service was not unique in having a uniform, as many volunteer groups active in World War I had their own distinctive uniforms, notably the Red Cross and the Salvation Army. There were two main styles of uniform in use by the ALA volunteers: the main style for camp librarians in green wool, with versions for men and women, and the hospital style in natural-colored pongee fabric."...



ALA Archives Blog, Apr. 14

[Go back to the Top](#)

Looking for engaging professional development? Booklist Webinars
Click to register for free, hour-long webinars that feature *Booklist* editors, publishing representatives, and librarian experts discussing everything from Common Core to weeding.

Booklist ONLINE

Featured review: Historical fiction

Doerr, Anthony. *All the Light We Cannot See*. May 2014. 544p. Scribner, hardcover (978-1-4767-4658-6).

A novel to live in, learn from, and feel bereft over when the last page is turned, Doerr's magnificently drawn story seems at once spacious and tightly composed. It rests,

freely accessible location. The site includes interactive features that allow users to tag articles, correct scanned text, and share on social media.

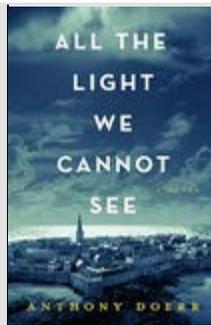
Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#) Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the [Love Libraries](#) site, Check out our [Featured Digital Libraries Pinterest board.](#)

Noted and Quoted

"There's something so heartwarming when the kids come out yelling, 'The Bookmobile's here!' They get so excited. I've had parents tell me that their children have been waiting all week for the Bookmobile."

—Sharon Bowman, outreach supervisor with the Licking County (Ohio) Library, in ["Bookmobile Team Spreads Passion for Reading to Communities."](#) *Newark (Ohio) Advocate*, Apr. 14.

"If you do meet your significant other in library school, be warned: They will ask you to consolidate your *Harry Potter* collections once you move in together and you will look at them aghast. You will never have any space in your apartment because



historically, during the occupation of France during WWII, but brief chapters told in alternating voices give the overall—and long—narrative a swift movement through time and events. We have two main characters, each one on opposite sides in the conflagration that is destroying Europe. Marie-Louise is a sightless girl who lived with her father in Paris before the occupation; he was a master locksmith for the Museum of Natural History....

[Top 10 historical fiction for 2014](#)



Brad Hooper writes: "Over the past 12 months, the historical fiction genre has been widely divergent in subject matter and approach. Even better, there is no reason to believe authorial creativity will dry up anytime soon. What follows is an annotated listing of the best historical fiction reviewed in *Booklist* between April 15, 2013, and April 1, 2014."...

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

[Go back to the Top](#)

you need so much bookshelf room. Also, you will probably have cats. So try not to be allergic to them."

—Allison R., "[So You've Decided to Go to Library School](#)," *The Toast*, Apr. 15.

@ [More quotes...](#)

Calendar

**Apr. 27–
May 3:**
[Preservation Week.](#)

Apr. 30:
[El día de los niños /
El día de los libros](#)
(Children's Day / Book Day).

May 1–5:
[Art Libraries Society
of North America,](#)
Annual Conference,
Grand Hyatt,
Washington, D.C.,
"Art+Politics."

May 1–7:
[Choose Privacy Week.](#)

May 5–6:
[National Library
Legislative Day.](#)
Washington, D.C.

May 6–8:
[Massachusetts
Library Association.](#)
Annual Conference,
DCU Center, Worcester.
"Expedition Library:
Let's Go!"

Las Vegas Update

[A drone's-eye view of Las Vegas](#)

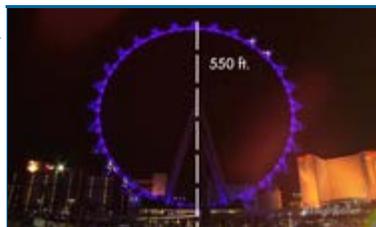
Elevated Media Productions shot this [footage](#) (0:56) during a recent conference in Las Vegas. It captured some pretty awesome aerials of the Vegas Strip with a drone supplied by DroneFly....

Vimeo, Apr. 12



[The world's tallest observation wheel](#)

The Las Vegas High Roller, at 550 feet the world's tallest observation wheel, opened March 31 at the LINQ outdoor pedestrian mall. Standing more than 100 feet taller than the London Eye, the High Roller has 28 glass-enclosed cabins that can hold up to 40 passengers each. Riders get exemplary views of the Strip and surrounding valley during the 30 minutes it takes the wheel to complete one full rotation. Located across from the Caesar's Palace Casino, the wheel [changes hues](#) at night from blue to red to green to purple. Tickets range from \$24.95 to \$59.95. Groups of 10 or more receive a discount. Watch



the [video](#) (1:24). More photos [here](#)....

Associated Press, Apr. 1; Go Gay Nevada Blog, Apr.; YouTube, Mar. 28; Amusing Planet, Apr. 11

[Eating vegan at the LINQ](#)

Paul Graham writes: "There is a new place to shop, eat, and play in Las Vegas, and it is called the LINQ. Situated in the shadow of the new High Roller, the LINQ is filled with restaurants, shops, salons, bars, and the fabulous Brooklyn Bowl. It may be one of the best places to now see a concert in Las Vegas. The great news is that the LINQ has a number of vegan options." Check the [rest of this Tumblr](#) for other choices....

Eating Vegan in Las Vegas, Apr. 5



[Conference packing and travel tips](#)

Bobbi Newman writes: "Almost three years ago I gave up checking bags and started traveling with only a carry on. I was tired of paying the extra baggage fees and waiting for my bag at the carousel. My primary carry on is an 13-year-old roller bag I picked up at Costco as part of a set. Here are the things I cannot live without at conferences."...

Librarian by Day, Apr. 15

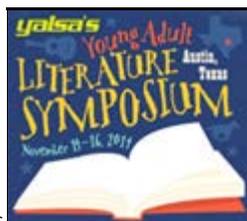


Division News

[Sign up for YALSA's YA Literature Symposium](#)

YALSA has opened [registration](#) for its fourth Young Adult Literature Symposium, November 14–16, at the Hyatt Regency Austin in Austin, Texas. Early bird pricing begins at \$195 for YALSA members, Texas Library Association, and Texas Association of School Librarians Members. The 2014 theme is "Keeping it Real: Finding the True Teen Experience in YA Literature."...

YALSA, Apr. 15



[New YALSAblog manager](#)

YALSA has named Crystle Martin (right) as the member manager of its YALSAblog. Martin currently serves on the Advisory Board for YALSA's *Journal of Research on Libraries and Young Adults*. She is a postdoctoral research associate at the University of California, Irvine, working with Mizuko (Mimi) Ito at the Digital Media and Learning Hub....

YALSA, Apr. 15



[ALSC President's Program](#)

ALSC has announced the theme and speakers for its 2014 Charlemae Rollins President's Program on June 30 at the ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas. This year's theme is "The Ripple Effect: Library Partnerships that Positively Impact Children, Families, Communities, and Beyond." Attendees will be inspired to create meaningful partnerships in libraries. Amy Dickinson (right), syndicated advice columnist, will deliver the keynote address....



May 7–9:

[Florida Library Association](#), Annual Conference, Buena Vista Palace Hotel and Spa, Lake Buena Vista. "Envision Excellence!"

May 7–9:

[Maryland Library Association/Delaware Library Association](#), Joint Conference, Clarion Resort, Ocean City, Maryland. "Turn It Up!"

May 19–20:

[University of North Texas Libraries](#), Open Access Symposium, Fort Worth. "The Business and Economics of Open Access."

June 5–7:

[Seventeenth Biennial Conference on Literature and Hawaii's Children](#), Chaminade University, Honolulu. "Beyond the Moon: Journeys Imaginary and Real."

June 6:

[Great Lakes Resource Sharing Conference](#), Toledo, Ohio.

July 12–13:

[Young Adult Literature Convention](#), Earl's Court, London, UK.

July 16–22:

[Hong Kong Book Fair](#).

Aug. 1:

[Indiana University Libraries Information Literacy Colloquium](#), Indiana University, South Bend. "Metaliteracy: Seeking Connections and Challenging Traditions."

ALSC, Apr. 15

[PLA to continue Leadership Academy](#)

PLA, in partnership with the International City/County Management Association, has been awarded a 2014 Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services for its project, "Navigating Change, Building Community: Outward-Focused Public Library Leadership Training." This three-year grant of \$213,682 will enable PLA to refine and implement the [PLA Leadership Academy](#) introduced in March 2013....

PLA, Apr. 14



[Data-driven decision-making](#)

"Statistics and Reports: Data-Driven Decision-Making," an ALCTS preconference at the ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas on June 27, will explore the options for making more decisions based on discoverable statistics and reports. This preconference will answer such questions as: What data is collected in technical services? Why is the information collected? What reports can be generated? How can the data be used to analyze collections, workflow, and positions? [Register](#) using Event Code ALC2....

ALCTS, Apr. 14

[LLAMA on web data collection](#)

LLAMA will present "Methods for Digging Deeper: Examining Web Services through the Lens of Data-Based Decision Making" in a May 28 webinar. This webinar will discuss why it's important to collect data about your website and services and how this data can create a foundation for assessment and improvement initiatives. [Register](#) online....

LLAMA, Apr. 14

[ALCTS virtual preconference](#)

ALCTS will offer "Library Preservation Today," a virtual preconference presented by instructors from its "Fundamentals of Preservation" web course. This three-day (June 16-18) virtual preconference will introduce the fundamentals of managing preservation efforts in libraries, archives, and historical societies. The presenters will be Karen E. K. Brown, Julie Mosbo, and Peter Verheyen. [Register](#) online....

ALCTS, Apr. 14

[LITA webinar on games in libraries](#)

A panel of library games experts will discuss the principles of gamification and how to use game elements for information literacy instruction on May 19 in a LITA webinar on "Games in Libraries for Outreach and Instruction." Online [registration](#) is available....

LITA, Apr. 14

[South Dakota joins the Trustee Academy](#)

The state of South Dakota recently joined nine other states in making the United for Libraries Trustee Academy, a series of online courses for library trustees, available to its libraries. The Trustee Academy is series of online courses to help trustees become exceptionally proficient in their roles on behalf of their libraries....

United for Libraries, Apr. 15



Aug. 4: [Lifelong Information Literacy Conference](#),

JSerra Catholic High School, San Juan Capistrano, California. "Transitions: High School to College."

Sept. 3-8: [Moscow International Book Fair](#), Russia.

Oct. 17: [The Conference for Entrepreneurial Librarians](#), Z. Smith Reynolds Library, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. "Take Risks, Embrace Change."

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct



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Awards & Grants

[2014 Justin Winsor Prize](#)

The Library History Round Table has awarded Kate Stewart the 2014 Justin Winsor Prize. Stewart, an archivist at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, received the award for her essay "The Man in the Rice Paddies Had Something to READ: Military Libraries and Intellectual Freedom in the Vietnam War." The award is presented annually to the author of an outstanding essay embodying original historical research on a significant subject of library history.... Office for Research and Statistics, Apr. 15

[Apply for a Sara Jaffarian Award](#)

The ALA Public Programs Office is now accepting nominations for the 2014 Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award for Exemplary Humanities Programming. School libraries, public or private, that served children in grades K–8 and conducted humanities programs during the 2012–2013 school year are eligible. The winning library will receive a \$4,000 honorarium. To be considered, [nominations](#) must be received by April 18....

Public Programs Office, Mar. 17

[2014 Academic Friend Conference Grant](#)

United for Libraries has awarded the inaugural 2014 Sage Academic Friend Conference Grant to Essraa Nawar (right), assistant to the dean for communications and external relations, Leatherby Libraries, Chapman University, Orange, California. Nawar will receive \$850 plus full conference registration to attend the 2014 ALA Annual Conference June 26–July 1 in Las Vegas....

United for Libraries, Apr. 14



[2014 Trustee Conference Grant](#)

United for Libraries has awarded the 2014 Gale Trustee Conference Grant to Donna Gerardi Riordan (right), vice president of the board of trustees of the Orcas Island (Wash.) Public Library. Riordan will receive \$850 plus full conference registration to attend the 2014 ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas....

United for Libraries, Apr. 14



[AALL's Gallagher Award winners](#) (PDF file)

The American Association of Law Libraries on April 15 named the three legal research professionals who will receive the 2014 Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award: Robert Berring Jr., Janis Johnston, and Carol Avery Nicholson. The award acknowledges sustained service to law librarianship, exemplary association support, and outstanding professional literature contributions....

American Association of Law Libraries, Apr. 15

["Libraries Are Beautiful" photo contest winners](#)

Gale has announced the winners of its [Libraries Are Beautiful: Inside and Out](#) photo contest. Launched in celebration of National Library Week, the contest showcases libraries that make their communities a more beautiful place—physically or metaphorically.



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aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:
americanlibrariesmagazine.org/aldirect

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The top five per category were selected by experts in art, architecture, and design. From the 25 finalists, winners were chosen by popular vote. The Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library in Memphis (above) won Best of Show....

Gale Cengage, Apr. 14

[Follett Challenge semifinalists](#) (PDF file)

For the third consecutive year, the \$200,000 Follett Challenge has provided a forum for K–12 schools from around the country to share inspiring stories of how their innovative programs are preparing students for the demands of the 21st century. On April 14, contest organizers announced this year's four semifinalists plus the People's Choice winners—those schools whose video submissions received the highest number of online votes from the public. The grand prize winner will be announced May 16....

Follett, Apr. 14

[2014 Pulitzer Prizes for fiction and nonfiction](#)

The 2014 [Pulitzer Prize](#) for fiction has been awarded to Donna Tartt, for her third and most recent novel *The Goldfinch* (Little, Brown). Tartt's novel tells the story of Theodore Decker, an orphaned Manhattanite who winds up in possession of a renowned painting, Carel Fabritius's *The Goldfinch*. The prize for general nonfiction went to Dan Fagin for *Toms River: A Story of Science and Salvation* (Bantam), and the prize for history was awarded to Jacqueline Jones for *A Dreadful Deceit: The Myth of Race from the Colonial Era to Obama's America* (Basic)....

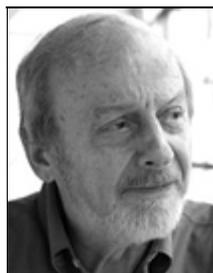
The Huffington Post, April 14; Pulitzer Prizes



[Library of Congress Prize for American Fiction](#)

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington has announced that E. L. Doctorow (right), author of such critically acclaimed novels as *Ragtime*, *World's Fair*, *Billy Bathgate*, *The March*, and his current novel, *Andrew's Brain*, will receive the Library of Congress Prize for American Fiction during the 2014 Library of Congress National Book Festival, August 30. The prize honors an American literary writer whose body of work is distinguished not only for its mastery of the art but for its originality of thought and imagination....

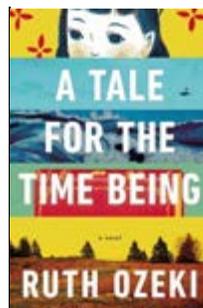
Library of Congress, Apr. 16



[2014 Los Angeles Times Book Prizes](#)

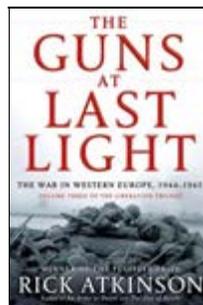
The *Los Angeles Times* hosted its 34th Annual Book Prizes ceremony at the University of Southern California on April 11, honoring 50 writers in 10 categories for their 2013 books. Susan Straight received the Robert Kirsch Award for Lifetime Achievement, while John Green took the Innovator's

Award. The winner in the fiction category was Ruth Ozeki, for *A Tale for the Time Being* (Viking)....
Los Angeles Times, Apr. 14



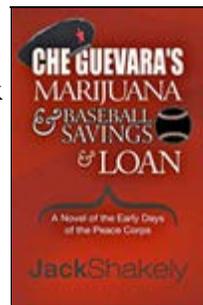
[2014 Society of Midland Authors awards](#)

The Society of Midland Authors has announced the winners and finalists for their 2014 awards for books published in 2013. Founded in 1915, the Society has honored Midwest authors with annual awards since 1957. This year's banquet is on May 13 at the Cliff Dwellers Club in Chicago. The winner in the adult fiction category is Christine Sneed for *Little Known Facts* (Bloomsbury); Rick Atkinson won the adult fiction award for *The Guns at Last Light: The War in Western Europe, 1944–1945* (Holt)....
Booklist Online: Likely Stories, Apr. 11



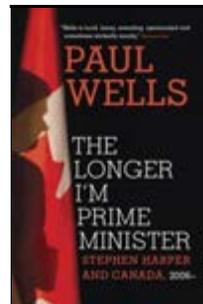
[2014 Oklahoma Book Award winners](#)

The Oklahoma Center for the Book on April 12 acknowledged the winners of the 2014 Oklahoma Book Awards in Oklahoma City's Jim Thorpe Museum and Sports Hall of Fame. The winner in the young adult category was Tim Tharp's *Mojo* (Knopf), while the winner in adult fiction was Jack Shakely's *Che Guevara's Marijuana and Baseball Savings and Loan* (Xlibris). The Arrell Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award for contributions to Oklahoma's literary heritage was given to writer Alvin O. Turner, author of *Waiting for the Rain*....
Oklahoma Center for the Book, Apr. 12



[2014 J. W. Dafoe Book Prize](#)

Two weeks after receiving the [Shaughnessy Cohen Award](#) for Political Writing, *Maclean's* politics editor Paul Wells has won the 2014 J. W. Dafoe Book Prize for *The Longer I'm Prime Minister: Stephen Harper and Canada, 2006–* (Random House Canada). Wells was selected for the \$10,000 prize—which honors the best book on Canada, Canadians, or Canada's place in the world—from a shortlist of five titles....
Quill and Quire, Apr. 3, 15



[Go back to the Top](#)



Get the inside scoop on pressing library topics.

Libraries in the News

[Miami-Dade budget cuts would](#)

[eliminate half its full-time staff](#)

Without more tax dollars, Miami-Dade County's library system would fire 56% of its full-time staff and bring on part-time workers to operate branches that will see hours cut by an average of 35%, according to a document released April 10. Library Director Raymond Santiago released the library's \$30 million spending plan as part of a public-records request by the *Miami Herald*. Library advocates had been pressing Gimenez and library administrators to detail how a \$50 million budget would be slashed to \$30 million....

Miami Herald, Apr. 10



[Former Detroit library official pleads guilty](#)

A former top Detroit Public Library official accused of pocketing \$1.4 million in kickbacks pleaded guilty April 15. Timothy Cromer (right) was the library's chief administrative and technology officer from 2006 to 2013 until he was fired from his \$145,323-a-year job. He could be sentenced to up to 15 years in prison after pleading guilty to bribery and conspiracy to commit bribery. Cromer had been under scrutiny and criticism for years....

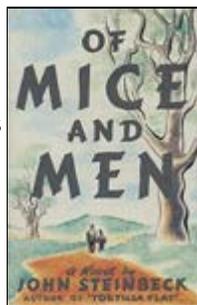
Detroit News, Apr. 15



[Of Mice and Men sustained in Brainerd](#)

Betsy Gomez writes: "In a week that has brought us ALA's latest list of the [Ten Most Frequently Challenged Books](#) of 2013, we're heartened to find that reason has ruled the day in Brainerd, Minnesota. On April 14, the Brainerd school board [voted to keep](#) John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men* in the school's curriculum. Parent Doug Kern had filed a complaint against the book, citing profanity and racial slurs as the foundation for his argument against the book's inclusion in classrooms."...

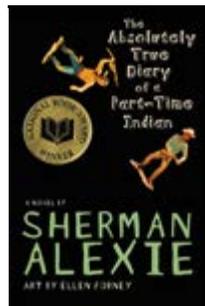
Comic Book Legal Defense Fund, Apr. 16; *Brainerd (Minn.) Dispatch*, Apr. 14



[True Diary persists, despite Meridian school ban](#)

Two Washington state women, fans of Sherman Alexie's *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, were disappointed when the Meridian (Idaho) School District pulled the book from its high school supplemental reading list April 1. Sara Baker and Jennifer Lott decided to [raise money](#) and buy copies to distribute to Meridian students on World Book Night, April 23. The uproar has also boosted demand for the book in local bookstores and libraries....

Boise (Idaho) Statesman, Apr. 16



[Free Library hands out cards to Philadelphia school students](#)

In a year that's seen budget cuts all but eradicate librarians from the Philadelphia School District's buildings, the district is now leaning even more heavily on the Free Library of Philadelphia to help make up for that shortfall. The schools and the library have merged their

databases and determined that roughly 98,000 of the school district's 136,000 students do not yet have public library cards. The library and the district will now distribute personalized library cards to every student without one....

WHYY-FM, Philadelphia, Apr. 15

CSU Fullerton library repairs could be costly

Cal State Fullerton sustained \$6.5 million in damage from the magnitude 5.1 earthquake that rattled the campus on March 28. Pollak Library South is closed while repairs to the ceiling and ventilation systems are being performed. The earthquake damaged drop ceilings in the library, and replacing those would cost about \$6 million. As a result of the closure, students have had issues retrieving books required for their classes. Interlibrary loan services and ebooks provided through the library are available as alternatives....

CSUF *Daily Titan*, Apr. 13



Colby College faculty object to off-site book storage

A tussle over a library renovation at Colby College in Waterville, Maine, has sparked a debate about the role physical books still play for library users. In 2013, thousands of books began to be transferred from the Miller Library to a new storage building, part of a \$12.3 million renovation that also brought new program and study spaces into the library. A group of 76 faculty members have signed a series of petitions against the renovation, calling it "poorly thought out."...

Augusta (Maine) *Kennebec Journal*, Apr. 14

Chicago Public Library launches redesigned website

The Chicago Public Library launched a new website April 10, its first redesign since 2007 touting features that can be likened to "Pinterest meets Amazon." The [new site](#) not only allows users to search the digital shelves more quickly. They can now read and post book reviews shared by users at 200 libraries around the world, and they can check their place in line for a reserved item, said CPL spokeswoman Ruth Lednicer....

Chicago Tribune, Apr. 10



Reading rooms will pop up around New York City

The [Uni Project](#) is preparing a series of pop-up reading rooms that will be moving around New York City in April and May. These outdoor reading zones will provide books to the general public. The group partners with community-based organizations (including all three metropolitan library systems) and it prioritizes underserved NYC neighborhoods....

GalleyCat, Apr. 11



Retired librarian's pop-up book collection at Kent State

A former librarian's pop-up book collection is on exhibit at Kent State University in Ohio. Carol Davis, who retired from the Leetonia (Ohio) Community Public Library in 2003, recently donated over 500 pop-up books to the university library and has now been invited to speak

about collecting the books at a special [symposium](#) in May. Davis said she started collecting the books about 30 years ago, buying her first one for a friend while in Columbus....

Salem (Ohio) News, Apr. 14

["Human books" tell war stories at Toronto Public Library](#)

Most students count numbers while doing math, but Parkdale, Ontario, resident Manuel Rodriguez (right) had to count bombs in his university calculus exam during the Salvadoran Civil War. Rodriguez was one of the five guests featured at the "Human Library" at the Parkdale branch of the Toronto Public Library on April 12. The guests, known as "human books," shared their stories of experiencing life in conflict zones with visitors. The guests were available to be checked out for a small discussion....

Parkdale (Ont.) Villager, Apr. 14



[Rebuilt Sarajevo Library nearly finished](#)

Workers are rushing to finish the reconstruction of the Sarajevo Library—a landmark destroyed in 1992 during the Bosnian war—in time for the June ceremonies marking the centenary of the assassination that ignited World War I. The reconstruction has taken 18 years. Architects said it took them time to find documents and photos of the details of the building in order to copy the 19th-century pseudo-Moorish construction to put the building back exactly the way it was before Serbian shells destroyed it....

Associated Press, Apr. 11



[Go back to the Top](#)

Issues

[Libraries are dying? Think again](#)

Jareen Imam writes: "Like many visitors to Seattle, Glenn Nagel found himself in the city trying to avoid the rain. After wandering around, he eventually made his way to the Seattle Public Library to escape the dreary weather. Little did he know that stepping into Seattle's Central Library would spark his curiosity. This past year, Nagel has traveled to 12 libraries across the United States, photographing their shelves and hallways like an explorer."...

CNN Travel, Apr. 14



[A national partnership for financial literacy](#)

Susan Hildreth writes: "I was delighted to be part of a Money Smart Week [event](#) on April 7 at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, where Richard Cordray, director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, announced a partnership with public libraries to help make financial information and educational resources available to the library-going public. The CFPB initiative, 'Our Community Financial Education Project,' aims to make a difference."...

UpNext: The IMLS Blog, Apr. 16; *American Libraries* feature

[The cost of universal knowledge access](#)

Brian Mathews writes: "What if Obama paid for your Elsevier subscription? Or rather—what if the federal government covered the expense? Instead of individual libraries (or consortia) battling it out with the likes of Elsevier and other academic publishers, what if the government purchased access to *major* academic journals (and ebook packages?) for all citizens? Or all households? Let's call it universal knowledge access."...

Chronicle of Higher Education: The Ubiquitous Librarian, Apr. 15

[Court decision misinterprets copyright law](#)

Carrie Russell writes: "On April 11, ALA joined an [amicus brief](#) calling for reconsideration of a 9th circuit court [decision](#) in *Garcia v. Google*, the case where actress Cindy Sue Garcia sued Google for not removing a YouTube video in which she appears. Garcia appears for five seconds in *Innocence of Muslims*, the radical anti-Islamic video that fueled the attack on the American embassy in Benghazi. Garcia did not know that her five-second performance would be used in a controversial video."...

District Dispatch, Apr. 14

[Takedown notice ≠ infringement](#)

Abby Lull writes: "Amidst a flurry of congressional hearings and treaty negotiations, it is important to remember that statistics often tell half of the story. As I catch up on recent US House subcommittee hearings, I continue to marvel at how often both committee members and witnesses conflate a total number of takedown notices *with actual cases of infringement*. This is not a new problem."...

District Dispatch, Apr. 14

[Your homework: Sue the federal government](#)

Ben Protesch writes: "At the University of Virginia School of Law, one class is filing document requests and lawsuits. Along with professors and Business Research Librarian Jonathan Ashley (right), the students are tackling the contentious world of white-collar crime, challenging federal prosecutors to unseal settlements with big banks and corporations. In a matter of months, the classroom litigators at the law school's First Amendment clinic filed their first lawsuit against the Justice Department and won the release of a secret settlement deal."..

New York Times: Dealbook, Apr. 8



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Heartbleed is about to get worse](#)

Brian Fung writes: "Efforts to fix the notorious [Heartbleed bug](#), which [undermines](#) the common security software for internet connections called OpenSSL, threaten to cause major disruptions to the internet over the next several weeks as companies scramble to repair encryption systems on hundreds of thousands of websites at the same time, security experts say. New revelations suggest that skilled hackers can use the bug to create fake websites that mimic legitimate ones to trick



consumers into handing over valuable personal information.” Two Heartbleed-related [cyber break-ins](#) have been reported, one in Canada and the other in the UK....

Washington Post, Apr. 9, 14; *The Guardian* (UK), Apr. 16; Tom's Guide, Apr. 15

[How to check whether your Android device is at risk](#)

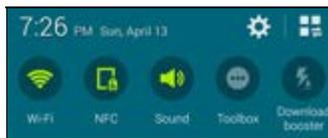
Jamie Condliffe writes: “Heartbleed is causing heartache on hundreds of servers all over the internet, but security researchers have also warned that the bug could allow [direct hacks](#) of Android, too. Here’s how to check if your device is at risk.”...

Gizmodo, Apr. 15; Ars Technica, Apr. 14

[16 Samsung Galaxy S5 tips and tricks](#)

Ryan Whitwam writes: “The Samsung Galaxy S5 is a big phone, both physically and figuratively. Packed within its slightly boring plastic shell is megapowerful hardware running the latest and greatest software. When a phone has as many features as this one, figuring out where everything is and how it works can be a little daunting. These tips will help you make the most of your shiny new GS5.”...

Green Bot, Apr. 14



[How to buy a digital camera](#)

Jim Fisher writes: “When it comes to shopping for electronics, digital cameras are among the more difficult products to purchase. Not only are there hundreds of models to choose from, you have a number of different types ranging from simple compact point-and-shoot cameras to advanced D-SLRs and mirrorless cameras with interchangeable lenses. There are five main classes of cameras to consider, and we’ll break them down here to help you decide which type of camera will best suit your needs and your budget.”...

PC Magazine, Apr. 9



[A beginner’s guide to Carousel](#)

Alyssa Bereznak writes: “Choosing a service to save and share your precious smartphone photos is an important decision. [Carousel](#), a new photo-sharing service made by the cloud-storage company Dropbox, offers a sleek, fuss-free medium to store, organize, display, and share all your images; and it is a real competitor to mainstays like Flickr, Google Drive, and iCloud. The key to this iOS and Android app’s appeal is its image-rich gallery, which you can scroll through with a casual drag of a finger.”...

Yahoo! Tech, Apr. 15



[Google’s new modular phone](#)

Mat Honan writes: “[Project Ara](#) is Google’s attempt to reinvent the cellphone as we know it. Instead of a slab of glass and metal that you have no ability to upgrade, except by buying a new device, it’s an attempt to launch a phone where all of the main components are interchangeable via modules that click in and out, attaching via electro-permanent magnets. Despite being highly customizable, it will only come in three main sizes, helping to eliminate the kind of device fragmentation that currently plagues Android.”...



Wired: Gadget Lab, Apr. 16

[Graphene will change gadgets forever](#)

Michael Andronico writes: "The future of technology could hinge on a single material. The industry is currently buzzing over the potential of graphene, which is the strongest, slimmest, and most malleable material in known existence. [Graphene](#), which is a form of carbon, could change the way our devices look, feel, perform—and even interact with our bodies. Here's how this sensational substance will influence the world of tech."...



Laptop, Apr. 14; *New York Times*: Bits, Apr. 13

[Go back to the Top](#)

E-Content

[Apple loses bid to have state antitrust cases dismissed](#)

Apple lost an attempt on April 15 to get a judge to dismiss antitrust lawsuits filed by state attorneys general that accuse the tech giant of conspiring with book publishers to fix ebook prices. US District Judge Denise Cote rejected Apple's contention that the motion should be rejected because the states lacked standing in the matter. In her 24-page opinion, Cote said that Apple presented an argument that seemed to contradict itself....

CNET News, Apr. 15

[Library ebook loans lead to user ebook sales](#)

Nate Hoffelder writes: "It's been just over a month since the Publisher's Association launched a year-long [e-lending pilot](#) in partnership with four libraries in the UK, and the early results are showing that ebook borrowers are also buyers. Janene Cox (right), the president of the Society of Chief Librarians, was speaking at the London Book Fair in early April when she [told](#) *The Bookseller* that 'people who loan books, buy books.'"...



The Digital Reader, Mar. 5, Apr. 13; *The Bookseller*, Apr. 11

[DCL ebook report, April](#)

James LaRue writes: "The Douglas County (Colo.) Libraries Ebook Report for April 2014 has been released ([PDF file](#)). There are two points of interest in this report. First, self-published works don't always make it onto this type of list, even if they are wildly successful, when they lack an ISBN. Second, DCL staff couldn't get into Bilbary despite repeated attempts, so that column has been removed."...

AL: E-Content, Apr. 14

[Which metrics really matter?](#)

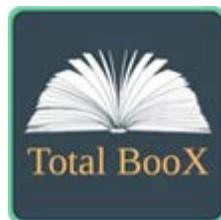
Mathew Ingram writes: "Thanks to the web and real-time measurement tools, the media industry has gone from having virtually no hard data on readers and attention to an embarrassment of riches—not only can we measure what people click on, but we can measure how far down the page they got when they were reading, whether they posted a comment, which social networks they came from, and a hundred other pieces of data. The only problem is that this is very

much a double-edged sword.”...
GigaOM, Apr. 15

[Total Boox free reading week](#)

Israel-based ebook vendor Total Boox has opened up its entire collection of ebooks through April 20 in honor of National Library Week. The free reading site will provide no-restrictions access to more than 20,000 books. Just sign up, download the Total Boox reader app, and download some ebooks....

Total Boox



[Some Sage journals free through April 30](#)

Gary Price writes: “Some more freebies to share as National Library Week gets underway: Sage is offering free full-text access to seven information science and 83 education journals in April. You’ll need to [register](#) for a free Sage account, but this only takes about a minute or two.”...

InfoDocket, Apr. 14

[Go back to the Top](#)

Books & Reading

[We need bigger megaphones](#)

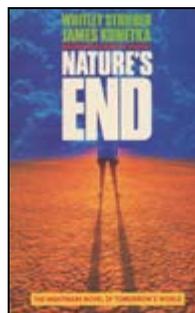
Kelly Jensen writes: “Although the conversation about representation and diversity within the publishing world and the kid lit world specifically is far from new, it’s begun hitting critical mass over the last year. More members of underrepresented groups have come forward and added their voices to the dialogue. What do people with large social networks, followings, and devoted fan bases have to lose if they take the time to address such megaissues as diversity?”...

Book Riot, Apr. 15

[When science goes horribly wrong](#)

Tim Lebbon writes: “Maybe the fact that we don’t really trust ourselves all that much—or perhaps the realization that we *really are* affecting the delicate balance of nature—is finally hitting home. Either way, humanity screwing up and reaping what it has sown is a familiar background to many disaster and apocalyptic novels. I’m a big fan of novels where fiddling with science causes a little bit of upset. Or, indeed, a lot of upset. And here are nine of my favorites.”...

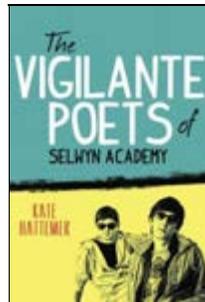
The Huffington Post, Apr. 15



[YA novels with characters who read or write poetry](#)

Anna Dalin writes: “In celebration of National Poetry Month, I wanted to share some YA fiction titles in which a major character reads or writes poetry. If you are reading this blog entry, then you probably enjoy poetry too. And if you are like me, you could do with some inspiration. So take a look at this list, pick out a couple novels to read, and let the presence of poetry move you to read or write some verse yourself.”...

YALSA The Hub, Apr. 16



[Female desire and empowerment](#)

Alegria Barclay writes: "It's been almost 40 years since Judy Blume's *Forever* was published, and surprisingly little progress has been made in the realm of female sexual agency and sex-positive portrayals of young women. But there has been a recent increase in YA books that speak openly and positively about teenage girls and their sexual desire. This is all the more heartening because they do so in a way that neither diminishes the need to be responsible when it comes to making sexual choices nor avoids discussing the emotional consequences—both good and bad—that come with having sex."...

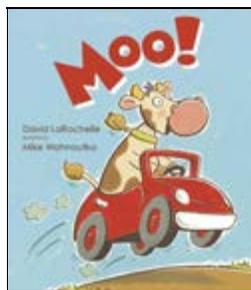
YALSA The Hub, Apr. 11



[Gut-bustingly funny picture books](#)

Elizabeth Bird writes: "Funny is as funny does. What you find hilarious I might find only mildly mirthful. And what a four-year-old thinks is hilarious is incredibly different from what his parents might find droll. That said, there's nothing quite as great as reading a book to a kid and watching her get some real enjoyment out of the text. Here are some picture books that manage to be funny to both adults and kids at the same time."...

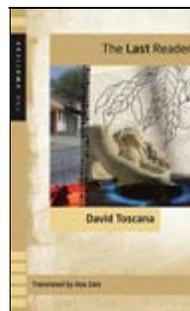
New York Public Library blogs, Apr. 9



[11 stereotype-breaking literary librarians](#)

Benjamin Woodard writes: "Though the librarian stereotype continues to thrive in television and film, it is thankfully shattered in the world of literature. Rather than offering up dry, buttoned-up types (or their opposite, the sex-crazed nymphomaniac hiding behind a pair of horn-rimmed glasses), many contemporary writers attach the occupation to immensely complicated characters forced to confront their own morals. Here I recommend 11 pieces of contemporary literature that help put the tired image of the introverted, prudish library worker to rest."...

BuzzFeed Books, Apr. 15



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tips & Ideas

[British Pathé releases huge video archive on YouTube](#)

On April 14, British Pathé and Mediakraft Networks released one of the largest [archives of historic video](#) available on YouTube. Covering some of the most significant moments of modern history, 85,000 historic pieces of audiovisual content will become available on the world's biggest online video platform. Students, scholars, teachers, journalists and everyone interested in contemporary history will be able to view, share, and embed roughly 3,500 hours of high-resolution historic videos....

Mediakraft Networks, Apr. 15

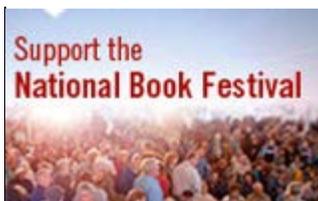


[LC announces author line-up at](#)

[National Book Festival](#)

Such writers as Jonathan Allen, Amie Parnes, Peter Baker, Ishmael Beah, Kai Bird, Billy Collins, Kate DiCamillo, Francisco Goldman, Henry Hodges, Siri Hustvedt, Cynthia Kadohata, US Reps. John Lewis and James Clyburn, Alice McDermott, George Packer, Lisa See, Maria Venegas, and Gene Luen Yang will all thrill book-lovers at the 2014 Library of Congress National Book Festival on August 30 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C. For the first time in its history, the festival will hold evening hours....

Library of Congress, Apr. 10



[The secret society of forbidden literature](#)

Masha Goncharova writes: "There was something strange going on at the Mid-Manhattan branch of the New York Public Library on April 14. If regular patrons glanced up, they might wonder why a blonde girl in a colorful sundress and two long fishtail braids was walking people over to a corner, making them swear an oath against animal cruelty, then running away. Or why a man took groups of two behind a bookshelf to show them a beetle and talk about Franz Kafka."...

New York Times: ArtsBeat, Apr. 15



[Things to do before you graduate from library school](#)

Brianna Marshall writes: "My final month as a graduate student will be a whirlwind of activity, largely due to the fact that I am starting a new job just weeks after I graduate. Whether you have a new job, are still on the hunt, are moving or not—graduating from your program is undoubtedly a busy time. Here are a few things that are on my to-do list before graduating."...

Hack Library School, Apr. 11

[Brew up some outreach](#)

Lizz Zitron writes: "According to a 2013 [survey](#) from the National Coffee Association, about 83% of American adults drink coffee. Looking for a way to reach more adults in your library? Consider any of these java-infused outreach techniques. Could your Friends group offer free coffee to anyone who brings a friend in to sign up for a library card during special times? Would Campus Dining Services offer discounted or free coffee to individuals who bring in a coupon obtained from your newsletter or Facebook page?"...

The Outreach Librarian, Apr. 9; Bloomberg News, Mar. 22, 2013



[A little rant on Little Free Libraries](#)

Joe Hardenbrook writes: "Within a two-mile radius of my little corner of Brookfield, Wisconsin, there are four Little Free Libraries. I like the concept: People sharing books. People creating a collection. People encouraging reading. Targeting underserved areas and people. Those are good things. But it's not a library. Here's what I worry about: the general public's perception and the lumping together of little free libraries and actual public libraries."...

Mr. Library Dude, Apr. 9



[Book-based programming for preschoolers](#)

Jenny Oney writes: "At our library we have started to offer book-based programming to help our youngest customers get ready for kindergarten. We offer our parent/caregiver customers a mini program (often one-on-one) on how to read a book with their child. The next step involves sitting with the parents and sharing a picture book. We talk with the parents about what to do before, during, and after reading a story. Here are some examples of what we share."...

ALSC Blog, Apr. 11

[Visual literacy training at Northern Colorado](#)

Two faculty in the University of Northern Colorado Libraries Instructional Services Department creatively encouraged visual literacy when they organized a poster fair as their students' final project in the fall of 2013. William Cuthbertson taught



"Research Skills for Beginning Researchers" and Lyda Ellis taught "Criminal Justice Library Research." The students' culminating projects were research posters on the topics they explored over eight weeks....
UNC Library Letters

[Libraries can help feed children this summer](#)

Kristin Caulley writes: "Every summer when school ends, millions of kids and teens are at risk of going hungry because they no longer have access to the free or reduced-price meals they received when they were in school. The USDA has created the [Summer Food Service Program](#) to cover this summer meal gap. Libraries can get involved in many ways."...



UpNext: The IMLS Blog, Apr. 11

[Michigan Activity Pass program renewed](#) (PDF file)

The "Michigan Activity Pass" program, presented by the Library Network, a partnership between Michigan's nearly 400 public libraries and more than 70 arts and cultural organizations, has been renewed for a second year. The program allows library card holders to get a reduced-cost or complimentary-access pass to participating museums and art centers....



The Library Network, Mar. 25

[The future of libraries in theological education](#)

Twelve institutions have been selected to participate in "The Future of Libraries in Theological Education: A Conversation with Chief Academic Officers, Information Technology Officers, and Library Directors." The program, sponsored by the American Theological Library Association and Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, will be held as a preconference event on June 24, ahead of the 2014 ATS meeting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania....



American Theological Library Association, Apr. 10

[Andreas Vesalius and De Fabrica](#)

Michael J. North writes: "This year we commemorate the 500th anniversary of the birth

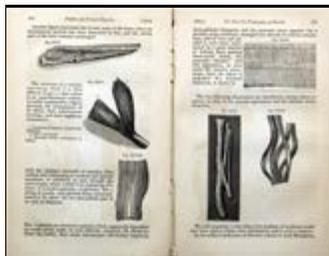
of Andreas Vesalius (1514–1564), who is best known for changing how we do medical research with his groundbreaking book [*De Humani Corporis Fabrica Libri Septem \(Seven Chapters on the Structure of the Human Body\)*](#), published in 1543 and generally known as *De Fabrica*. Vesalius placed the study of anatomy at the center of medical education, insisted on physicians performing their own medical research through hands-on investigation, and revolutionized the use of illustration as a teaching tool.”...



Circulating Now, Apr. 9

[150 years of biomedical journals online](#)

Representatives of the US National Library of Medicine and the Wellcome Trust recently signed a memorandum of understanding to work together to make thousands of complete back issues of historically significant biomedical journals freely available online. The terms include a donation of £750,000 (\$1.2 million) to the NLM that will support coordination of the three-year project to scan original materials at the article level, and Wellcome’s work to secure copyright clearances and permissions....



National Library of Medicine, Apr. 14

[Differentiating instruction at storytime](#)

Sara Bryce writes: “This week I had a program where I picked the incorrect book. It was a good book, and good for the topic, and a perfect read-aloud for 8–12 year-old kids. Problem was, the day of the program, 4–8 year-old kids showed up. I still read the book, skimming pages while following the story. As I thought about my book of choice, and how disappointed in myself I was, I realized that my programming is influenced by education in a way that I never realized before: [differentiating instruction](#).”...

Bryce Don’t Play, Apr. 10; Teaching Today

[Tools to help students organize their research](#)

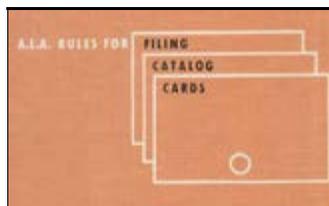
Richard Byrne writes: “Organizing and writing a bibliography can feel like the most tedious part of writing a research paper. The following five tools can help students organize and create their bibliographies. One of the most useful new add-ons for Google Documents is the [EasyBib Bibliography Creator](#), which makes it easy to properly cite resources and format a bibliography in APA, MLA, or Chicago style.”...



Free Technology for Teachers, Mar. 11, Apr. 13

[File those catalog cards](#)

Submitted for Awful Library Books: “This book is particularly awful as it was on the regular nonfiction shelf in a high school library. This wasn’t even on a professional shelf being kept for historic value after the elimination of the card catalog 35 years ago.



It was actually there for student use. It is also an unbelievably

unnecessary tome; any librarian (or anyone with an ounce of common sense) could figure out how to alphabetize the card catalog without this instructional manual." See the responses by Bob Holley and Karen Muller...

Awful Library Books, Apr. 14

[Greenlight for *The Librarians* series on TNT](#)

TNT has ordered 10 episodes of the scripted drama *The Librarians* and tapped Rebecca Romijn to star as a skilled counterterrorism agent. Noah Wyle, who starred in the TNT movie trilogy, will reprise his role as Flynn Carsen. The new series, which will debut in late 2014, will center on four people who are enlisted to assist Flynn as "Librarians," members of an ancient organization hidden beneath the Metropolitan Public Library who are dedicated to protecting an unknowing world from secret, magical reality and protecting the artifacts housed in the library....

Hollywood Reporter, Apr. 10



[Library roof doubles as a slide](#)

Imagine how much easier it would be to get kids excited about going to the library if the library itself doubled as a playground. That's exactly what happened in an earthquake-ravaged village in China's Yunnan Province. The town's new library doubles as a community center with a slide on top. And it's beautiful. Architects John Lin and Olivier Ottevaere designed The Pinch to be a prominent community space....

Gizmodo, Apr. 9



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american libraries DIRECT

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | April 23, 2014

Poet-to-Poet Project

Students Watch, Write, and Submit Poems for **national poetry month**

[poets.org >](http://poets.org)



STEM Gale eBook Collections on GVRL
Monograph titles from Springer, Elsevier, and more.
View the title list »



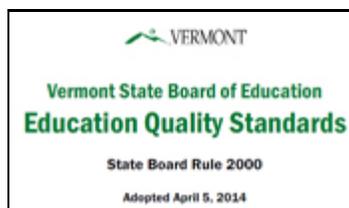
american libraries BUYERS GUIDE

American Libraries Online

[Vermont librarians win standards battle](#)

School librarians in Vermont won a standards victory early in April when the Secretary of State's Office approved Education Quality Standards ([PDF file](#)) that emphasize the essential role of school librarians and libraries in student success. The effective date, April 5, couldn't have been better timed, since April is School Library Month. The standards now specify that every school "develop, maintain, and expand as needed a collection of print, digital, and technology resources, administered by a certified library media specialist."...

AL: The Scoop, Apr. 23



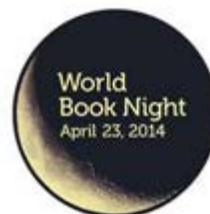
[In Practice: Meaningful assessment](#)

Meredith Farkas writes: "These days, more people understand that assessment data can be used to improve library services and that it's a critical tool in the effort to remain a vital part of our communities. In this era of accountability and accreditation, it's easy to lose sight of why we collect data and do assessment. Keeping the focus on learning and improvement is the key to doing meaningful assessment that will make your library better."...

American Libraries column, Mar./Apr.

[Spreading the joy of reading on World Book Night](#)

While celebrating William Shakespeare's 450th birthday, libraries, bookstores, and readers [around the world](#) ([PDF file](#)) will also take part in World Book Day and World Book Night on April 23. Held in the United States, the United Kingdom, and the Republic of Ireland, the World Book Night [initiative](#) aims at promoting the value of reading, printed books, bookstores, and libraries to everyone year round. For this year's World Book Night, 1,055 libraries



[Follow @amlibraries](#)



[2014 Annual Conference and Exhibition](#), Las Vegas, June 26–July 1. Get tools and immediately applicable, practical knowledge from the four "[Turning Outward to Lead Change in Your Community](#)" sessions (ALA's Libraries Transforming Communities initiative) on Saturday and Sunday.

are [participating](#) in distributing a [total of 38](#) adult and [YA books](#). To get information about joining future World Book Night celebrations, email [Danielle Alderson](#)....

AL: The Scoop, Apr. 23; International Publishers Association, Apr. 23; Member Programs and Services, Apr. 17; World Book Night; YALSA The Hub, Apr. 23

[Will's World: Fired up for retirement](#)

Will Manley writes: "Every library director with a standard seven-member board of trustees knows one fact of life: the rule of four. It takes only four votes to get you fired. If you're unlucky, your board has only five members. Things can get very dicey when it takes only three votes to get you fired. So if you really want to be a library director, look for a nine-member board of trustees. It takes real talent to alienate five people; so if you do get fired in that scenario, you probably deserve it."...

American Libraries column, Mar./Apr.



[Keeping kids in stitches](#)

Lorain, Ohio, youngsters learn how to navigate a sewing machine courtesy of the Cleveland Public Library branch's "Sew Lorain Kids" program. Debuting in fall 2013, the low-tech drop-in maker class has students producing finger puppets, lunch napkins, and hand warmers. The kids are also experimenting with upcycling older garments....

American Libraries feature, Apr. 22



[Go back to the Top](#)



ALA News

[10 libraries selected for Public Innovators Cohort](#)

On April 22, ALA selected 10 public libraries to participate in an intensive 18-month, community-engagement training program as part of the Libraries Transforming Communities Public Innovators Cohort. The cohort is part of ALA's [LTC initiative](#), a national plan to help librarians strengthen their role as core community leaders and change agents. In addition to the training, each library will receive an \$8,000 cash grant to help cover the cost of their new community-engagement work....

AL: The Scoop, Apr. 22



Peter Parker spends a lot of time juggling school and friends, as well as fighting crime as the Amazing Spider-Man. When it comes to unwinding, Spider-Man suggests dropping into your library to READ. Use this [poster](#) to help make your library an inviting place for students to hang out,

[IFLA to meet in Columbus, Ohio, in 2016](#)



The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions has notified Columbus, Ohio, that it has been selected as the site for its 2016 World Library and Information Congress. The event will be held August 11–18, 2016, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. More than 4,000 attendees from 120 countries are expected to fill more than 11,000 hotel rooms and generate an estimated \$11 million in economic impact....

International Relations Office, Apr. 23

[Library broadband takes center stage at IMLS hearing](#)

On April 17, the Institute for Library and Museum Services held a [public hearing](#) to discuss the importance of high-speed connectivity in libraries and outline strategies for helping libraries expand bandwidth to accommodate growing network use. The hearing convened three expert panels, each of which discussed a different dimension of library connectivity. Watch [C-SPAN coverage](#) of the hearing....

District Dispatch, Apr. 18; *New York Times*, Apr. 17; C-SPAN, Apr. 17



[ALA election closes April 25](#)

The 2014 ALA election will close at 11:59 p.m. Central time on Friday, April 25. If you have not yet cast your vote, please do so now. If you have parked your ballot (started but not yet completed), return to complete the process. In the event you cannot locate the email with your voting credentials, the ALA [Member and Customer Service Department](#) can help you. Contact them at (800) 545-2433, option 5....

Office of ALA Governance, Apr. 17



[Apply for the ALA Leadership Institute](#)

If you haven't submitted your [application](#) for the 2014 "Leading to the Future" ALA Leadership Institute (August 10–14 at the Eaglewood Resort in Itasca, Illinois), you have until April 25. Building on the success of the 2013 inaugural ALA Leadership Institute, and with support from Innovative Interfaces, the immersive leadership development program for 40 mid-career librarians will be led again by ALA Past-President Maureen Sullivan and ACRL Content Strategist Kathryn Deiss....

Office of ALA Governance, Apr. 17



[Libraries, community engagement, and learning](#)

Paul Signorelli writes: "Having been tremendously inspired by interactions with librarians who are community leaders in various parts of the country over the past few months, I'm not at all surprised to see that the 2014 edition of [The State of America's Libraries](#) report has a wonderful new section:



read, study, and use the many resources available to them.

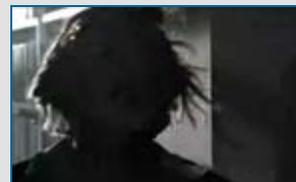
NEW! From ALA Graphics.

Libraries on Film



[Strike Up the Band](#)

(1940). Judy Garland as lonely young library staffer Mary Holden sings "Nobody" at the information desk and in the stacks. As she puts away a set of books, one falls behind the shelf. She gathers up books from patrons at closing time.



[Strip Mind](#)

(2007, Germany). Jodie Ahlborn as clinical psychiatrist Samantha spends extra time studying in the library. Barrett Jones plays a crazed library assistant in Munich.



[The Substitute](#)

(1996). Tom Berenger as ex-marine Jonathan Shale is posing as a substitute history teacher at Columbus

[Libraries and Community Engagement](#). At the heart of this section are the stories.”...

Building Creative Bridges, Apr. 15

[It's Right to E-Read Day in Europe](#)

The European Bureau of Library, Information, and Documentation Associations launched the “[Right to E-read](#)” campaign on April 23, an initiative advocating for copyright law that enables libraries to fulfill their enduring mission to make information available to the communities they serve. In response, ALA President Barbara Stripling congratulated EBLIDA for developing the ebook advocacy campaign....

Office for Information Technology Policy, Apr. 23



[Advocate for libraries on Virtual Library Legislative Day](#)

Virtual Library Legislative Day is part of National Library Legislative Day on May 5–6, when hundreds of library advocates will be on Capitol Hill to meet with members of Congress and their staffs. Library advocates who cannot make it to Capitol Hill for the event can still be a part of the effort by calling or emailing their elected officials on May 6, or anytime the week of May 5–9. Talking points, links, and more resources are available [online](#)....

United for Libraries, Apr. 22



[Florida LIS students in Tallahassee for Library Day](#)

Every spring, the Florida Library Association hosts a Library Day at the Legislature in Tallahassee. Library leaders from around the state gather at the State Capitol to meet with lawmakers to advocate for libraries. This year on March 25, students from the University of South Florida School of Information in Tampa were paired with county library delegations. They shared some of their stories....

Librarians-in-Training, Mar. 31



[Preservation Week begins April 27](#)

Celebrate the fifth annual [Preservation Week](#), April 27–May 3. This national awareness campaign, sponsored by ALCTS, was developed to promote the understanding and importance of care for personal and community cultural heritage collections, whether they are books, documents, photographs, textiles, paintings, sculptures, furniture, decorative arts, or any collectibles. Libraries are the perfect place to share preservation information. Here are [some suggestions](#) on how to plan a last-minute event....

ALCTS, Apr. 22; Programming Librarian, Apr. 11



[“Defense Against the Digital Dark Arts” webinar](#)

[Registration](#) is now open for “Defense Against the Digital Dark Arts” the 2014 Choose Privacy Week webinar, on May 5. Presenter Eric Strohane, field services librarian at North Dakota State Library, will discuss how online surveillance works, give practical tips on improving privacy on public computers, and provide a better understanding of current legal



High School in Miami. Four gang members try to beat him up in the library, but he shushes them, hurls books at them, then begins throwing the thugs out the library windows. He asks red-headed librarian Hannah Dillon (Peggy Pope) to lock up their guns in a caged office in the library but is shot by Juan Lacas (Marc Anthony), who finds another gun. Juan then turns to shoot Dillon but she is aiming a gun at him. Shale then revives (he was wearing a bullet-proof vest) and tosses Juan out the window.



[Suburban Girl](#)

(2007). Sarah Michelle Gellar as assistant editor Brett Eisenberg and Maggie Grace as Chloe go to a literary lecture in a library (filmed at the New-York Historical Society). Geoffrey Cantor is a library curator.

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](#).

threats to digital privacy and online anonymity....

Office for Intellectual Freedom, Apr. 22

[First Sharjah Book Fair/ALA Library Conference](#)

The first Sharjah International Book Fair/ALA Library Conference is set to take place November 11–13 at the Expo Centre in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, during the 33rd Sharjah International Book Fair. The two-day library conference will offer free concurrent programs on a wide range of topics for librarians from public, academic, school, government, and special libraries. There is no fee for librarians to attend but [registration](#) is required....

International Relations Office, Apr. 22



[Evaluation in the accreditation review process](#)

Laura Dare writes: "Here we take a look at how the ALA Office for Accreditation uses evaluation to improve the accreditation process. The office depends on candid evaluations from those actively engaged in the comprehensive review: the program and the External Review Panelists. From early in the review process until six months after the decision is made, the office gathers feedback through questionnaires that include statements with Likert-scale responses as well as prompts for open-ended responses."...

Prism 22, no. 1 (Spring)

[Create effective videos and screencasts](#)

Do you want to harness the power of video for achieving learning objectives? The Learning Round Table is hosting an all-day boot camp preconference, "[Creating Effective Videos and Screencasts](#)," on June 27 prior to the ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas. Facilitator Royce Kitts of Washburn University will guide you through the process of creating effective video learning content. Add Event Code LRT1 to your [registration](#)....

Learning Round Table, Apr. 18

[Supporting digital scholarship](#)

In the "[Supporting Digital Scholarship](#)" workshop on June 19, Karen Calhoun (author of *Exploring Digital Libraries: Foundations, Practice, Prospects*) and Aaron Brenner will present a community-centered model of success factors for creating thriving digital library services. You will learn how your team of digital library managers and subject liaisons can create value in scholarly research, communication, and practice....

ALA TechSource, Apr. 22



[Gadgets in the library](#)

From the iPad to e-readers, gadgets are everywhere. As these personal electronic devices become ubiquitous, it's essential that libraries are fluent in their language. Whether your library wants to use them in its services or purchase them to circulate to patrons, the two-part workshop, "[Gadgets in the Library: A Practical Guide to Personal Electronics for Librarians](#)," with Jason Griffey on July 23–24, will provide the foundation for bringing your library into the future through gadgets....

ALA TechSource, Apr. 22

[Putting the "pop" in information literacy](#)

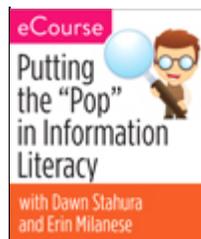
Career Leads
from
ALA JobLIST

[Media Preservation Librarian](#), Michigan

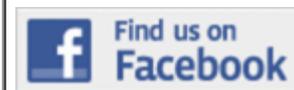
State University Libraries, East Lansing. Reporting to the Head of Digital Curation and working closely with staff in Digital and Multimedia Center, G. Robert Vincent Voice Library, Special Collections, and other library units, the Media Preservation Librarian will plan, develop and provide leadership for a media preservation program for library digital and analog collections by reviewing existing library practices and analyzing needs and establishing policies and best practices that promote long-term stewardship and access to audiovisual and moving image materials; process, organize, convert, and migrate objects and collections; implement quality control procedures; identify and collaborate with technical partners within the library, campus, and consortial

Dawn Stahura and Erin Milanese offer two tools that can make it easy to enliven your instructional sessions—popular culture and assessment. In this facilitated eCourse, "[Putting the 'Pop' in Information Literacy](#)," you will learn how to include pop culture in your instruction. Through weekly assignments, you'll build a fully defined, one-shot instructional session using a popular-culture theme....

ALA Editions, Apr. 22



communities....



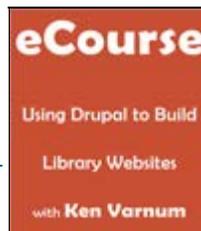
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@ [More jobs...](#)

[Using Drupal to build library websites](#)

Drupal is an open source content management tool that allows users to build complex websites without extensive programming, making it perfect for library websites. In the introductory eCourse "[Using Drupal to Build Library Websites](#)," librarian, consultant, and Drupal expert Ken Varnum will guide participants in building an attractive, functional library website using Drupal 7, while highlighting what is still applicable to Drupal 6....

ALA Editions, Apr. 22



[Bugs, bogs, bats, and books](#)

In [Bugs, Bogs, Bats, and Books: Sharing Nature with Children through Reading](#), teacher and librarian Kathleen T. Isaacs spotlights recent titles appropriate for children ages up to 10 that will encourage children's wonder and enthusiasm for nature. Themed chapters identify picture books on nature-related subjects that kids love. Isaacs also offers supplemental science activities that adults and children can do together....

Huron Street Press, Apr. 17



Digital Library of the Week



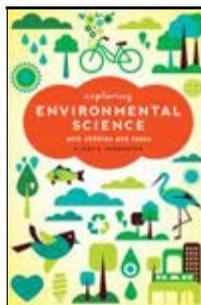
The [Digital Library of Inscriptions and Calligraphies](#), hosted by the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Alexandria, Egypt, is a digital record of more than 3,000 writings carved on buildings and artifacts across the ages.

Transliterations and translations of Ancient Egyptian, Arabic, Persian, Turkish, and Greek inscriptions are included, along with photos and detailed descriptions of the artifacts. Information is available in both Arabic and English. The inscriptions are browsable by language, the classification of the inscription, or type of artifact.

[Exploring environmental science](#)

In [Exploring Environmental Science with Children and Teens](#), published by ALA Editions, Eileen G. Harrington offers a selection of unique programming ideas that not only entertain, but also arm children and teens with information about environmental issues. There is no need to have a particular background in science to use this all-in-one resource, which includes ways to introduce environmental science themes into existing library programs....

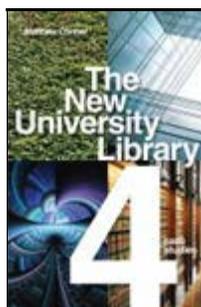
ALA Editions, Apr. 21



[Innovations in university libraries](#)

Using the results of a year-long study, [The New University Library: Four Case Studies](#), published by ALA Editions, profiles four academic libraries that are transforming themselves with extraordinary ingenuity and diligence. Matthew Conner examines topics such as reference, personnel, technology, collections, buildings, campus roles, and library culture—and how they're changing in response to current trends—at UIUC, UC Merced, UH Manoa, and UC Davis....

ALA Editions, Apr. 22



[Library service to prisoners, 1936–1939](#)

Lydia Tang writes: "In the mid-1930s, ALA formed a Committee on the Libraries of the American Prison Association. Found in Record Series 23/40/5, this collection contains the Committee's surveys from 1936 to 1938 of prison libraries, reports on prison librarianship, correspondence, and some prison newsletters. The most touching aspects of this collection are the letters and poems by prisoners who benefited from the library and literacy services during their incarceration."...

ALA Archives Blog, Apr. 21



[Go back to the Top](#)

Looking for engaging professional development?

Booklist 

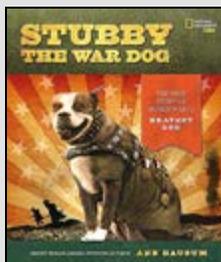
Click to register for free, hour-long webinars that feature *Booklist* editors, publishing representatives, and librarian experts discussing everything from Common Core to weeding.

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Nonfiction for youth](#)

Bausum, Ann. *Stubby the War Dog: The True Story of World War One's Bravest Dog*. May 2014. 64p. Grades 4–7. National Geographic, hardcover (978-1-4263-1486-8).

The popularity of tales about dogs in war stems from the inherent poignancy—sweet, loyal, sad-eyed canines entering into the mad chaos of man-made destruction. But enter they occasionally do, and none more famously than Stubby. The homeless Boston terrier mix began frequenting a National Guard training ground in 1917, and along with copious food scraps, he found fellowship. With the help of his adopted master, 25-year-old Bob Conroy, Stubby learned to march and salute superiors. Conroy smuggled the clever mutt aboard a ship to France, and from there, Stubby became not only the good-luck charm of the 102nd Infantry but also a valued member....



[Stubby the War Dog by Ann Bausum](#)



Lynn Rutan writes: "If I had a nickel for every kid who ever told me history was boring, I'd be living in the south of France eating glorious cheese and sipping a crisp Provençal rosé.

[Stubby the War Dog](#) is guaranteed to win kids' hearts—and they will learn a lot of history along the way."...

Bookends Blog, Apr. 21

[Remembering the Great War](#)

Sarah Hunter writes: "WWI started 100 years ago this July, and in light of that somber centennial, we're revisiting Hazel Rochman's



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

"I believe librarians come with a built-in sense of adventure or maybe just a healthy dose of amusement at the absurd, because you never know what will happen next at a library."

—Ester Moberg, "[Librarians See It All at 'Home Away from Home.'](#)" Astoria, Ore., *Daily Astorian*, Apr. 21.

@ [More quotes...](#)

Calendar

May 2–3:

[Buffy to Batgirl Conference](#), Rutgers University, Camden, New Jersey. Women and gender in science fiction, fantasy, and comics.

May 3:

[Free Comic Book Day.](#)

May 8:

[University College London, Department of Information Studies](#), Ebooks 2014 Conference.

May 14:

November 1, 2001, column, '[Read-alikes: The War to End All Wars.](#)' and highlighting 13 more historical novels for teens about the Great War. Encompassing a variety of perspectives, the books on this list offer an unflinching look at battle, the home front, and the aftermath of a war fought by young men not much older than these novels' target audience."...

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

[Go back to the Top](#)

Las Vegas Update

[So you want to do a poster session?](#)

Fallon Bleich writes: "This is why poster sessions are so fantastic: They give you a great reason to go to a conference, they can sometimes cover some costs (really depends on the conference), and they're a great way to network with other library professionals. Plus, they look fantastic on your résumé and you can use them to go to smaller conferences you might not have thought about before. So, what goes on during a poster session?"...

INALJ, Apr. 22



[Celebrity chefs on the Vegas strip](#)

The latest roster of culinary masters opening restaurants in Vegas would make any *Top Chef* contestant swoon. From [Giada de Laurentiis](#) to [Guy Fieri](#) to [Daniel Boulud](#) to [José Andrés](#), celebrity chefs are adding star power to a dining scene that was once dominated by all-you-can-eat buffets. Las Vegas now has one of the most comprehensive collections of celebrity chefs and more Master Sommeliers than most other US destinations....

USA Today, Apr. 16; Eater Vegas, Apr. 8, 18, 21, 23



[10 things you didn't know about Las Vegas](#)

Lissa Townsend Rodgers writes: "Not many cities evoke as many instant associations as Las Vegas. It's a town whose story has been told thousands of times, in books such as *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, movies such as *Casino* and television shows from *Vega\$* to *Vegas*. But there's much about Vegas you might not know—and we don't just mean magic tricks, personal secrets, or those holes in the desert you see in gangster movies."...

CNN Travel, Apr. 17



[Jogging routes in Las Vegas](#)

Pauline Frommer writes: "There are two terrific websites created specifically to help runners plan the best routes. They are [MapMyRun](#) and [USA Track & Field](#) (for runs in the US only). The first is more helpful, though it does require registration. You are given the choice of

[Link Resolvers and Knowledgebases.](#)

NISO webinar, 1–2:30 p.m. Eastern time.

May 16:

[Oregon Virtual Reference Summit.](#)

Seventh Mountain Resort, Bend.

May 18–20:

[Virginia Library Association.](#)

[Paraprofessional Forum Board.](#)

Annual Conference, DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton, Richmond.

June 13:

[Connecticut Information Literacy Conference.](#)

Manchester (Conn.) Community College. "Our New Frontier: Metaliteracy, Threshold Concepts, New Standards, and Other Wild Ideas."

July 22–24:

[Library of Congress.](#)

Digital Preservation 2014 Conference, Washington, D.C.

Aug. 25–26:

[IFLA Rare Books and Manuscripts Section.](#)

IFLA Satellite Meeting, Lyon, France. "History of Librarianship."

Sept. 14–20:

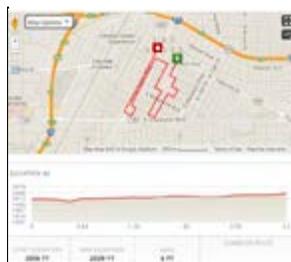
[Outside the Lines: Libraries](#)

[Reintroduced.](#) a celebration that demonstrates the creativity and innovation happening in libraries.

Sept. 17–19:

[North Dakota Library Association.](#)

Annual



choosing pretested runs that other joggers in your destination have put together; or creating a sensible plan of your own. With the USATF website, runners are asked how far they hope to run. Then they're given access to maps that fit their specifications, created by other runners."...

Frommer's, Mar. 23

[Get buzzed at Bolt Barbers](#)

Bolt Barbers at 707 East Fremont Street, Box Car and Caboose #1140, Container Park, is an old-school barbershop staffed only with barbers. They specialize in tapered haircuts, fades, high and tight military haircuts, mohawks, recon haircuts, college contour cuts, or whatever haircut or shave you can think up. With any service and Bolt's Hairy Beast Card, you can enjoy a mug of draft root beer, a game or two of bowling on a vintage 1959 16-foot United Big Ball Bowler, or a few games of sit-down Donkey Kong in the "living room" at the Monkey House....

Bolt Barbers



[Las Vegas and water](#)

John M. Glionna writes: "An ongoing drought and the Colorado River's stunted flow have shrunk Lake Mead to its lowest level in generations. The reservoir, which supplies 90% of Las Vegas' water, is ebbing as though a plug had been pulled from a bathtub drain (right). By mid-April, Lake Mead's water level measured just 48 feet above the system's topmost intake straw. But water use—and how to curtail it—poses a complex puzzle, officials say."...

Los Angeles Times, Apr. 20



[Hunting for the best carry-on bag](#)

Seth Kugel writes: "How do you know when it's time to replace your carry-on bag? My boxy black Samsonite, circa 2003, was reaching the end of its road. I'm obviously not the kind of traveler who cares deeply about luggage. So I started from the beginning: What's the least I can pay for a bag that looks decent and can take some serious abuse? Hard, soft, or duffel? What pockets are right for me? And do I need [spinner wheels](#)?"...

New York Times: Frugal Traveler, Apr. 16; Overstock.com



Division News

[Putting the US in RUSA](#) (PDF file)

M. Kathleen Kern writes: "The R in RUSA often overshadows the US. I'm not being cute here and talking about us (although we are important). The US in RUSA that is missed by many librarians,

Conference, Ramada Inn, Bismarck.

Sept. 19: [Southeast Florida Library Information Network](#), virtual

conference. "User Experience: Seeing Your Library through the User's Eyes."

Oct. 7–9: [Library Research Seminar VI](#),

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, iHotel and Conference Center. "The Engaged Librarian: Libraries Partnering with Campus and Community."

Oct. 8–11: [Dublin Core Metadata Initiative](#),

Annual Meeting and International Conference, Austin, Texas. "Metadata Intersections: Bridging the Archipelago of Cultural Memory."

Nov. 14: [Academic Library Association of Ohio](#),

Annual Conference, Kalahari Resort and Convention Center, Sandusky.

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us

American Libraries
Direct

particularly those not involved in RUSA, is User Services. RUSA has a lot going on in user services, just as most libraries have many user services that they provide. User services are everywhere, yet they can be a little difficult to call out and to find.”...

RUSQ 53, no. 3 (Spring): 209–212

[Visit the Teen Read Week website](#)

YALSA has launched its 2014 [Teen Read Week website](#) as part of Celebrate Teen Literature Day, April 17. Online community members now have full access to a variety of resources to help them plan their Teen Read Week activities, October 12–18. Individuals who are not online community members yet are encouraged to join for free to gain full access to resources, perks, and monthly updates....

YALSA, Apr. 17



[2014 Teens’ Top Ten nominees](#)

YALSA officially announced the 2014 Teens’ Top Ten Nominees on April 17 in honor of Celebrate Teen Literature Day. A list of the nominees with annotations can be found on the [Teens’ Top Ten website](#). Teens are encouraged to read the 25 nominees before the national Teens’ Top Ten [vote](#), which will take place August 15 through Teen Read Week....

YALSA, Apr. 17



[Rise of the introverts](#)

Is the rise of the quiet influencer the future face of business? International speaker and executive coach Jennifer Kahnweiler (right) says yes. Hear more from her at the ALCTS President’s Program on June 30 during the ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas, where she will describe the six strengths introverts can use to their advantage....

ALCTS, Apr. 22



[Fundamentals of collection assessment](#)

Modeled on the popular six-week online course, ALCTS will present a “Fundamentals of Collection Assessment” preconference on June 26–27 before the 2014 ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas. This day-and-a-half session will introduce the fundamental aspects of collection assessment in libraries. Add Event Code ALC1 to your [registration](#)....

ALCTS, Apr. 22

[ALCTS virtual preconference](#)

ALCTS will present a three-day (June 10–12) virtual preconference designed to inform and inspire attendees to develop or expand scholarly communication programs on their own campuses and to identify content recruitment opportunities for library-supported publishing and institutional repositories. [Register](#) online....

ALCTS, Apr. 22

[United for Libraries at BEA](#)

United for Libraries and Algonquin Books will present “Journey of a Book: From Writer to Reader” on May 30 at Book Expo America in New York City. Join Lin Enger (right), author of the forthcoming historical novel *The High Divide*, editor Kathy Pories, and

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



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agent P. J. Mark as they discuss the path a book takes—in this case, a work of historical fiction—from the writer’s inspiration to the final step of getting it into the reader’s hands....

United for Libraries, Apr. 22

[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

National School Library Program of the Year Award

Eaglecrest High School (right) in Centennial, Colorado, is the 2014 National School Library Program of the Year Award recipient.

Sponsored by the Follett Corporation, the NSLPY award recognizes a school library program that meets the needs of the changing school and library environment and is fully integrated into the school’s curriculum. The recipient receives \$10,000 toward its school library program....

AASL, Apr. 22



Michael Buckland wins Kilgour Award

Michael Buckland (right), professor emeritus in the School of Information at the University of California, Berkeley, is the 2014 winner of the \$2,000 Frederick G. Kilgour Award for Research in Library and Information Technology. The award, which is jointly sponsored by LITA and OCLC, is given for research relevant to the development of information technologies....

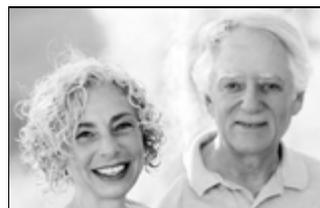
LITA, Apr. 21



2014 Library Hi Tech Award

Victoria Reich and David S. H. Rosenthal (right) have been named the winners of the 2014 *Library Hi Tech Award* for Outstanding Communication in Library and Information Technology sponsored by LITA and Emerald Group Publishing. Reich and Rosenthal are being recognized for their collaboration to ensure the preservation of digital content through their creation and development of the LOCKSS program that launched in 1999....

LITA, Apr. 21



2014 Ex Libris Student Writing Award

Brigid Mooney Gonzales (right), MLIS student at San José State University School of Library and Information Science, has been named the winner of the 2014 LITA/Ex Libris Student Writing Award, sponsored by LITA and Ex Libris Group. Her paper, “Linking Libraries to the Web: Linked Data and the Future of the Bibliographic Record,” describes the



Katie Bane:
kbane@ala.org

Send news and feedback:
aldirect@ala.org

AL Direct FAQ:
americanlibrariesmagazine.org/aldirect

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potential use of linked data to make library catalogs and online resources interoperable with other data across the web....

LITA, Apr. 21

2014 WHCLIS Award

Mary Lynn Collins (right), a library trustee from Frankfort, Kentucky, is the winner of the 2014 White House Conference on Library and Information Services Award, which is given to a nonlibrarian participating in National Library Legislative Day. It covers hotel fees in addition to a \$300 stipend to reduce the cost of attending the event, held this year on May 5–6....



Office of Government Relations, Apr. 22

2014 Library of the Future Award

ALA has named the “Enriching the Lives of a Challenged Community by Lending Tablets” project at the Queens (N.Y.) Library the 2014 winner of the ALA Information Today Library of the Future Award. The award recognizes the library for its distribution of tablets with library-curated content to help the communities served by seven Hurricane Sandy-affected libraries rebuild....

Office of ALA Governance, Apr. 22

AASL awards

AASL has announced the recipients of its 2014 awards and grants, which recognize excellence and showcase best practices in the school library field in categories that include collaboration, leadership, and innovation....

AASL, Apr. 22

Apply for a Friends of ALSC Institute Scholarship

In an effort to support ALSC’s goal of continuing education for children’s librarians, the Friends of ALSC are offering [two scholarships](#) to the ALSC National Institute in Oakland, California, September 18–20. Scholarship recipients must be ALSC members who work directly with children in a library setting. The scholarships will include institute registration (at the early bird rate) and a \$1,000 travel stipend to cover airfare and hotel lodging. [Apply](#) by May 30....



ALSC, Apr. 22

Library Box wins a Knight Prototype Fund grant

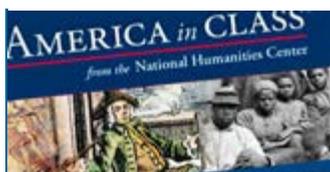
On April 22 the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation announced funding for 17 new projects through the Knight Prototype Fund, which helps people explore early-stage media and information ideas with \$35,000 in funding. One of the projects funded was [LibraryBox](#), designed by University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Chief Technology Strategist Jason Griffey. LibraryBox is a device that provides access to digital information in areas with poor or no internet connectivity....



Knight Foundation, Apr. 22

2014 Primary Source Awards

The Center for Research Libraries created the CRL Primary Source Awards in 2009 to recognize innovative uses of primary



materials by faculty, librarians and library staff, students, and other researchers. The categories are in access, research, and teaching. This year's winner in the teaching category was the National Humanities Center for the [Lessons section](#) of its America in Class website....

Center for Research Libraries, Apr. 22

[2014 Jackson Poetry Prize](#)

Claudia Rankine (right) has been awarded the 2014 Jackson Poetry Prize by the nonprofit organization Poets and Writers. The prize, which comes with \$50,000, is awarded annually to an American poet of "exceptional talent who deserves wider recognition." Rankine is the author of the collections *Don't Let Me Be Lonely*, *Plot*, and (forthcoming) *Citizen: An American Lyric*....

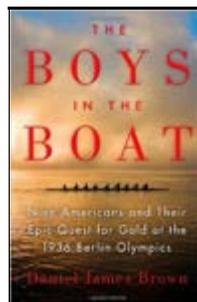
Publishers Weekly, Apr. 21



[2014 Indies Choice Awards](#)

The winners of the 2014 Indies Choice Book Awards and the E.B. White Read-Aloud Awards, as voted by independent booksellers nationwide, were announced April 15 by the American Booksellers Association. The winner of the Adult Fiction Book of the Year was *Life After Life: A Novel* by Kate Atkinson (Reagan Arthur Books), and the winner of the Adult Nonfiction Book of the Year was *The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics* by Daniel James Brown (Viking)....

Bookselling This Week, Apr. 15



[Go back to the Top](#)

Get the inside scoop on pressing library topics.

Libraries in the News

[Burned Albuquerque branch reopens](#)

The North Valley branch of the Albuquerque Bernalillo County (N.Mex.) Public Library reopened April 15, more than nine months after it closed due to an arson fire in the children's section. The fire caused extensive smoke damage and destroyed 80% of the 50,000 book collection. Crews had to gut the 14,000-square-foot, 20-year-old building. Library Director Dean Smith said the building now has fewer but more efficient light fixtures, a new heating and cooling system, a fresh paint job, new carpet, and extra power....

Albuquerque Journal, Apr. 19



[Dallas Friends group appeals to city council](#)

The Friends of the Dallas Public Library made its semiannual pilgrimage to City Hall to plead for more money. Their case is a simple one. The main downtown library is open a mere 40 hours per week. The city fares poorly when measured by library funding, both as a percentage of its annual budget and per capita. To remedy this, author and DPL Friend Karen Blumenthal (right) offered a rather bold proposal....

Dallas Observer, Apr. 22



[Alec Baldwin to raise funds for Central Falls library](#)

Actor Alec Baldwin will be holding a [fundraiser](#) on June 7 aimed at raising money for the Adams Memorial Library in Central Falls, Rhode Island. The money will help finance the construction of a media lab at the library, which the library cannot afford to do on its own. Ticket holders can enter a raffle for a chance to read a dialogue on stage with Baldwin, who has been supporting the library and Central Falls High School since 2011....

WPRI-TV, Providence, R.I., Apr. 19

[Milwaukee considers loaning *The Bookworm*](#)

The Milwaukee Public Library board decided April 22 that it will consider the long-term loan of one of its treasures: *The Bookworm* (right), an 1850 painting by German romantic painter Carl Spitzweg that was donated to the library in 1972. The board [received an offer](#) from an unidentified person for the artwork, valued at \$400,000, and went into a closed session during the public meeting to consider the possibility of a sale or loan....

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Apr. 21–22



[School library staffing in Pennsylvania](#)

Things may be looking up for school libraries in Pennsylvania. Researchers say school libraries across the state are still lacking the proper resources, but staffing levels may be increasing in the next school year. A big drop happened around 2011 with state budget cuts, when about 100 school librarian positions were eliminated. An increased number of school librarian positions are expected to be funded in 2015–2016....

WITF-FM, Harrisburg, Pa., Apr. 17

[11 states can close low-performing charter schools](#)

Eleven states have passed laws that require charter school authorizers to shut down the schools ([PDF file](#)) if they do not reach certain benchmarks. The states are California, Florida, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Nevada, North Carolina, Ohio, Texas, and Washington. Such laws have been growing in popularity over the past several years....

Education Week: Charters and Choice, Apr. 21

[Alberta school phases out books, keeps librarians](#)

The library shelves at St. Mary School (right) in Westlock, Alberta, are now nearly empty as the school moves toward a different educational philosophy including a



kindergarten program and more online research. The librarians will take on a more active role within classrooms, serving as technology experts and research assistants. The change runs parallel to a shift taking place across the province, with Alberta Education moving away from traditional teaching methods in favor of a discovery-based approach....

Westlock (Alberta) News, Apr. 22

[New head of Library and Archives Canada](#)

More than a year after his predecessor abruptly quit, the new head of Library and Archives Canada will arrive in June at an institution facing huge challenges over digitizing Canada's history in an era of federal budget cuts. Guy Berthiaume (right), president of the Bibliothèque et Archives Nationales du Québec since 2009, will take over its federal counterpart June 23. Former Archives head Daniel Caron resigned in May 2013 after harsh criticism of his expenses, which included billing taxpayers nearly \$4,500 for personal Spanish lessons....



Postmedia News, Apr. 18

[Pakistan madrassa library named after Osama bin Laden](#)

An Islamic seminary for women in Pakistan's capital Islamabad has renamed its library after Osama bin Laden, the former al-Qaeda chief. The Jamia Hafsa Madrassa is linked to the Red Mosque, known for its alleged links with militants.



Its 2,000 books are all Islamic texts. A paper sign on one of the doors proclaims Bin Laden a "Shahid" (martyr). There are no chairs or any table in the library; just two computers on the floor....

BBC News, Apr. 18

[Go back to the Top](#)

Issues

[The myth of the Digital Native](#)

Megan O'Neil writes: "Northwestern University teachers Eszter Hargittai (right) and Brayden King say that the familiar narrative about tech-smart young people is false. Their course grew out of years of research conducted by Hargittai on the online skills of millennials. The findings paint a picture not of an army of app-building, HTML-typing 20-somethings, but of a stratified landscape in which some, mostly privileged, young people use their skills constructively, while others lack even basic internet knowledge."...



Chronicle of Higher Education, Apr. 21

[How libraries will evolve](#)

Michael Agresta writes: "Like so many other time-honored institutions of intellectual and cultural life—publishing, journalism, and the university—the library finds itself on a precipice at the dawn of a digital era. What are libraries for, if not storing and circulating books? With their hearts cut out, how can they survive? Across the United States, librarians have been experimenting with ways of expanding on a newly elaborated mission."...

Slate: Design, Apr. 22



[Brazil passes an internet Bill of Rights](#)

Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff laid the foundations April 23 of a vision for the future of the global internet, which includes respect for fundamental principles such as freedom of expression, individual privacy, and human rights. These are the main guiding elements of the bill passed in the Senate April 22, creating Brazil's first [bill of online rights](#), known as the Marco Civil. The announcement was made at the [opening ceremony](#) of the NETMundial Global Multistakeholder Meeting on the Future of Internet Governance in São Paulo....

Investor Ideas, Apr. 23; Associated Press, Apr. 23; Reuters, Apr. 24



[Case studies on the impact of broadband](#)

In 2010, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration awarded more than \$200 million in matching grants to establish or upgrade public computer centers throughout the US, more than 2,000 of which are operated by public libraries. These grants complement \$3.4 billion in infrastructure investments that have connected more than 1,300 libraries nationally with ultra-fast broadband. What impact are these expanded libraries having in their communities? Here are the [first three](#) of 15 case studies....

National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Apr. 17

[Information literacy: A battle won and lost](#) (PDF file)

Susanna M. Cowan writes: "Information literacy is alive and well. And should be. But perhaps not by that name, and perhaps not in the hands—at least not mostly in the hands—of librarians. Information literacy must, like so many other library services, enter the educational commons, in the sense of a collaborative network of pedagogies and practices that crosses internal and external institutional boundaries."...

portal: Libraries and the Academy 14, no. 1 (2014): 23–32

[Why do we need a public domain?](#)

Kevin Smith writes: "The public domain is a source of annoyance and bewilderment to many creators. Their creations often seem like their children, and the expiration of copyright is like snatching those children away. But the public domain is not free at all; it is purchased at the price of the copyright monopoly. The two things are different sides of the same coin. Were it not for the state-granted exclusive rights in copyright, there would be no need for the public domain."...

Scholarly Communication @ Duke, Apr. 22

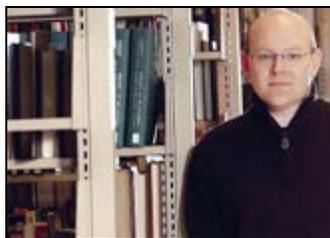
[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[The messy world of discovery tools](#)

Marc Parry writes: "A major change is underway in how libraries organize information. The rise of discovery tools, which mine giant indexes of aggregated content, is generating new tensions. Because some companies that make the search tools are also in the content business, selling article databases and other material to libraries, one fear is that firms could favor their own content in results. Another is that discovery software, by sluicing content together, could deluge users with less-appropriate resources."...

Chronicle of Higher Education, Apr. 21



[A revamped Gmail could take encryption mainstream](#)

Klint Finley writes: "Encryption is the best way to protect your online communications from the prying eyes of the National Security Agency. So says NSA whistleblower Edward Snowden. The rub is that email encryption systems like PGP (Pretty Good Privacy) are a real pain for people to use, especially if they're not steeped in the minutiae of computing. That means few people use PGP, and those who do are in danger of using it incorrectly. But it looks like Google is trying to change that."...

Wired: Enterprise, Apr. 23



[Scan PDFs with your smartphone](#)

Whether you're saving notes or receipts, or just want a shot of the whiteboard before your class or meeting ends, Scanbot takes [high-quality snapshots](#) with your phone's camera. Then the app saves them to your preferred web service, including Google Drive, Evernote, and Dropbox. Simply point your camera at a document and it will scan it as a JPG or PDF, and do some automatic perspective correction....

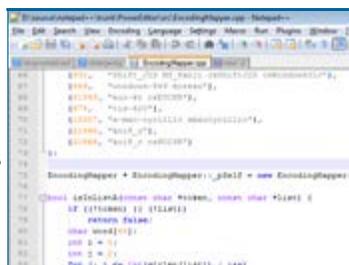
Lifehacker, Apr. 3, 18



[The five best text editors](#)

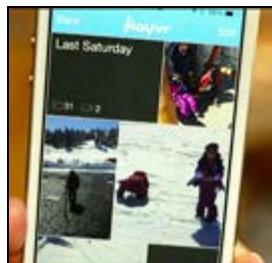
Alan Henry writes: "Whether you're a developer or a writer, a good text editor is a must-have on any computer, in any operating system. The humble text editor is great for managing code, writing down quick notes, or just as a distraction-free writing tool. This week, we're looking at five of the best."...

Lifehacker, Apr. 20



[The best photo organizing app?](#)

Molly Wood writes: "I have about 2,500 photos stored on my smartphone, and who knows how many more on previous phones and other devices I use. I need an organizing principle, stat. Luckily, there are many apps that let you organize, categorize, and view your photos on a mobile device with varying degrees of difficulty. I



had high hopes for one of the newest entrants, a mobile gallery replacement called [Carousel](#)." Watch the [video](#) (2:09)....

New York Times: Personal Tech, Apr. 16

[How to buy an LCD monitor](#)

John R. Delaney writes: "The monitor you're using right now probably came bundled with your desktop PC, or maybe you bought it back when 1,240 by 1,024 was considered high resolution. Since you spend a huge part of every day looking at it, however, it pays to be picky when picking a LCD monitor. Price ranges vary widely, as do the quality of the panels. So how can you make an informed choice? That's where we come in." [Read this](#) if you are looking to do graphic design. Here are the 10 [top-rated monitors](#) and the 10 best [high-resolution monitors](#)....

PC Magazine, Apr. 9, 16



[Why people don't like Google Glass](#)

Will Butler writes: "Many have tried to pin down exactly why Glass has not assimilated as smoothly as, say, the iPhone. As a blind man, I think I've figured it out. I don't think our society's rejection of Glass is necessarily rooted in stated concerns about privacy, exclusivity, class dynamics, or disconnection from the world. I believe the resistance to Glass is about our fear of assistive technology."...

The Atlantic, Apr. 20

[Go back to the Top](#)

E-Content

[DPLA to add millions of records](#)

The [Digital Public Library of America](#) marked its one-year anniversary on April 18. To celebrate the occasion, the nonprofit library network announced six new partnerships with major archives: the US Government Printing Office, the J. Paul Getty Trust, the California Digital Library, the Connecticut Digital Archive, Indiana Memory, and the Montana Memory Project. The New York Public Library also agreed to expand access to its digital collections through DPLA in the coming year....

Ars Technica, Apr. 18



[Digital Library of Georgia to provide digital training](#)

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Digital Public Library of America is giving \$100,000 to the Digital Library of Georgia, based at the University of Georgia. The grant will be used to provide training sessions to get more public librarians to put their special collections online....

University of Georgia Red and Black, Apr. 18

[Connecticut takes aim at ebook prices](#)

The Connecticut House of Representatives unanimously passed a bill on April 16 that aims to lower the price of electronic books for public libraries over time by having the State Library Board set up a statewide platform for ebooks. The hope is that publishers will give better prices to the State Library Board, which would be representing

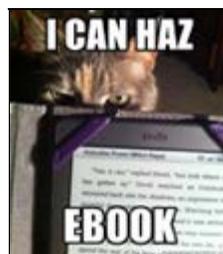
all public libraries, compared to an individual library....

The Day, New London, Conn., Apr. 17

[Publishing ebooks is hard](#)

Nate Hoffelder writes: "An article in *The Economist* details the problems one creator experienced while trying to produce a paper book and an ebook for a Kickstarter campaign, and it's well [worth a read](#) (beware the paywall). While the article is written from frustration with the process of producing an ebook, it is actually a cautionary tale in how not to produce ebooks. All of the problems grew out of a single mistake that the creator still doesn't realize he made."...

The Digital Reader, Apr. 17; *The Economist*, Apr. 15



[The library ebook situation is appalling](#)

Michael Kozlowski writes: "Publishers have been heavily resistant about selling their catalog of ebooks to libraries in the US and Canada. It took years of lobbying from the ALA and companies such as 3M and OverDrive to finally sway them over. Now, in one way or another, every major publisher has a pilot project or distributes select titles to libraries. But many people still don't think it's enough."...

Good e-Reader, Apr. 21



[Samsung offers free ebooks through Galaxy Kindle app](#)

Samsung has [officially announced](#) Kindle for Samsung, a Galaxy-only app, and Samsung Book Deals, a service that provides up to 12 free ebooks to download per year. Samsung Book Deals (through the Kindle for Samsung app) will be available to anyone with a Galaxy smartphone or tablet. Owners will be entitled to download 12 free books per year, taken from a choice of four offered up each month. The books on offer will be "prominent," so expect an Amazon-curated list of well-known novels from which to choose....

Digital Trends, Apr. 18; Samsung Tomorrow, Apr. 17



[Is the Kindle Direct program legal?](#)

Eric Hellman writes: "If you sell an ebook through Amazon's Kindle Direct program, Amazon doesn't want you to offer it for less somewhere else. It's easy to understand why; if you're a consumer, you hate to pay \$10 for an ebook on Amazon and then find that you can get it direct from the author for \$5. But is it *legal* for Amazon to enjoin a publisher from offering better prices in other channels? In other words, is Amazon allowed to insist on a Most Favored Nation provision?"...

Go to Hellman, Apr. 17

[Go back to the Top](#)

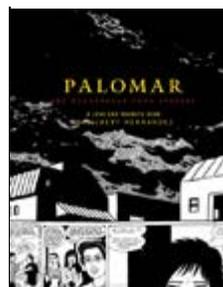
Books & Reading

[25 essential graphic novels](#)

Brie Hiramine writes: "The world of the graphic novel

is one that spans a wide range of authors, artists, styles, and subject matter, and this primer covers all the bases. While the distinction between graphic novels and comic books gets dicey (the term 'graphic novel' was only introduced in the late 1970s), for the purposes of this list, they are lengthier, meatier book-like works—and they are all brilliant for both their literary and visual merit.”...

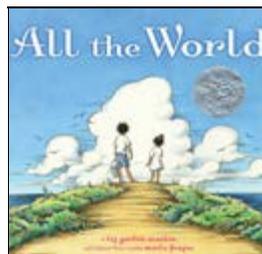
Flavorwire, Apr. 18



[Introducing parents to Caldecott titles](#)

Ariel Cummins writes: “One of my favorite roles is introducing parents to new picture books they might not have otherwise discovered. Many parents don’t know what the Caldecott is and never venture over into the awards section to explore them. I thought taking a day to explore the award and honor books would be fun. We started out with me talking to the parents about what the Caldecott is and letting them know that the librarians are always happy to help them find award-winning books that are fun to read for their kids.”...

Hushlander, Apr. 21



[Conveying disability through verse](#)

Carli Spina writes: “In honor of National Poetry Month, Geri Diorio [wrote](#) about novels in verse with some great recommendations for stories that are told entirely through poetry. Her post gave me some books to add to my to-be-read list and, as someone with an interest in characters with disabilities, inspired me to think about novels in verse that center around these characters. Here are some great options for verse novels that convey the experience of disability.”...

YALSA The Hub, Apr. 3, 21



[Unexpected perks of Poetry Month](#)

Cathy Jo Nelson writes: “As we are midway through April with our Poetry Month celebrations, I am pleasantly surprised at the participation and response from our students. I’m also reflecting over some of the benefits I have seen. Let me share some surprising perks from our Spine Poetry Activity. Perk 1: A growing stock of student-created spine poems for display.”...

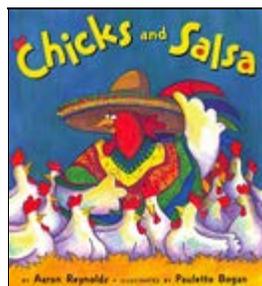
Cathy Jo Nelson’s Professional Thoughts, Apr. 19



[It’s also National Humor Month](#)

Jennifer Schultz writes: “We all know that April is National Poetry Month, but did you know that April is also National Humor Month? Books that tickle young readers’ and listeners’ funny bones are ideal for many reasons. Of course, humor is very subjective. What’s amusing to one person is deadly dull to another. With that in mind, here are some of my favorite funny picture books.”...

ALSC Blog, Apr. 23



[Remembering Gabriel García Márquez](#)

Donna Seaman writes: "The world responded instantly to the news of the death of Gabriel García Márquez (right), a Nobel laureate and a writer read and cherished by millions of readers everywhere. High praise for the artistry and humanity of his 15 novels and short story collections, from his masterpiece, *One Hundred Years of Solitude* (1970) to *Memories of My Melancholy Whores* (2005) can be found in newspapers, on the radio, and all over the web."...

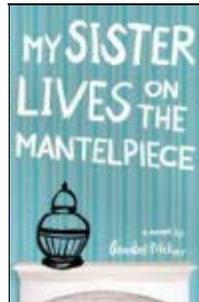
Booklist Online: Likely Stories, Apr. 18



[Dealing with tragedy and terrorism](#)

Anna Tschetter writes: "Last Patriot's Day—a state holiday observed predominantly in Massachusetts—was a strange and hard day for many of us in the Bay State. There was the perennially inspiring promise of the Boston Marathon. Then the bombs went off. Since then, I've thought how about the marathon bombings might affect teens and especially those who may have been on lockdown in their homes. One year later, I've looked to YA literature to see if anything can help those teens near a disaster to deal with it."...

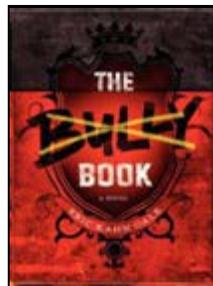
YALSA The Hub, Apr. 21



[Addressing bullying through outreach](#)

Lizz Zitron writes: "Life isn't the same when someone fears being bullied. Books can be wonderful for helping children and teens feel both not alone and empowered to deal with their situations. Using EBSCOhost's Primary Search database, typing in the term 'bullying' garners 163 full-text magazine articles from 2009 to now that are written on an elementary school level. Here are some suggestions for a range of ages."...

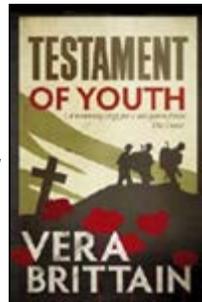
The Outreach Librarian, Apr. 23



[Top women writers of World War I](#)

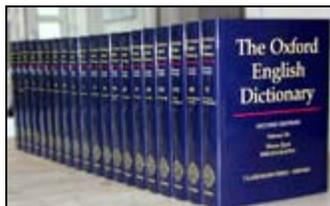
Jerry White writes: "The Home Front in London during the First World War was defended mostly by women. It was women who stepped into the breach when men left government offices, banks, shops, and restaurants, and who labored in giant factories making the munitions of war. And it was women who left some of the most memorable Great War writing. A diary of nursing life is also at the heart of Vera Brittain's *Testament of Youth* (1933), a timeless saga of love and loss."...

The Telegraph (UK), Apr. 22



[The next OED will probably be online-only](#)

The *Oxford English Dictionary* may be disappearing from bookshelves forever. Publishers fear the third edition (not due until 2034) will never appear in print form because its vast size means only an online version will be feasible. Michael Proffitt, the *OED*'s first new chief editor in 20 years, said the mammoth masterpiece is facing delays



because “information overload” from the internet is slowing his compilers....

The Telegraph (UK), Apr. 20

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tips & Ideas

[Training the 21st-century library leader](#)

The Educopia Institute has published a white paper on *Training the 21st Century Library Leader: A Review of Library Leadership Training, 1998–2013* ([PDF file](#)), by Katherine Skinner and Nick Krabbenhoft, which documents the models and features, geographic locations, sectors and audiences, funding and costs, founders and hosts, and evaluation methodologies deployed by more than 70 library leadership training programs. It comes with a dataset that documents the offerings for academic, public, special, and archival libraries....

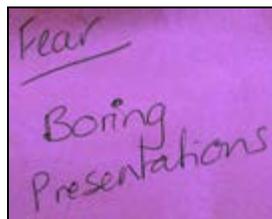
Educopia Institute, Apr. 8



[Closing the confidence gap](#)

Justine Hyde writes: “Are librarians being held back in their careers by a lack of self-confidence? I recently ran some professional development [workshops](#) with groups of librarians. As one of the exercises, I asked participants to identify a fear they would like to overcome in preparing to lead the library of the future. Most of their fears related to a lack of confidence around interpersonal communication, public speaking and presentations, leadership, and decision-making.”...

Hub and Spoke, Feb. 8, Apr. 22



[LIS journals: A scholarly communication analysis](#)

Micah Vandegrift and Chealsye Bowley write: “This article presents an analysis of 111 Library and Information Science journals based on measurements of openness that include copyright policies, open access self-archiving policies, and open access publishing options. We propose a new metric to rank journals, the J.O.I. Factor (Journal Openness Index), based on measures of openness rather than perceived rank or citation impact.”...

In the Library with the Lead Pipe, Apr. 23

Code	Open Publishing Options
OA	All articles are published open access
APC	Publishers offers open access publishing for a fee
N	There is no known open publishing option or policy
R	Journal is published openly in a repository

[Fake research journals are scamming the science community](#)

Tom Spears writes: “I have just written the world’s worst science research paper: More than incompetent, it’s a mess of plagiarism and meaningless garble. Now science publishers around the world are clamoring to publish it. They will distribute it globally and pretend it is real research, for a fee. It’s untrue? And parts are plagiarized? They’re fine with that. Even veteran scientists and



universities are unaware of how deep the problem runs.”...

Ottawa (Ont.) Citizen, Apr. 21

[The Louisville Underground Music Archive](#)

Erin Kane writes: “Who knew that those old concert flyers you’ve been holding onto since high school could be important? At the University of Louisville’s Ekstrom Library, the archives and special collections librarians are cataloging and preserving mementos from the bygone indie rock scene into the Louisville Underground Music Archive, a scholarly repository of local music history. It started when the library accepted a donation of two vintage sets of local zines, *Burt the Cat* and *Hard Times*.”...



WFPL-FM, Louisville. Ky., Apr. 21

[Google Trends offers email subscriptions](#)

[Google Trends](#), the resource that shows you what’s currently popular around the web right now and in the recent past, now offers email subscriptions, Google [announced](#) April 18. The new feature allows you to subscribe to any search topic, plus [Hot Searches](#) for any country or any [US monthly Top Chart](#). However, the subscription feature is not always a real-time alerting service...

TechCrunch, Apr. 18; Google Inside Search, Apr. 18

[A news app for students](#)

Sue Polanka writes: “Press4Kids (P4K), a publisher of daily news applications for young readers, released an interesting new educational app for school students in March, [News-O-Matic](#). Geared toward students in elementary and middle schools (ages 7–11), the app is described as the students’ ‘first daily newspaper’ (with five new stories added each day) and it has a lot going for it.”...



No Shelf Required, Apr. 18

[21 social media tips](#)

Mike Spohr writes: “You’ll wish you’d known these tricks about Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Foursquare sooner.”...

BuzzFeed, Apr. 22

[Five reasons to love Minecraft](#)

Dan Tynan writes: “Calling Minecraft a game doesn’t do it justice; it’s more like a movement. Available on nearly every device where games can be played, from computers and consoles to smartphones, [Minecraft](#) boasts more than 100 million registered players, many of them barely out of kindergarten. Is this due to its stunning 3D graphics, sophisticated plot, and adrenaline-pumping gameplay? No, it is not. What’s most remarkable about Minecraft is how utterly consuming it is.”...



Yahoo! Tech, Apr. 21

[Games that teach empathy and social skills](#)

Tanner Higgin writes: “Video games have been an aberration in the history of play and games. Many of them have been solitary



experiences. That's changing, though. We're in the midst of a multiplayer video game renaissance that's bringing people together. Equally exciting is the trend toward video games that build social skills and encourage players to reflect on themselves and their relationships. Here are a few games that do just that."...
Mind/Shift, Apr. 18

[Your curriculum is not about 3D printers \(or zombies\)](#)

Troy Swanson writes: "While at the Texas Library Association Conference last week, I had the opportunity to talk with Justin Hoenke. We discussed his work at the Chattanooga (Tenn.) Public Library and specifically about the use of its 3D printer. Listening to him talk, it really struck me that at the basic level Justin does not really care about the 3D printer. The thing that he is really after is the learning, the creativity, that the printer enables."...
Tame the Web, Apr. 17

[Evolving an early literacy area](#)

Marge Loch-Wouters writes: "It is great fun to launch an initiative: the planning, the grant-writing and funding, the gathering of material, the publicity, the roll-out, and then the public's happy (we hope) reactions. This was definitely the feeling when, three years ago, La Crosse (Wis.) Public Library debuted its [Early Literacy Area: Play Learn Read](#). Here is a glimpse into our process of change."...
Tiny Tips for Library Fun, Apr. 21; Mar. 3, 2011

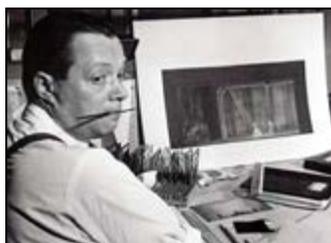


[Wireless emergency tips](#)

Whether it's an impending storm, an unforeseen natural disaster, or some other type of emergency situation, planning ahead can save you a lot of trouble, worry, and maybe even your life. Wireless communication is an invaluable tool during an emergency and you can make sure you are prepared by taking a few of these simple precautions....
Your Wireless Life, Nov. 2013

[NYPL Performing Arts library acquires Mielziner collection](#)

The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts has acquired Jules Fisher's personal collection of scenic renderings by Jo Mielziner (right), making the biggest private collection of the theatrical designer's work available to the public for the first time. The Jules Fisher Collection of Jo Mielziner Designs significantly expands and enhances the current holdings of Mielziner materials within the library's Billy Rose Theatre Division....
Broadway World, Apr. 21



[The Nican Mopohua and Our Lady of Guadalupe](#)

Thomas Lannon writes: "This blog post focuses on a 16th-century document, the [Nican Mopohua](#), written in the Nahuatl language. It recounts the series of apparitions of a beloved maiden (Our Lady of Guadalupe) to Juan Diego, a devout native of Cuautitlán, Mexico, around 1531. Scholars contend that the New York Public Library's copy may be the earliest written version of the account of Juan Diego and the occurrences on the hill of Tepeyac near Mexico City."...

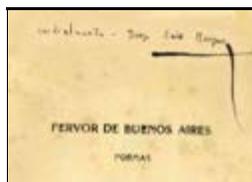
New York Public Library blogs, Apr. 17



[The missing Borges](#)

Graciela Mochkofsky writes: "The world of rare books and manuscripts is full of intrigues, betrayals, and frauds. Alberto Casares has lived in this world for decades; as the president of the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of Buenos Aires, he's an expert on the subject. One morning in late 1999, a book collector brought him a copy of the first edition of *Fervor de Buenos Aires*, Jorge Luis Borges's first published book. But it was apparently the one stolen from the National Library in Buenos Aires."...

Paris Review, Apr. 16



[Timelines can help genealogists](#)

Karin Hadden writes: "Timelines can help you visualize your ancestor's life. You can set them up to include personal as well as historic events. I used Family Tree Maker's [Timeline Report](#) and [OurTimeLines.com](#), but there are many more. Here are some of the discoveries you might uncover when you use a timeline. I used my grandmother, Jennie Williams Cutler (1892–1955) as an example."...

The Art of Genealogy, Apr. 19



[Editing Wikipedia in library school](#)

Michael Rodriguez writes: "Are you a Wikibrarian? I recently became one—a librarian who edits Wikipedia—and I have found the experience rewarding in the extreme. I have even stumbled into a role as an embedded consultant, helping faculty teach undergrads how to write Wikipedia articles on gender history, on which improvements are urgently needed. So what are the benefits to becoming a Wikibrarian while in library school?"...

Hack Library School, Apr. 17



[Enough with the sexy librarian thing already](#)

Rita Meade writes: "Can I vent for a second? Man oh man, I am so sick of the 'sexy librarian' trope, I could scream. I know, this perception of librarians has been around and talked about for approximately *checks calendar* forever. But lately I feel like we've been bombarded by this weird fetishization and sexualization of the profession more than usual. Here are some examples."...

Book Riot, Apr. 21



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

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | April 30, 2014

Poet-to-Poet Project

Students Watch, Write, and Submit Poems for **national poetry month**

[poets.org >](http://poets.org)



STEM Gale eBook Collections on GVRL
Monograph titles from Springer, Elsevier, and more.
View the title list »



american libraries BUYERS GUIDE

American Libraries Online

[Iowa restores school librarians' value](#)

Beverly Goldberg writes: "The Iowa Association of School Librarians righted a legislative wrong this session by persuading state lawmakers to reverse a provision that increased the per-pupil funding formula for school districts that shared a single librarian rather than employing their own. Enacted in 2013, HF 472 provided a financial incentive for sharing resources between school districts that were considering consolidation with each other, IASL President Christine Sturgeon said." Watch the [IASL advocacy video](#) (9:06)....

AL: The Scoop, Apr. 30; YouTube, July 22, 2013



[Going beyond Google again](#)

Jane Devine and Francine Egger-Sider write: "It seems unlikely that people will give up their reliance on general-purpose search engines or their practice of beginning a search using Google or one of its competitors. But people should be encouraged to use other research tools when needed, such as databases and more specialized search engines—otherwise known as the Invisible Web. Here is a sample of the tools featured in *Going Beyond Google Again*, published by ALA Neal-Schuman."...

American Libraries feature



[Patrons: Your partners in collection development](#)

Suzanne M. Ward writes: "Librarians have always welcomed users' suggestions for titles to add to the collection. When those titles meet the guidelines on subject matter, format, and price, librarians are happy to buy patron-suggested material. In short, patron-driven acquisition (PDA) is a flexible tool that can be used to complement traditional collection development."...

American Libraries feature



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[2014 Annual Conference and Exhibition](#), Las Vegas, June 26–July 1. Enjoy dozens of personalities and events on the [Live Stages](#) in the Exhibit Hall—Book Buzz Theater, Graphic Novel/Gaming, PopTop, and What's Cooking @ ALA.

[IMLS hearing on libraries and broadband](#)

Phil Morehart writes: "A public hearing on 'Libraries and Broadband: Urgency and Impact,' was held in Washington, D.C., on April 17. Organized by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the hearing focused on the impact of high-speed broadband connectivity in America's libraries. The crucial need for adequate broadband capabilities in all libraries, e-rate reform, and additional lobbying efforts in Washington were discussed as well."...

AL: The Scoop, Apr. 24



[The penguin connection](#)

Speckles the African penguin (right) visited children at the Kenton County (Ky.) Public Library's William E. Durr branch in Independence. Speckles spends most of her time at Newport Aquarium, but she was brought to the library the morning of March 5 thanks to the WAVE Foundation, a conservation organization based in Kentucky. WAVE partnered with the aquarium to hold a viewing and learning session with the Homeschool Club group at the library....

American Libraries, Apr. 25



[Next AL Live: Library security](#)

Does your library have a clear plan for dealing with problem patrons and other security incidents? In the next broadcast of [American Libraries Live](#), Steve Albrecht—a library security expert, consultant, and author of several books on workplace violence—will lead our expert panel in a discussion on both preventative and reactive security strategies. Tune in at 2 p.m. Eastern time on May 8 for this free, streaming video broadcast....

American Libraries, Apr. 29

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ALA News

[Día is today](#)

On April 30, families and children celebrate El día

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Libraries on Film



[Storyville](#) (1992). Ron Gural plays a government agency librarian in New Orleans. He assists Senate candidate Cray Fowler (James Spader) in a search for records.

de los niños / El día de los libros (Children's Day / Book Day) in public and school libraries. Also known as Día! Diversity in Action, this initiative provides an opportunity for hundreds of libraries to showcase services that [celebrate our nation's rich cultural tapestry](#). Día is sponsored by ALSC....

ALSC, Apr. 28; Huffington Post blog, Apr. 30



[National Library Legislative Day: What to expect](#)

Jazzy Wright writes: "On May 5–6, hundreds of library champions will travel to Washington, D.C., to meet with their members of Congress during [National Library Legislative Day](#) to champion national library funding (registration is open). To help first-time advocates prepare for the annual advocacy day, we created this photo essay using photos from past NLLD events." ALA also released new briefs on policies, legislation, and issues affecting libraries; browse the list [here](#)....

District Dispatch, Apr. 28



[Barbara Stripling to speak at National Press Club briefing](#)

ALA President Barbara Stripling will join other education, government, and library experts at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., on May 6 for "Responding to the Second Digital Divide," a briefing that will explore the ways that governments, schools, and communities can better support libraries in bridging the growing skills-based digital divide....

ALA Washington Office, Apr. 29

[Declaration needs 150 more signatures](#)

Thanks to many [attendees signing](#) the Declaration for the Right to Libraries at the New York Library Association's Section of School Librarians conference in Syracuse April 24–26, the document only needs some 150 more signatures to reach the 10,000 mark. Join the crowd and sign the declaration [here](#)....

I Love Libraries; *Syracuse (N.Y.) Post-Standard*, Apr. 25



["Libraries Matter" videos](#)

The ALA Washington Office has launched "Libraries Matter," a [series of videos](#) showcasing the ways libraries use federal funding to support early literacy, high-speed internet access, small business owners, and new citizens. Library supporters can use the videos to demonstrate the value of federal funding programs, such as the Library Services and Technology Act, to legislators, decision makers, and community leaders....

District Dispatch, Apr. 24; YouTube, Jan. 24



[ALA accelerates its copyright and](#)



[Straight Talk](#) (1992). Shirlee Kenyon (Dolly Parton) walks into a Chicago library and asks about a job. The circulation desk clerk (Susan Philpot) stares at her short dress and disapproves.



[Stranger in Town](#) (1998, Canada, made for TV). Trevor Blumas as Aaron goes to a public library to examine old newspapers. Kris Alvarez is a librarian.



[Streets of San Francisco](#) (October 3, 1974, TV series), "Mask of Death." Karl Malden as Detective Lt. Mike Stone goes to a library to consult some microfilm.

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

privacy efforts

Adam Eisgrau (right), a veteran intellectual property and privacy policy lobbyist, has joined ALA's copyright and cybersecurity advocacy efforts to increase visibility for library issues on a national level. Eisgrau will use his extensive background to increase the Association's presence in Washington and educate lawmakers on the issues libraries face in championing the information rights and needs of the public....



Office of Government Relations, Apr. 28

Attend the talks you voted for

Public voting for 36 Conversation Starter talks and Ignite Sessions again tipped the balance in selecting the ones that showcase ALA members' passions and innovations during the 2014 Annual Conference. The sessions will be held throughout the conference in the Las Vegas Convention Center....

Conference Services, Apr. 24

LIS career information workshops

The Office for Diversity and the Spectrum Scholarship Program, through a project funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, is partnering with libraries and graduate library schools in Seattle, Atlanta, Chicago, Los Angeles, and New York City to present information workshops for individuals interested in careers in library and information science. The workshops, part of the [Knowledge Alliance](#) project, will take place in May....

Office for Diversity, Apr. 28



IFLA conference early registration deadline

The 80th IFLA World Library and Information Congress will take place in Lyon, France, August 16–22. The conference theme is "Libraries, Citizens, Societies: Confluence for Knowledge." The ALA membership number to use for your IFLA Conference registration is US-0002. The [early registration](#) deadline is May 15....

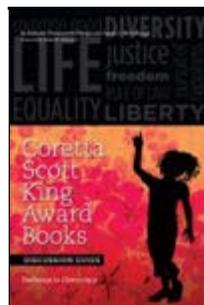
International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions



Coretta Scott King award books

Spotlighting titles appropriate for grades K–12, [Coretta Scott King Award Books Discussion Guide: Pathways to Democracy](#), published by ALA Editions, builds on the rich legacy of the Coretta Scott King award-winning books to offer an important educational resource for teachers, librarians, parents, and other caregivers. This guide, written by Adelaide Poniowski Phelps and Carole J. McCollough, identifies within the plot, character, and themes of each book those values that relate to being an American citizen....

ALA Editions, Apr. 28



Picture books from around the world

Picture books can be portals to far-flung corners of the globe, and the books in [Global Voices: Picture Books from Around the World](#), published by ALA Editions, will

published by ALA Editions. You can browse the films on our [Libraries on Film](#) [Pinterest board](#).

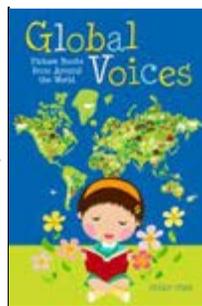


Career Leads from JobLIST

[Digital Experience Director](#), Pierce County Library, Tacoma, Washington. The successful candidate has strong technical skills and a commitment and understanding of the customer service ethic; demonstrated skill in management of a department and managing across departments; proven experience in leading technology and organizational change, projects, and staff. This position serves as a member of the Library's Administrative Team, and leads and directs the operations and activities of the Pierce County Library System's Digital Experience Department, including Information Technology and Virtual Services, to deliver a

help children's imaginations soar. Susan Stan identifies quality literature for children ages 3–8 that conveys a true sense of life outside America's borders. Organized by geographical location, this bibliography focuses on books that display a strong cultural aspect that speaks clearly to life elsewhere....

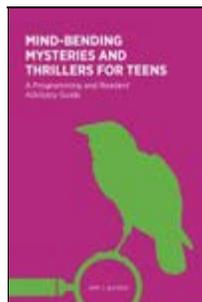
ALA Editions, Apr. 24



[Mind-bending mysteries for teens](#)

Well-known from her bestselling teen programming books, Amy J. Alessio now offers *Mind-Bending Mysteries and Thrillers for Teens: A Programming and Readers' Advisory Guide*, published by ALA Editions. This one-of-a-kind resource will help YA librarians connect teens to mysteries they will love. Included are book lists featuring every type of mystery subgenre, from cozies and romantic mysteries to suspense thrillers and police procedurals, all thoroughly annotated....

ALA Editions, Apr. 29



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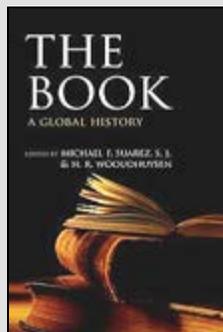


Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Reference](#)

Suarez, Michael F., and H. R. Woudhuysen, eds. *The Book: A Global History*. Feb. 2014. 672p. Illus. Oxford, hardcover (978-0-19-967941-X).

This work contains essays previously published in volume 1 of *The Oxford Companion to the Book* (2010) with three additional essays: one on intellectual property and copyright, one on censorship, and one covering the Caribbean and Bermuda. The volume is divided into two parts. The first part consists of 21 thematic essays covering familiar topics, such as sacred books, various print technologies, and bookbinding, as well as the less familiar, such as missionary printing. In the second part, 49 essays explore the history of books in various parts of the world. Just as in the original work, the essays are of a scholarly nature and are geared toward specialist academicians, but they are extremely well written....



[Spring e-reference update.](#)

Digital Library of the Week



The [National Library of Ireland](#) has added some 10,500 newly digitized images, including dozens relating to historical figures like the Duke of Wellington, Daniel O'Connell, and Charles Stewart Parnell. Nearly one-third come from the Elmes portrait collection, named after librarian Rosalind Elmes who compiled it and consisting of 1,100 famous figures from Irish history up to the end of the 19th century. There are also 30 engravings of Jonathan Swift and rare portraits of Robert Emmet and Theobald Wolfe Tone. The new

[2014: Databases and ebooks](#)



Rebecca Vnuk writes: "We asked publishers 'What's new?' and they responded with the following information about their new reference databases, ebooks, and ebook platforms as well as significant updates and enhancements to existing products. Information is effective January 2014 through July 2014."...

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

[Go back to the Top](#)

releases include the family photographic collection of Tom Clarke, one of the executed leaders of the 1916 Rising, and his wife Kathleen Clarke, along with correspondence with family, friends, and political associates in Ireland.

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.](#)

Las Vegas Update

[Why will you be in Las Vegas?](#)

Ingrid Abrams writes: "Remember those great [Slate photos](#) Kyle Cassidy took of all your favorite librarians? Well, Kyle was kind enough to let ALA use them so that we could all talk about why we can't wait for the upcoming conference in Las Vegas (or why we *wish* we could attend). Take a look! You'll also get to see some pictures that didn't end up in *Slate*, but are still pretty awesome."...

The Magpie Librarian, Apr. 30; *Slate*, Feb. 11



[Downtown Container Park](#)

The [Downtown Container Park](#) is a family-friendly outdoor shopping, dining, and entertainment attraction located at the southeast corner of 7th and Fremont Street. Made completely of shipping containers stacked upon each other, this unique venue offers a variety of boutique shops and food outlets. There is a kids' play area with 30-foot slide and water area. Various musical groups are featured on the outdoor amphitheater nightly....

Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority



Noted and Quoted

"What a school thinks about its library is a measure of what it feels about education."

—Harold Howe II, US Commissioner of Education, interview in "On Libraries and Learning," *School Library Journal*, February 1967, p. 28.

@ [More quotes...](#)

[The Polaroid Museum](#)

Those instant cameras that Polaroid popularized in the mid-20th century are now right where they belong: in the [Polaroid Museum](#) in Las Vegas, located in the two-story Polaroid Fotobar shop at the Linq at 3545 Las Vegas Blvd South. Relics such as a giant, 20x24 Polaroid camera invented in 1976 are showcased alongside works by Andy Warhol and other artists who incorporated Polaroid photography into their creative efforts....

Los Angeles Times, Apr. 24



[Simple treats in garish Las Vegas](#)

You might not expect to find farm-to-table dining in Las Vegas. But that's exactly why tourists are lining up at a rundown corner a

Calendar

May 8–10: [Library Orientation Exchange](#), Annual Conference, Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

"Creative Visualization: The Art of Information Literacy."

May 12: [National Endowment for the Humanities](#).



few blocks from the old casinos in the city's seedy core. It takes visitors arriving by cab a few minutes to locate the nouveau diner Eat, 707 Carson Street, on the ground floor of a motel-style apartment complex that rents rooms by the month and looks like a place where a down-on-his-luck crime caper hero might live. But this is Las Vegas' first neighborhood restaurant with an emphasis on freshness and locally sourced ingredients....

Associated Press, Apr. 1

[Silverton's saltwater aquarium](#)

Named the "Best Free Attraction" in Las Vegas, Silverton Casino's saltwater aquarium at 3333 Blue Diamond Road is impressive. The 117,000-gallon reef aquarium takes you to a tropical oasis where you can admire more than 4,000 tropical fish, and three species each of stingrays and sharks. There is a [live webcam](#). Interactive feeding shows are scheduled daily at 1:30 and 4:30 p.m. The staff marine biologist is equipped with a full-face communication mask and answers guests' questions during the feeding show. Also, don't miss the [live mermaid swim](#)....

Silverton Casino



[Las Vegas timelapse](#)

Watch the city go from day to night to day again in seven minutes. This could be what you see from your hotel window: a lightshow of cascading water and blazing neon....

Vimeo, Apr. 28



[Go back to the Top](#)

Division News

[Remembering Eliza Dresang](#)

Mary Voors writes: "With a very sad heart, I must report what many of you know already. Eliza Dresang (right), a beloved friend and colleague, died on the morning of April 21 at the age of 72. A library science professor, author, speaker, and active member and leader in ALSC, Dresang will be remembered as a strong advocate for children and libraries, but will also be remembered for her caring smile and sincere ability to *really* listen carefully and respectfully, helping each colleague she worked with grow and learn."....

ALSC Blog, Apr. 27



[School Library Month student video winners](#)

AASL, along with ProQuest, Abrams, and SchoolTube, has chosen the three winners of the "Lives Change @ Your Library" Student Video Contest.

Jefferson Lecture in the Humanities, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, D.C. Walter Isaacson will be the speaker.

May 18:

[The Whole Megillah Seminar on Jewish Story](#), Temple Emanu-El, New York City.

May 27–28:

[European Media Literacy Forum](#), UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France.

June 2–4:

[Books for Development Conference](#), George Washington University, Washington D.C.

June 9–13:

[Association of Christian Librarians](#), Annual Conference, Huntington University, Huntington, Indiana. "Crossroads to Discovery."

June 13–14:

[National Conference on Emerging Trends, Advancements, and Challenges of Academic and Public Libraries](#), Shirpur, India.

July 23–25:

[Library Instruction West 2014](#), Conference, Portland State University Library, Oregon. "Open, Sustainable Instruction."

Aug. 13–14:



Contestants were urged to let loose their creativity and use humor, drama, music, and special effects to illustrate how the school library program changes a student's life. Winners receive a full set of Jeff Kinney's *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* books....

AASL, Apr. 29

[ACRL President's Program on financial literacy](#)

Looking for ways to increase financial literacy on your campus or in your community? Join ACRL for its President's Program at the 2014 ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas on June 28. Titled "Financial Literacy at Your Library," the program will feature noted *Washington Post* columnist and financial educator Michelle Singletary and Ferris State University President David Eisler....

ACRL, Apr. 28

[RUSA Literary Tastes program](#)

RUSA will host three award-winning authors—Daniel J. Brown, Tessa Dare, and V. E. Schwab (right)—at the 2014 ALA Annual Conference program "Literary Tastes: Celebrating the Best Reading of the Year" on June 29, a conference tradition that features authors from RUSA's literary awards for adults. Following the formal presentation, authors will be available for book signings....



RUSA, Apr. 25

[Share your print materials at LLAMA's PR X-change](#)

Are you wondering how to put your back inventory of calendars, brochures, flyers, postcards, annual reports, and other print collateral to good use? Send in your printed promotional materials now to share with colleagues at the 2014 PR X-change program during the ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas. Please use the [mailing labels](#) to send quantities of at least 250 but no more than 1,000 each of your printed pieces to the Las Vegas Convention Center....

LLAMA, Apr. 29

[Technology speed-dating at ALA Annual](#)

The LITA/ALCTS Library Code Year Interest Group is hosting a technology speed-dating event during its session at the 2014 ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas on June 28. What is technology speed-dating? Several experts will be stationed around the meeting room and talk about a specific topic, software, piece of code, or programming language to attendees for a set amount of time. Then they will rotate to a different expert until the time ends....

LITA Blog, Apr. 26

[New ASCLA consortial ebooks interest group](#)

ASCLA members have approved a petition to create a new Consortial E-books Interest Group. The group will provide a regular forum for consortial discussion and meet at annual conferences and midwinter meetings. ASCLA believes that consortia represent a large segment of libraries and that by acting collectively, libraries can be more influential with publishers and vendors as the ebook landscape

[IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section](#)

Satellite Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland. "Cultural Heritage in the Digital Era."

[Aug. 13–15: Pacific Northwest Library Association](#)

Annual Conference, Helena, Montana. "Mining the Past to Plan for the Future."

[Sept. 28–Oct. 1: Pennsylvania Library Association](#)

Annual Conference, Lancaster.

@ [More...](#)

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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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evolves....
ASCLA, Apr. 29

[ALCTS preconference on streaming media](#)

"Streaming Media Passes the Tipping Point: Now What?" an ALCTS preconference, will present fascinating trends on streaming media in libraries from a recent national survey of academic librarians. Learn where to purchase streaming media collections; the latest trends in streaming media; and how to optimize discovery and evaluate usage in an effort to prepare for the future of content at your library. [Register](#) through Annual Conference and use Event Code ALC3....

ALCTS, Apr. 28

[New School Library Research articles](#)

Two new research articles are now available in the AASL peer-reviewed online journal, [School Library Research](#). The articles cover the topics of evidence-based library and information practice in Texas school libraries and the attitude and needs of young innovators....

AASL, Apr. 28



[Promoting Common Core collaboration between school and public librarians](#)

A new webinar explores the ways public librarians can become involved in the implementation of the Common Core State Standards and support their school librarian colleagues. Presented by Margaux DelGuidice and Kathryn Roots Lewis, "The Common Core and the Public Librarian: Reaching Patrons and Students" takes place on May 8. [Registration](#) is open....

AASL, Apr. 29

[Yorkville Community School to be a Literary Landmark](#)

United for Libraries will designate the Yorkville Community School on East 88th Street in New York City a Literary Landmark in honor of children's author and illustrator Bernard Waber on May 14. The location was made famous in his 1962 book *The House on East 88th Street*, which introduced the character Lyle the Crocodile to the world of children's literature....

United for Libraries, Apr. 29



[United for Libraries presents the basics](#)

United for Libraries will host "Nuts and Bolts for Trustees, Friends, and Foundations" on June 27 during the ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas. Jan Masaoka (right), director and editor in chief of Blue Avocado, will speak on "Libraries, Advocacy, and the Meaning of Life." Robert Karatsu, library director of the Rancho Cucamonga (Calif.) Public Library, will speak on "The Nuts and Bolts of Working with Your Friends."...

United for Libraries, Apr. 29



[ASCLA 101](#)

ASCLA will host [ASCLA 101](#), a networking and orientation event for interested, new, and current divisional members on June 28 during the 2014 ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas. ASCLA member



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ext. 4216

leaders will be on hand to answer questions about the division and help attendees best identify how they can be involved with ASCLA projects and activities....

ASCLA, Apr. 25

[Go back to the Top](#)

Awards & Grants

[2014 National Medals for Museum and Library Service](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services announced five library recipients of the 2014 National Medal for Museum and Library Service on April 24. The medal is the nation's highest honor conferred on libraries and museums for service to the community. The library winners were [Chicago Public Library](#); [Las Vegas–Clark County \(Nev.\) Library District](#); [Mid-Continent Public Library](#), Independence, Missouri; [Octavia Fellin Public Library](#), Gallup, New Mexico; and the [Yiddish Book Center](#), Amherst, Massachusetts. The medals will be presented during a celebration in Washington, D.C., on May 8. Watch the [video](#) (6:37) honoring the recipients....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Apr. 24; YouTube, Apr. 24



[Library Interior Design Award winners](#)

LLAMA and the International Interior Design Association have announced the winners of the 2014 Library Interior Design Awards. This biennial competition honors international excellence in library interior design. A [gallery](#) of the winning entries is available for viewing on the IIDA website. Images of the winning projects will also be featured in *American Libraries* magazine....

LLAMA, Apr. 29



[2014 John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award](#)

The John Cotton Dana Award, sponsored by the H. W. Wilson Foundation, EBSCO, and LLAMA, honors outstanding library public relations. In recognition of their achievement, the winners each receive a \$10,000 cash award from the foundation. This year, the judges selected eight winners out of 83 submissions....

LLAMA, Apr. 25



[2014 L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award](#)

Georgia Harper (right) is the 2014 recipient of the L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award: In Support of Users' Rights. She is scholarly communications advisor for the University of Texas at Austin Libraries, where she focuses on issues of digital access. Harper may be best known for her ground-breaking [Copyright Crash Course](#), one of the first comprehensive websites devoted to copyright, higher education, and libraries....

Office for Information Technology Policy, Apr. 28



[2014 Gerald Hodges Award](#)

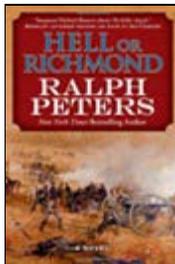
The New Jersey Library Association Intellectual Freedom Committee has been awarded the 2014 Gerald Hodges Intellectual Freedom Chapter Relations Award. The award will be presented to NJLA Executive Director Pat Tumulty and President Eileen Palmer at the ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas....



Office for Intellectual Freedom, Apr. 29

[2014 W. Y. Boyd Literary Award](#)

Hell or Richmond by Ralph Peters (Forge Books) is the winner of the 2014 W. Y. Boyd Literary Award for excellence in military fiction. Peters's novel is a stunning recreation of the hell of war during the fighting in Virginia from early May to early June 1864. The \$5,000 award honors the best fiction set in a period when the United States was at war....



Office of ALA Governance, Apr. 29

[2014 Conable Conference Scholarship](#)

The Freedom to Read Foundation has selected John "Mack" Freeman (right), a librarian at the Tifton-Tift County (Ga.) Public Library, as the seventh recipient of the Gordon M. Conable Conference Scholarship. The scholarship will provide for Freeman's expenses to attend the 2014 ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas....



Freedom to Read Foundation, Apr. 29

[GPO honors four depository libraries](#)

The US Government Printing Office recognized four libraries in the Federal Depository Library Program for their outstanding achievements and initiatives in 2013 and 2014. Arizona State Library, Brooklyn College Library, University of Iowa Libraries (right), and Ottenheimer Library at the University of Arkansas, Little Rock, were selected for their leadership, educational outreach, and commitment to providing free public access to information....



US Government Printing Office, Apr. 30

[2014 NASIG Horizon Award](#)

Sol Maria Lopez from the University of Texas at El Paso has been awarded the 2014 North American Serials Interest Group Horizon Award. The award, sponsored by EBSCO Information Services, recognizes a promising new information professional; it covers the cost of travel, registration, and lodging for three nights while the recipient attends the NASIG Annual Conference in Fort Worth, Texas, May 1-4....

North American Serials Interest Group, Apr. 24

[Mexican writer wins 2014 Cervantes Prize](#)

Author and journalist Elena Poniatowska (right), who gained fame in Mexico for her chronicles of social injustice and government repression, is this year's winner of the Miguel de Cervantes Prize, the most prestigious literary prize in the Spanish language. Poniatowska has penned more than three dozen



books, including *La Noche de Tlatelolco (The Night of Tlatelolco)* a groundbreaking oral history of the 1968 army massacre of student protesters in Mexico City....

Los Angeles Times: Jacket Copy, Apr. 22

[Américas Award for Children's and Young Adult Literature](#)

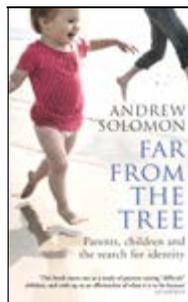
The Américas Award for Children's and Young Adult Literature was announced recently. The winners are *Parrots Over Puerto Rico*, illustrated by Susan Roth and coauthored by Susan Roth and Cindy Trumbore, who won the primary award. *Diego Rivera: An Artist for the People*, by Susan Goldman Rubin, and *Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote*, illustrated and written by Duncan Tonatiuh, took home the honors....



Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs

[Andrew Solomon wins Wellcome Book Prize](#)

Andrew Solomon's *Far From the Tree: Parents, Children, and the Search for Identity* (Chatto and Windus) has won this year's [Wellcome Book Prize](#), worth £30 000, which aims to recognize and celebrate the best new work of fiction or nonfiction released each year centered on medicine and health. *Far from the Tree* is the story of parents who learn to deal with exceptional children....



The Bookseller, Apr. 14

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

Libraries in the News

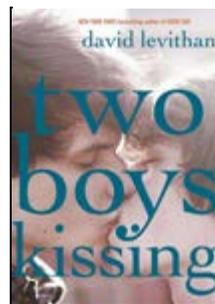
[New York freezes Queens Library renovation projects](#)

Officials from the New York City Department of Design and Construction told the Queens City Council on April 28 they have frozen payments that allowed the library to use a portion of its capital budget on its own projects with minimal city oversight. The freeze covers some \$20.27 million in projects, including the Queens Central Library renovations that have proven controversial for Library Director Thomas Galante....

New York Daily News, Apr. 29

[Two Boys Kissing to remain in Fauquier High School library](#)

After almost three hours of testimony and deliberations, a six-member panel voted unanimously to recommend retaining in the library at Fauquier High School in Warrenton, Virginia, David Levithan's *Two Boys Kissing*. Parent Jessica Wilson had filed a challenge based on the "teenage sexual nature of the



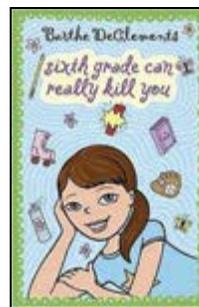
book." FHS Librarian Rebecca Isaac said she based the book's purchase on the school system "selection policy and reviews in professional journals," which have been positive....

Fauquier Now, Warrenton, Va., Apr. 24

[Challenge to learning-disability book in Twin Cities area](#)

Parent Jenna Boutain wants administrators to pull a book from nine elementary school libraries in the Rosemount–Apple Valley–Eagan, Minnesota, district because it uses a term for people with cognitive disabilities that many say is derogatory. *Sixth Grade Can Really Kill You* by Barthe DeClements uses the word "retarded" to refer to students with special needs. It was first published in 1985....

St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer Press, Apr. 25



[The latest wrinkle in the Orland Park porn allegations](#)

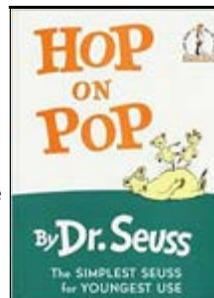
A proponent of ending unfettered internet access at Orland Park (Ill.) Public Library is demanding that a Burr Ridge–based regional library system turn over information about a workshop that he says was a "hate fest" directed at him and another pornography foe. Kevin DuJan filed a FOIA request with the Reaching Across Illinois Library System in late April, alleging OPPL spokesman Bridget Bittman and director Mary Weimar made improper comments at the December 17 event....

Chicago Tribune, Apr. 29

[Hop on Pop was one of seven challenges at Toronto Public Library](#)

A popular tale by Dr. Seuss was one of seven books that patrons have asked Toronto Public Library to remove from its collection over the past year. A patron asked the library's materials review committee to pull *Hop on Pop*, a children's classic written in 1963, because of the book's violent themes, and requested that the library apologize to local fathers and pay damages resulting from the book's message. The library retained the book in the children's collection....

CTV News, Toronto, Apr. 29



[NYPL plans face-to-face MOOC meet-ups](#)

In a pilot program with Coursera, the New York Public Library plans to organize meet-ups at which people taking massive open online courses (MOOCs) can gather and discuss the courses with help from "trained facilitators." The partnership is part of Coursera's effort to build an infrastructure for in-person learning around its online courses. Research [suggests](#) that MOOC students who receive offline help earn higher scores on their assessments....

Chronicle of Higher Education: Wired Campus, June 7, 2013; Apr. 30

[Chattanooga pilots three Mozilla-funded projects](#)

Mary Barnett writes: "The Mozilla Foundation and the National Science Foundation launched the Mozilla Gigabit Community Fund in Chattanooga and Kansas City in February to encourage innovative technology projects. Along with several community partners and anchor institutions, the Chattanooga Public Library will be helping pilot three community education projects that use the awesome power of the city's gigabit network."...

The Library As Incubator Project, Apr. 28

[Librarian unravels the mystery of a school mural](#)

Rocco Staino writes: "On April 24, a newly restored mural that had long hung at Pequenakonck Elementary School in the North Salem Central School District in Westchester County, New York, was unveiled to the public to celebrate School Library Month, and thanks to the detective work of the school's librarian Noel MacCarry, it was also revealed that the mural was the work of legendary children's book author and illustrator Robert McCloskey."...

School Library Journal, Apr. 28



[Huge book donation to Houston Public Library](#)

During National Library Week, Rosen Publishing donated 20,000 books with an estimated value of \$400,000 to the Houston Public Library. Of these, 18,000 will be given away to children and teens as registration prizes for the library's John P. McGovern Summer Reading Program, June 1–August 1. Other books will benefit literacy programs at the Carnegie Neighborhood Library and Literacy Support Center....

Houston (Tex.) Public Library, Apr. 17



[Hawaiian school librarians are being cut](#)

Seven schools in the Kaiua-Kona district of West Hawaii have either eliminated the librarian position over the past three years, or had librarians retire and did not fill the positions. Another school, Konawaena High, is reducing its librarian to half time, a decision that sparked student protests in January. Several people attending an April 24 Hawaii Board of Education community meeting pointed to the value of books in children's lives and wished that budget shortfalls could be made up another way....

West Hawaii Today, Apr. 26

[British rock band hides lyrics in library books](#)

UK rock group Coldplay has announced an international scavenger hunt for handwritten lyrics from their new album *Ghost Stories*, which will be released May 14. The words to all nine of the songs have been concealed in "haunted" books at libraries around the world, beginning with a library in Mexico City. The band sent Mexican fans on a race to the English literature section of the city's José Vasconcelos Library. There, in a translated copy of Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*, a lucky scavenger found Chris Martin's lyrics for the album's lead single, "Magic."...

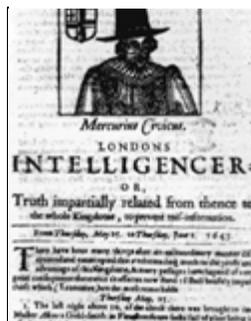
The Guardian (UK), Apr. 29



[British Library opens renovated newspaper room](#)

The British Library's £33 million (\$56 million US) newspaper reading room [officially opened](#) in St. Pancras on April 28. The renovated facility offers more than 750 million pages of newspapers and magazines in digital form and on microfilm, as well as 4.8 million archived news and general websites. It replaces the Colindale newspaper library in north London, which closed in November 2013. Take a [video tour](#) (3:00)....

The Guardian (UK), Apr. 27; British Library, Apr. 28; YouTube, Apr. 29



[National Library of Wales launches 3-year plan](#)

The chief executive of the National Library of Wales has set out new plans for the institution a year after a fire caused damage to the library's roof and destroyed some archives. Aled Gruffydd Jones launched a three-year strategy to develop projects with the public sector and establish a Welsh National Archives....

BBC News, Apr. 25

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Issues

[What you need to know about the FCC and net neutrality](#)

Serdar Yegulaip writes: "No, the FCC's April 24 [Open Internet Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) doesn't spell the [end of net neutrality](#) as we know it. But some of the [concern](#) about the proposed rules are valid, in big part because the rules don't address certain issues. The FCC will [accept feedback](#) on the new rules until May 15. But until the rules explicitly recognize how preferential back-end deals between providers can be as problematic as front-end rate hikes, they will not provide much protection. Here are the four key takeaways you need to know."...

InfoWorld, Apr. 24–25; FCC Blog, Apr. 24; *PC Magazine*, Apr. 24



[So long and thanks for all the freedom](#)

Barbara Fister writes: "[Choose Privacy Week](#) is coming up May 1–7. Privacy is something librarians have always taken seriously, but since vacuuming up personal information became the dominant business model for the internet and the government found it couldn't resist getting its hands on those mountains of personal data, librarians' obsession with privacy seems a little less quaint and strange."...

Inside Higher Ed: Library Babel Fish, Apr. 23

[A rational perspective on Wi-Fi](#)

Peter Rysavy writes: "Wi-Fi has so dazzled us with its achievements that many people can't see its fundamental limitations. Unless network planners and policymakers grasp those limitations, they are likely to reach misguided conclusions about the optimal role of Wi-Fi in our mobile-broadband fabric."...

GigaOM, Apr. 27

[Building the Miami-Dade coalition](#)

John Chrastka writes: "This spring, EveryLibrary and Urban Librarians Unite teamed up on a joint project to support the creation of the [Coalition to Save our Libraries](#) in Miami-Dade County, Florida. EveryLibrary's involvement started in September 2013 when the mayor wanted to cut the library's budget by about \$20 million. We count that campaign support among our successes last year, securing \$7 million in stop-gap funding for the library system. But as was [reported at the time](#), they need a permanent fix."...



EveryLibrary blog, Apr. 27; *Miami Herald*, Sept. 10, 2013

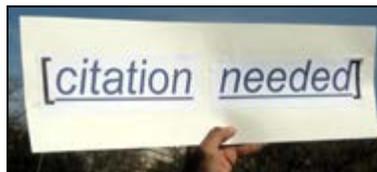
[Seven big myths about libraries](#)

Erinn Batykefer and Laura Damon-Moore write: "Americans value their libraries, but there are still misconceptions that exist among folks who maybe haven't visited a library in a while, or haven't visited one ever. Since we at the [Library As Incubator Project](#) work hard to highlight the many ways that libraries and artists can support each other, we thought we'd turn some of these misconceptions on their head by looking at them through an artsy lens."...

The Huffington Post, Apr. 29

[Academic citation rates](#)

Dahlia Remler writes: "Many academic articles are never cited, although I could not find any study with a result as high as 90%. Non-citation rates vary enormously by field. Only 12% of medicine articles are not cited, compared to about 82% for the humanities. It's 27% for natural sciences and 32% for social sciences. For everything except humanities, those numbers are far from 90% but they are still high: One third of social science articles go uncited. Clearly, academic articles have a serious problem."...



London School of Economics: *Impact of Social Sciences*, Apr. 23

[Check out the @RadReference anti-surveillance zine](#)

James R. Jacobs writes: "Check out the new Radical Reference anti-surveillance zine *We Are All Suspects* ([PDF file](#)). It's chock full of information to keep individuals and libraries safe in our ubiquitous surveillance world. It's under a Creative Commons license, so feel free to print and hand them out in your library." The zine begins: "Ever since the events of September 11th, something has been happening to our privacy rights."...

Free Government Information, Apr. 24



[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[The 10 best laptops for work](#)

Laarni Almendrala Ragaza writes: "Finding a great laptop for work is serious business. After all, you need something that's durable, secure, powerful, light, and can last through a long workday. With the countless options available, it



can be difficult to find the perfect one. Fortunately for you, we have already found the 10 best business laptops that can get the work done.”...

PC Magazine, Apr. 29

[Face-off: iPhone 5s vs. Samsung Galaxy S5](#)

Mark Spoonauer writes: “If you’re in the market for a smartphone, chances are you’re choosing between Apple and Samsung. In fact, the two companies own a combined two-thirds of the market. The current flagships for these brands are the iPhone 5s and the Galaxy S5. Which one should you choose? To help you make the right call, we compared these devices head-to-head in 11 key categories, ranging from design and camera quality to special features, performance, and battery life.”...

Laptop, Apr. 29



[10 must-have Android apps](#)

Max Eddy writes: “This is my list of the essential apps that every Android user should install. It covers a little bit of security, a little bit of entertainment, and a little bit of productivity. Ideally, if you download these 10 apps onto your phone, you should be able to tackle just about anything. Think of this as the nest for hatchling Android users. Once you’re ready to spread your wings, fly out there and find the perfect app that fits your needs.”...

PC Magazine, Apr. 24



[How to disable the built-in PDF viewer](#)

Martin Brinkmann writes: “The built-in PDF viewers in the Chrome web browser and Mozilla Firefox are convenient because you don’t need to install another program to view PDFs. However, if you prefer using an [external PDF reader](#), you can disable the built-in viewers.”...

Lifehacker, Apr. 26; Sept. 20, 2011

[New vulnerability in all versions of Internet Explorer](#)

Ashley Feinberg writes: “A new zero day vulnerability has been found to affect every version of Internet Explorer. In other words—over a quarter of the entire browser market. Attacks taking advantage of the vulnerability are largely targeting IE versions 9, 10, and 11 in something called a ‘use after free’ attack. Essentially, the attack corrupts data as soon as memory has been released, most likely after users have been lured to phony websites.”...

Gizmodo, Apr. 27



[The best antivirus programs for 2014](#)

Neil J. Rubenking writes: “With all the NSA, Edward Snowden, and Heartbleed stories in the news, security is arguably the tech story



of the year. But while these big glitzy stories are grabbing most of the attention, the most important thing you, the consumer, can do, is to perform the decidedly unglamorous but vital task of securing your own machines. And that means antivirus. Here are the best of the current crop of antivirus products." For more than just antivirus, here are the best [security suites](#) for 2014....

PC Magazine, Apr. 21, 23

[The best password managers](#) LastPass ****

Neil J. Rubenking writes: "If you aren't using a password manager, you need to start now. If you are, now's the time to [change all your passwords](#) and take note of those still vulnerable to Heartbleed; you'll have to change those again after they're fixed. Cost isn't an issue: some of the best don't cost a cent. If you already have one, maybe you'd like to upgrade? Here are some ideas to help you make a choice."...

PC Magazine, Apr. 11; Security Watch, Apr. 9

[The cloud may not be all that secure](#)

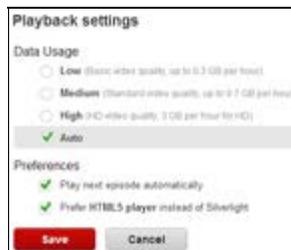
Laura Sydell writes: "People are storing more and more stuff online: photos, music, personal documents, books. The business of cloud storage is growing 30% a year, Forrester Research says. But if you're storing your digital belongings in the cloud, you should know you're giving up some rights."...

NPR: All Things Considered, Apr. 25

[How to deal with internet bandwidth caps](#)

Chris Hoffman writes: "Some internet service providers have harsh restrictions on the amount of bandwidth you can use in a month, charging you extra if you go over your bandwidth cap. Other ISPs restrict traffic at certain hours—for example, offering unlimited bandwidth only at night. These caps can be frustrating in an age of high-quality streaming videos and services that depend on plentiful bandwidth. A few simple tips can help you make the most of that limited bandwidth if you can't [find a better ISP](#)."...

How-To Geek, Feb. 6, Apr. 29



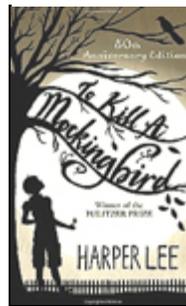
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E-Content

[To Kill a Mockingbird will finally be an ebook](#)

Harper Lee calls herself old-fashioned. She [says](#) she likes dusty books and libraries. But even she has joined the ebook age and agreed to allow her classic novel *To Kill a Mockingbird* to be published as an ebook.

HarperCollins will release the ebook edition on July 8, 54 years to the day after the novel's original publication. In a statement on April 28, her 88th



birthday, Lee said the ebook will be “*Mockingbird* for a new generation.”...

Los Angeles Times: Jacket Copy, Apr. 29; FishbowINNY, Apr. 28

What enhanced ebooks can do

Jacob L. Wright writes: “For scholars in the humanities, the enhanced ebook format is a game changer. Now we can much more easily disseminate our work in art history, archaeology, and other scholarly fields that have presented high hurdles to print publishing. A fully enhanced ebook can do the work of two volumes: Authors can address the general reading public in the main body of the text, while treating technical matters for advanced readers in more detail with electronic links to extensive pullout or pop-up windows.”...



Chronicle of Higher Education, Apr. 21

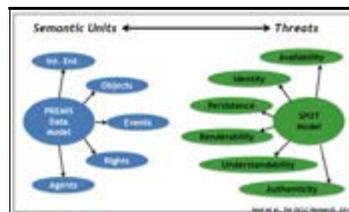
Marketing ebook collections

Claire Moore writes: “Many libraries that offer ebook collections may have seen steady growth over time, but there’s always room for increased ways to build the hype and use of digital collections. At my library there are still many families who are unaware that libraries even provide this service. The fact that returns are automatic, and that it makes traveling with kids much more carefree is enough to make some patrons prick up their ears.”...

ALSC Blog, Apr. 27

Monitoring threats to digital repository content

Preservation Health Check: Monitoring Threats to Digital Repository Content ([PDF file](#)) presents the preliminary findings of Phase 1 of OCLC’s [Preservation Health Check](#) investigation of preservation monitoring. It suggests that there is an opportunity to use PREMIS preservation metadata as an evidence base to support a threat-assessment exercise based on the Simple Property-Oriented Threat (SPOT) model....



OCLC Research, Apr. 28

The why and what of web archives

Abbey Porter writes: “It’s sometimes hard to explain to people outside the digital library community why archiving websites is worth doing. ‘They archive themselves,’ some say. ‘Why would you want to save what’s on the internet?’ they wonder. Instead of launching into explanations about cultural heritage, dynamic publishing streams, and comprehensive collection policies, I can now point to recent and



fun examples of why we should be archiving the web and what it looks like to archive the web."...

The Signal: Digital Preservation, Apr. 29

[Go back to the Top](#)

Books & Reading

[Awesome comics to be released this summer](#)

Rob Bricken writes: "If you like comics, you're going broke this summer. Seriously, talk to an accountant about bankruptcy now, because there's no way you'll be able to pay rent if you even want to buy half the awesome comics coming out this summer. But at least this guide will help you determine which half to blow your savings on. Check out Image's immense May offerings; none look better than Warren Ellis's new sci-fi series *Trees*."...

io9, Apr. 29



[Genre guide: Mysteries for teens](#)

Colleen Seisser writes: "Mysteries for teens present a puzzle or secret that leads the reader to gather clues that solve the puzzle or reveal the secret by the end of the book. Usually, mysteries for teens involve a lot of action and are fast-paced. However, recently we have seen a trend in psychological mysteries that are paced more slowly and have plots that unveil the true nature of someone or something that happened."...

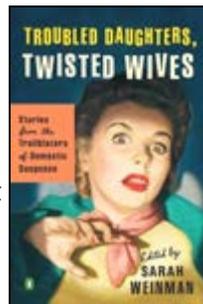
YALSA The Hub, Apr. 29



[10 dark and twisty books for *Gone Girl* fans](#)

Elisabeth Donnelly writes: "Fun fact: Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl* was released in paperback in late April, nearly two years after its initial release. In publishing terms, that means it's a gigantic hit, but that shouldn't be a surprise to those who've read it. But once you've read it and Flynn's other books, where can you turn for delicious, dark, and twisty thrillers featuring complicated females and irresistible mystery? Here's a list of 10 books that will serve you well."...

Flavorwire, Apr. 29



[The future of trilogies in YA lit](#)

Chelsea Condren writes: "I don't consider myself immune to the hype surrounding dystopian trilogies, or trilogies in general. I was there opening weekend for *Divergent* and *Catching Fire* just like you, and I love those worlds. But I suspect that some of us are burnt out. Are trilogies here to stay, or have they plateaued and are slowly losing popularity?"...

YALSA The Hub, Apr. 24

[What would Buffy characters read?](#)

Brandi Smits writes: "Last month, I had intended to [select books](#) for several characters on the fantastic TV series, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. But I only got as far

as the main character. It's no surprise that librarian Rupert Giles is a reader. But Giles only reads stuffy history texts and diaries from people who have been dead for several years. There is one series that screams out Giles's name whenever I see it."

Meanwhile, the Teen Librarian Toolbox is [rewatching Buffy](#) with new eyes....

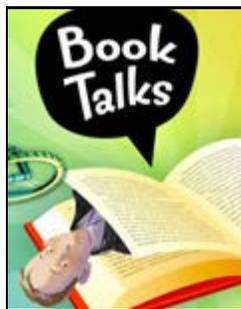
YALSA The Hub, Mar. 27, Apr. 28; Teen Librarian Toolbox, Apr. 27



[Building better book talks](#)

Neil Hollands writes: "In any group where participants have not read the same title, particularly in thematic book groups, the paramount skill for a successful meeting is the ability of readers to describe what they read in an intriguing way. While most readers pick up this skill through the model of others over time, early efforts can be awkward and spoil books more often than they convince appropriate readers to give them a try. A better, more direct approach is to actively teach readers how to give a book talk. Here is a sample list of do's and don'ts."...

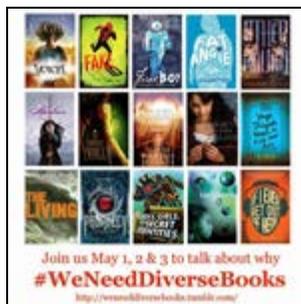
Booklist Online: Book Group Buzz, Apr. 27



[The #WeNeedDiverseBooks campaign](#)

Karen Jensen writes: "It's a sad truth that the hardest part of my job is going through every resource I can to find books with diverse characters or written by diverse authors. As a woman, I know how empowering it is for me to see positive depictions of women in the media, so I want those for my tweens and teens as well. I want them to read about and see on the covers a diverse population that looks more like the real world we live in. So when things recently reached a tipping point, a campaign was put together: [#WeNeedDiverseBooks](#). Join the conversation on May 1-3."...

Teen Librarian Toolbox, Apr. 29



[Study: Fewer people reading scrolls](#)

Rachel Cordasco writes: "[The following fragment (once part of a scroll) was recently discovered when construction workers were razing a timeless architectural wonder somewhere in Greece.] Move over, scroll; it's codex time. 'But the scroll,' you say, 'the scroll has been around for millennia. How could people just abandon it? It's the *only way* to read.' Apparently, one out of every three readers uses a codex, rather than a scroll, to get their daily literature fix."...

Book Riot, Apr. 29



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Tips & Ideas

[The EPCOT Center Outreach Library](#)

George Taylor writes: "As a librarian, I've always had an interest in the Disney Archives. Sadly, I never got to experience the EPCOT Outreach Library, which existed from 1983 to 1994 in Communicore West. It included the EPCOT Teacher's Center, which is also fairly elusive. In a recent acquisition of Disney ephemera, I ran across two pages of material discussing the Epcot Outreach Library, which had a professional librarian and research assistants on staff to answer questions about the theme park."...

MiceChat, Apr. 28



[Ideas and resources for hands-on science lessons](#)

Richard Byrne writes: "Throughout middle school and high school, conducting lab experiments was my favorite part of every science class that I took. There was something about the hands-on aspect of science labs that always got me excited about learning. I'm sure many of you felt the same way and that your students feel that way now. Here are some places to find ideas and resources for conducting hands-on science lessons."...

Free Technology for Teachers, Apr. 29

[Wikipedia tricks and extensions](#)

Thorin Klosowski writes: "Wikipedia is a useful resource for all kinds of things, but it's pretty ugly and not all that customizable. With just a few extensions and tricks, you can make it a lot more usable. For example, last year Wikipedia announced that it would let logged-in users check out [beta features](#)."...

Lifehacker, Apr. 30

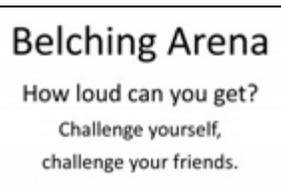


[Build your own belching arena](#)

Heather Acerro writes: "With this blog post and \$30 you can have kids in your library belching, farting, making poop, and all of the other totally disgusting things that adults are usually asking them to please stop doing. Room setup:

Open-house style with stations for each of the activities. Belching Arena: We used stanchions to block off a corner of the room and put up 'Belching Arena' signs. In the middle we placed a table with a supply of Dixie Cups and root beer."...

ALSC Blog, Apr. 28



[Five things that can boost your Facebook reach](#)

Beth McGough writes: "Are you reaching fewer patrons through Facebook today than you were a year ago? Facebook Page posts have had a harder time reaching fans since the News Feed algorithm changes Facebook started last fall. Here are five tips for reaching more patrons through Facebook, without spending a dollar on [Facebook ads](#)."...

ProQuest Blog, Mar. 6, Apr. 25

[Facebook author chats](#)

Amy Billings writes: "For many libraries, connecting readers and authors is nothing new—but what about facilitating connections to the characters and places inside the novel? By using social media and forging unique

partnerships, Gwinnett County (Ga.) Public Library recently found a new way to host author chats that can bring people together from across the country and add a new perspective to books, all while keeping costs and labor requirements low."...

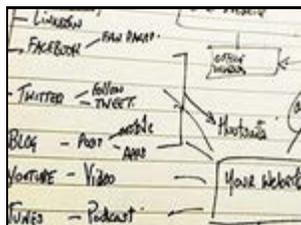
Programming Librarian, Apr. 29



[27 things to know before you work in social media](#)

Liz Strauss writes: "I work in social media. If that's your reality, your goal, or even a possibility for you, I'd like to point out a few things about working in social media worth knowing. This is not a rant, simply a set of observations, which are quite similar to the challenges of any communication-based, people-centered endeavor. The work often has more nuances and challenges than we expected. Here are 27 problems with working in social media."...

Ragan's PR Daily, Apr. 29



[State Poets Laureate roundup](#)

Peter Armenti writes: "It's been a while since I provided an update on [current state poets laureate](#). As of this writing, 42 states have an official position of state poet laureate, while two states, Alaska and Idaho, have a position for "State Writer Laureate" and "Writer-in-Residence," respectively. The position of state poet laureate or state writer is occupied in 42 of these 44 states."...

From the Catbird Seat: Poetry and Literature from the Library of Congress, Apr. 28

[A museum's history of text for the visually challenged](#)

Norman Ball writes: "Welcome to the [Museum Valentin Haüy](#) (his unusual last name is pronounced Ah-oo-ee), which honors the founder of Europe's first school for the blind. More than that, it is an excellent guide to how life has changed for blind people. Before the 18th century, their traditional lot included poverty, ridicule, little or no formal training or education, and life at the margins of society. The 26-year old Valentin Haüy, a well-educated interpreter, was so moved by these humiliations that he dedicated his life to making life better for them."...

Parisian Fields, Sept. 15, 2013



[UIUC's Project Unica collects singular books](#)

Project Unica is the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Rare Book and Manuscript Library's initiative to preserve and share books that exist as sole survivors. Valerie Hotchkiss, the director of the RBML, says the [Project Unica](#) website already has more than 280 of these lone volumes online, with more scanned and waiting to be uploaded. She recently opened Project Unica to other university libraries to share



their unique books on the site....
University of Illinois News Bureau, Apr. 29

[**Brown v. Board anniversary commemorated at KU**](#)

In recognition of the 60th anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education*, the University of Kansas Libraries in Lawrence hosted two events in April honoring the landmark civil rights ruling. One was an [exhibition opening](#) and the other an April 12 symposium, "The Legacies and Unfinished Business of BvB, 2.0," that featured guest speakers and plaintiffs from the 1954 Supreme Court case....
University of Kansas Libraries, Apr. 25



[**In search of Pennsylvania's first county bookmobile**](#)

Bernadette Lear writes: "The Susquehanna County Historical Society and Free Library established one of, if not the first county bookmobile services in Pennsylvania. In the fall of 1923, Francis R. Cope wrote to Anna A. MacDonald, consulting librarian within the Library Extension Division of the State Library of Pennsylvania. It appears that she helped Cope find an experienced librarian to organize Susquehanna County's bookmobile service."...
In Search of Pennsylvania Library History, Apr. 26



[**NYPL digital collections**](#)

Angela Terrab writes: "The New York Public Library Digital Collections have substance, and now they're getting the style to match. As one might expect of this landmark library system, NYPL is bursting with drool-worthy content. Its eye-grabbing new [website](#) (in beta) is much more image-friendly and user-centric than its predecessor. While users will still find the item- and collection-level metadata they would expect of a major research library, images and videos are presented in a much more immediate fashion."...
The Library As Incubator Project, Apr. 30



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