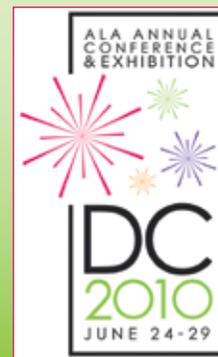


ALACognotes



WASHINGTON — 2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Highlights

Tuesday

Closing Session

Featuring Amy Sedaris

9:00–10:00 a.m.

Washington

Convention Center,

Ballroom C

Library Advocacy Day

11:00 a.m.

Upper Senate Park

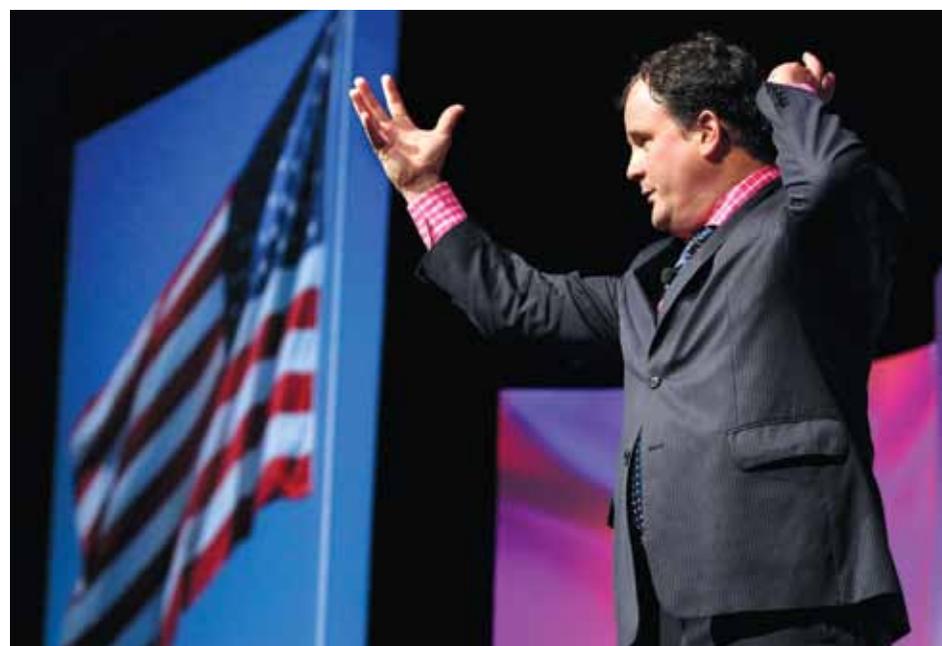
Eppo van Nispen Inspires Librarians to Finish Strong

By Stacy L. Voeller
Minnesota State University
Moorhead

On Sunday afternoon, the ALA President's Program featured inspirational speaker, Eppo van Nispen tot Sevenaer. He greeted the crowd by saying, "Hello, I'm a librarian. Ever since I've become a librarian, I don't get invited to parties."

Eppo van Nispen tot Sevenaer noted that the "number one company in information in the world is you, the library. I realized that so many people are using libraries and that was interesting because nobody knows that."

He started the DOK Library Con-



Eppo van Nispen tot Sevenaer at Sunday's ALA President's Program.

cept Center in Delft with the idea that they "would always be ahead." According to van Nispen, "Architects are the worst for libraries because most of the time libraries are publically funded and then the mayors start to call their friends the architects, and architects think in terms of forms, not of people. They miss the point of really design-

ing a library that's useful. The Delft library's mission is to become the most modern library in the world, and a better friend than Google."

At DOK, when they think of a new service, "it has to be [about] having more, it makes it more, and they call it the fat man. Life is all about hav-

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John Grisham Thanks Libraries

By Kathryn Shields
High Point
University (NC)

I have a long, wonderful history with libraries and librarians. From a purely selfish view I want to say thanks," said John Grisham as he began his talk in front of a large crowd of librarians who gathered to hear him as part of the Auditorium Speaker Series sponsored by Penguin, on Monday. Grisham, who will serve as the



John Grisham

Honorary Chair of 2011 National Library Week, is an internationally best-selling author of 21 novels and one nonfiction book, and his works have been translated into 38 languages. He recently introduced his first-ever series of children's books

for 8-12 year olds, the first of which is entitled *Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer* and follows the adventures of a 13-year-old boy who is an amateur lawyer and unwittingly becomes involved in a high-profile murder trial.

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Acclaimed songwriter and performer Natalie Merchant performs selections from her newly released *Leave Your Sleep*, a two CD set of songs adapted from the works of classic and contemporary poets, as part of the Exhibits Closing Program.



Head over to the U.S. Capitol today to participate in ALA's Library Advocacy Day, as more than 1,000 librarians are expected to stand up for the needs of the public. Shuttle bus service between the convention center and Capitol staging area will begin at 10:00 a.m., and continue through 1:00 p.m. The rally begins at 11:00 a.m.

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Niffenegger and Small and Their Haunting Graphic Tales

By Amy Pace
High Point University (NC)

What do David Small and Audrey Niffenegger have in common? Both have recently written graphic novels, beautiful and evocative and written for adults. The haunting book trailer featuring poignant black and white illustrations by David Small introduced attendees to the work of art and memoir that is *STICHES*. On Monday, Small and Niffenegger shared their novels and reasons for creating graphic novels at the Auditorium Speaker Series: Graphic Novel Panel.

David Small has illustrated over 40 picture books including the 2001 Caldecott Medal winner, *So You Want to be President*. In *STICHES: a Memoir*, a heart-wrenching tale of Small's history, the reader is introduced to his difficult relationship with his family and troubles at school, and also his imagination at the time. Small decided to write *STICHES* in order to confront his past, a past in which he was the youngest member in a troubled family. He started drawing from childhood memories, one of which was of playing in an abandoned hospital, waiting for his father to finish work and discovering a misshapen young child in a jar. He also began to remember his mother, a "malevolent" and intensely disapproving presence in his youth. His images included both the memories

and remembered dreams of a child in a difficult situation. Small's father conducted x-ray experiments on his young son, which led to a tumor. The removal of this tumor even led to the temporary loss of his voice. As he began to remember, drawing and telling the story helped process the psychological problems included with these memories.

Audrey Niffenegger is the author of two international bestsellers: *The Time Traveler's Wife* and *Her Fearful Symmetry*, and is the writer/illustrator for *The Night Bookmobile*, described by the author as the story of a woman's love affair with reading, "which will be published in September, 2010. Niffenegger said, "We're living in a golden age of comics, and of book design in general." She related her beginnings as an art student in Chicago, and remembered looking for comic books that were not for children. She read Art Spiegelman's *Maus*, and was eventually inspired to write *The Night Bookmobile*, the story of a young woman named Alex who, walking alone one night, encounters a strange bookmobile. Beckoned inside, she realized that the bookmobile is her bookmobile, containing all of the books she has ever read, and creating a sort of portrait of her life. In the morning she must leave, but finds she has become obsessed with finding her bookmobile again. She spends much of her life



David Small and Audrey Niffenegger

searching for it. The story is based very loosely on a story by H.G. Wells, entitled *The Door in the Wall*. Using the Salzer Library in Chicago, the Chicago Public Library bookmobiles, as well as the help of some friends, Niffenegger took reference photographs as she began to draw the images to accompany the short story she had written.

During the question and answer session, Niffenegger recommended read-

ing graphic novelists: Chris Ware and Scott McCloud. Small recommended reading *Blankets* by Craig Thompson, *AD: New Orleans After the Deluge* by Josh Neufeld, *Blue Pills* by Frederik Peeters, *Pinocchio* by French author: Winshluss, which has yet to be translated into English, but Small states, it's "one of the most wickedly funny, devastatingly satiric" books, a "very naughty book."

Public Space and the Art of Remembrance

By Karen E. Brown
University of Hawaii

"Societies in fact reconstruct their pasts rather than faithfully record them, and they do so with the needs of contemporary culture clearly in mind – manipulating the past in order to mold the present."—*Mystic Chords of Memory* (Michael Kammen, 1991)

It's nearly impossible to be in D.C. without being drawn to one of the many monuments and memorials that exist in the capital city. Dr. Kirk Savage, Professor of History of Art and Architecture at the University of Pittsburgh, specializes in public memorials and monuments and spoke at the ACRL/ARTS panel "How We Memorialize: The Art and Politics of Public Memorialization." Savage says monuments "connect us with the real world of politics and power." He has two books on the subject, *Standing Soldiers, Kneeling Slaves* and *Monument Wars: Washington, D.C., the National Mall, and the Transformation of the Memorial Landscape*, which won the 2010 Charles C. Eldredge Prize awarded by the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

One of the main questions Savage encounters time after time is: Why do societies erect public monuments? Savage sums it up by saying monuments

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Unsettled Settlement: Google Books and the Great Unknown

By **Karen E. Brown**
University of Hawaii

There are many resources to help one try and understand the complicated aspects of the Google Books Settlement (GBS). A more engaging avenue was listening to James Grimmelmänn's, associate professor Institute for Information Law and Policy New York Law School, rapid-fire overview of the settlement and looking at Jonathan Band's, attorney and panel moderator, "GBS March Madness" chart, which attempts to highlight possible paths forward for the GBS. The panel entitled "Breakout Session I—ALA Task Force on Google Panel Discussion" Monday focused not on covering the same territory of the GBS, but on looking toward the very unpredictable future.

As it is now, the settlement decision is in the hands of Judge Denny Chin, but Judge Chin was confirmed in April to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and he hasn't spoken about how he will handle the GBS case. Grimmelmänn said, "We should expect a ruling from him, probably sometime this summer...but with life tenure we can't make him do anything (laughter). But when he does, interesting things will happen."

Marybeth Peters, Register of Copyrights for the U.S. Copyright Office, speculated that Judge Chin could

approve the settlement, but might instead produce "a very long, thoughtful opinion." Alternately, the judge could "print out a road map on what a good settlement would be. Then, it's really up to the parties to work it out." Ultimately, Peters believes the case will turn to litigation.

Band outlined three possible scenarios: 1) the settlement is approved (it is deemed "fair, reasonable, and adequate"); 2) the existing settlement is rejected, but a road map is designed

for the parties to hash out, and it is likely that the scan and snippet regime would rule; 3) the settlement is rejected (Google could then claim "fair use" and uses litigation).

"Google is very much focused on the case as it stands and where it stands", said Google's Johanna Shelton. It took Google two and a half years to reach that settlement, which involved public input. Shelton pointed out that authors have come to them saying their out-of-print books had no commercial viability

and Google aims to help solve problems for authors and all stakeholders (libraries, publishers, etc.), though many authors care that it be an opt-in system for showcasing their work instead of the current opt-out system.

When the question, "Would libraries be satisfied with the snippet display?" was posed, Mark Sandler, Director of the Center for Library Initiatives for the Committee on Institutional Cooperation said, "I think we would

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Secretary of Education Arnie Duncan shares a laugh with AASL Executive Director Julie Walker, left, and AASL President Cassandra G. Barnett, right, during an informal meeting on Monday with the AASL board of directors and representatives from state-level school library organizations affiliated with AASL.



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The New Information Environment: Top Technology Trends

By Brad Martin
LAC Group

It was not very long before Apple's iPad was mentioned at LITA's "Top Technology Trends" program on Sunday, with panelist John Blyberg using it as perhaps the best recent example of how mobile devices just keep getting better all the time and that they have clear implications for libraries.

Blyberg, Assistant Director for Innovation and User Experience at the Darien Library in Connecticut, was joined by five others, who discussed how current, imminent and long-term trends have impacts in the library world of today and tomorrow.

Lorcan Dempsey, Vice President and Chief Strategist at OCLC, built on Blyberg's remarks by pointing out the need to reconfigure library services to the new environment the iPad represents. Dempsey added that so far libraries had only just begun to do this by, among other things, creating apps for the iPhone and iPad.

Jason Griffey, Assistant Professor and Head of Information Technology at the University of Tennessee, told how the iPad brings back a tactile feel to the user experience, and noted how its

introduction is being followed quickly by plummeting prices of e-readers, to the point where they may become nearly disposable in cost. He then asked the audience to consider the effect on libraries and other institutions when someone may in the future be able to purchase a \$99 e-reader pre-loaded with all the major public works of western literature that are in the public domain.

"Libraries need to create work spaces that support creativity. They need to stop being a grocery store and start being a kitchen."

"Libraries are in the early stages of tapping into mobile technology," according to Monique Sendze, Associate Director of Virtual Services for the Douglas County Libraries in Colorado, add-

ing that "libraries need to develop a mobile strategy to stay relevant."

Cindy Trainor, Coordinator for Library Technology and Data Services at Eastern Kentucky Libraries, told of how library collections are becoming more patron-driven and that the privacy backlash has highlighted our notions of openness and privacy.

Joan Frye Williams, an independent consultant specializing in library and information technology services said, "libraries need to create work spaces that support creativity. They need to stop being a grocery store and start

being a kitchen," she added. She also pointed out the impact that patrons' use of iPads and similar devices is creating new challenges to such basic things as the design for lighting in a library.

The panelists put forward many pre-

dictions on a variety of issues, including the adoption and expansion of 4G mobile networks, the end of the era of physical copy scarcity in libraries, and the need to find a better way to "rank, rate and recommend resources."



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Developing the Brain Through Storytelling

By Stacy L. Voeller
Minnesota State University
Moorhead

On Monday morning, Patricia K. Kuhl, Ph.D. was the featured speaker for the ALSC Charlemae Rollins President's Program. The program began with award-winning author, storyteller and children's librarian, Lucia Gonzalez whose books include *The Bossy Gallito and The Storyteller's Candle (La Velita de los Cuentos)*, Gonzalez said, "Rule number one is you never tell stories behind a podium, podiums are so serious."

Gonzalez talked about how the stories you learn at a young age stay with you for a lifetime. "My great aunt told us scary stories, and those stories traumatized me for life. To this very day, my sister looks under her bed every night before she goes to sleep. My great aunt did not know how to write or read, but she knew how to tell stories, and I have never forgotten them." She added that those are the stories she tells first to the children in the library, not the ones in the books.

Kuhl is the Bezos Family Foundation Endowed Chair for Early Childhood Learning, Co-Director of the UW Institute for Learning & Brain Sciences, Director of the University of Washington's NSF Science of Learning Center, and Professor of Speech and Hearing Sciences. Her work has

played a major role in demonstrating how early language impacts the brain.

She discussed how "language acquisition is highest through age 7, and beginning at age 8 the learning becomes more difficult and it is tougher to master the nuances of language. As a brain scientist, I'm trying to find out what the magic is. What are babies under a year old doing that makes language and literacy really easy to accomplish? Teachers will tell us that if children aren't reading by third grade, there's almost nothing they can do to catch them up."

"We begin languages in the United States when children are older," said Kuhl. We teach them at the wrong time and in the wrong way." She added that all of the language problems kids exhibit, are all rooted in early developmental issues. "If we could identify the appropriate diagnostics early, there would be great hope for turning the lives of children around."

"A baby's brain is like a computer and they are summarizing the data we give them. A critical component is social interaction and how it plays an important role in learning and language," stressed Kuhl. "When we talk to very young children we sound very different than when we talk to each other. We think that when we talk to kids this way we provide something the brain really likes."

There is evidence that socioeconomic status matters according to Dr. Kuhl. "What families provide for kids in the first five years as far as learning opportunities goes, does have a major impact."

Kuhl closed by summarizing the impact of exposure to reading and languages to babies: "Infant early language equals better learning; motherese, the way people speak to babies, may assist learning; speech provides potential biomarkers for autism; infant phonetic learning predicts language growth and phonological awareness

to the age of five years; and the critical period is affected by experience as well as time neural commitment."

When asked by a librarian in the audience what libraries can do, Kuhl responded, "I would love to see libraries handing out books to families with six-month-old children. Kids should be checking out their own books at two years of age. They should toddle in, make their selection, and toddle out with it. The money we devote to education is way too small. I remain hopeful, but the resources have to be there to support it."

GBS

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all prefer to have full-text display" because researchers often depend on a corpus of work. However, Sandler went on to say that "libraries have the print books to drive users to if, in fact, that discovery mechanism works. We consider snippets and page displays substantial benefits to users."

Shelton says that many books are inaccessible right now because of legal limbo, but she reiterates that Google believes snippets are fair use. Shelton also points out "people assume wrongly that the number [of books] left in middle are orphan works. At most twenty percent are." In reality the big category

of works in the middle are "two-parent works with an author and publisher who are in a custody battle." Google is not to say who is right in this custody battle but they are providing a bridge to the books across the chasm that no one can reach. Shelton says the focus is on other ways to build a bridge but at this point no one has stepped up with new construction plans.

The panel did agree that the need for an e-rights registry was essential, no matter what the outcome. Grimmelmann's suggestions for the future didn't point out a new road map or bridge for the GBS. Rather, he envisions "deep structural changes to copyright [law]", a statement which received exuberant applause from the audience.

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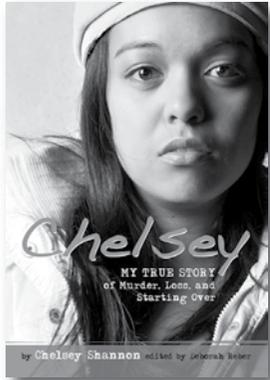
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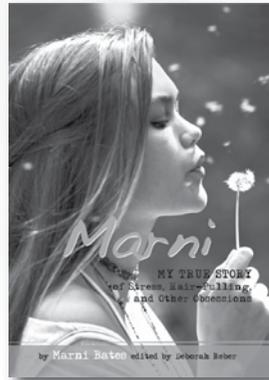
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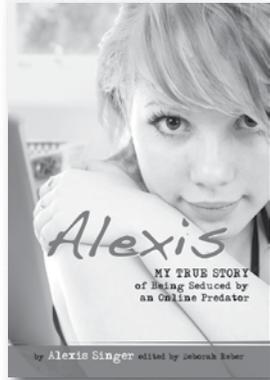
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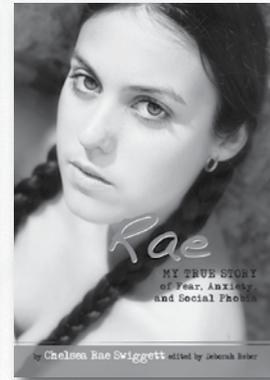
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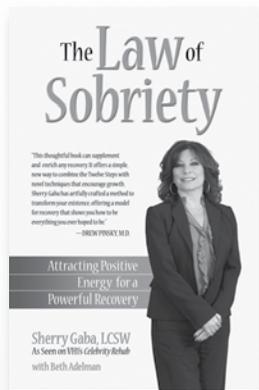


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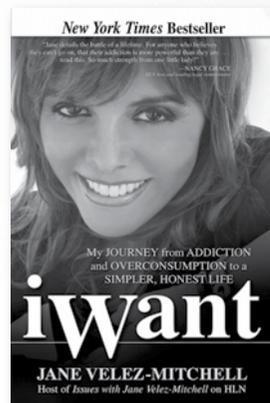
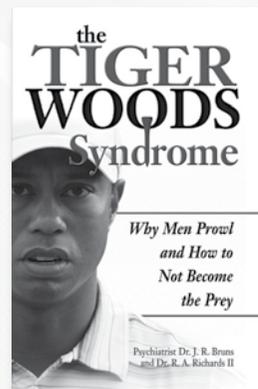
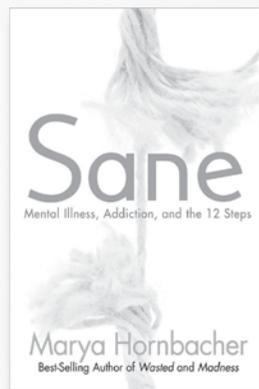
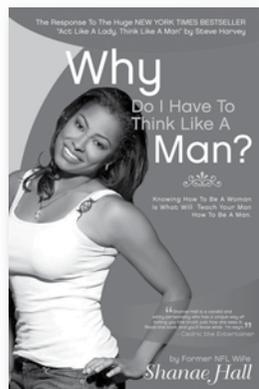


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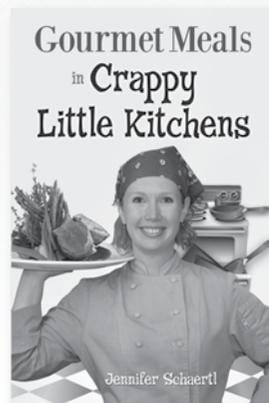
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Providing Better Services to the Underserved

By Stacy L. Voeller
Minnesota State University
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The Office for Literacy and Outreach Services of ALA hosted the program "Library Services for the Poor and Homeless" on Sunday. Victoria Hill, Cluster Children's Specialist at Brooklyn Public Library, who does a lot of outreach services to schools and hospitals said, "You have to meet the people where they are which is not always within our doors." She continued saying that clustering or grouping of four to six neighboring branches that share resources to better serve the community, became their model for achieving this. "The children's and young adult librarians get together and will go to a school and hit all the classes there to get the children library cards. Clustering makes it easier to share resources. Librarians can cover each other's programs, and it's a way to form partnerships with the community."

Hill conducts story time in the pediatric area of the local hospital. "Much of the hospital's service area suffers from poverty. I have been volunteering in the hospital's pediatric waiting room reading stories and giving books to both those waiting for a sibling, and the sick child themselves," she said. The library also provides service through a "multicultural intern program for

children who are interested in becoming librarians funded through an IMLS sponsored grant.

Nick Higgins, supervising librarian of New York Public Library's Correctional Services Program said, "It's important that if you want to reach poor homeless and underrepresented communities you need to have support from your administration. Librarians need to advocate for this kind of support otherwise it will be impossible to get out of the branches to serve your communities."

Higgins spends most of his time out in the prisons advocating for the library, signing people up for cards and delivering books to the prisoners. "Not everyone in the prison system is poor and homeless. There are 60,000 state inmates in New York state, and two thirds of them come from New York City. The upper east side of New York City boasts the most millionaires in the country, so most of them come from a few neighborhoods in Brooklyn and from the Bronx. Higgins said, "It takes just a lot of hard work and staff time to reach a lot of people." The bulk of the work Higgins does is running four mobile libraries on Rikers Island.

Julie Winkelstein was a public librarian for 20 years and is now a doctoral student. She explained that "the homeless" is a label we should not use.

She has been researching the "idea of working with people who are homeless and the terms we use to describe that situation because the term homeless is problematic when we discuss information user groups. "The homeless are not a homogenous population. You cannot make a generalization about homeless people because they are just people, too."

When Winkelstein interviewed those staying at homeless shelters, she was told by interviewees that they wanted there to be more collaboration between the library and the homeless shelter, and wished they could know how to use a computer before they came to the library so they didn't have to ask when they got there. Interviews also revealed they "would love librarians to come and talk to them but didn't believe it would happen. They would use books and magazines when in the library, but were offended that they were being punished because they didn't have a permanent address."

"Maybe we should encourage people to reveal they are homeless and they should not feel ashamed about it," Winkelstein said. She suggested *Public Library Services for the Poor: Doing All We Can*, published by ALA, and *At Home on the Street: People, Poverty, and a Hidden Culture of Homelessness* by Jason Wasserman and Jeffrey Clair as resources.

Grisham

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As a child, John Grisham's family moved a lot for his father's job, and he lived in various small towns in Mississippi, Arkansas, and Louisiana. "When we moved we did two things immediately—joined the local Baptist church... and went to the local library. The crucial point," he said "was always how many books you could check out in a week." Their house was always filled with the stacks of books that he and his three siblings checked out from the library, and he remembers grabbing a book and going to hide to "get lost" for a few hours in a story. He also said "you wouldn't be caught dead reading *Nancy Drew* [because it was a girls' series]...so you just didn't get caught." He thanked libraries for "creating places where little boys can go to discover books and a love of reading."

Grisham said he also owes much of his early success as an author to libraries and librarians. He was inspired to write his first book, *A Time to Kill*, by something he saw in a courtroom. The book took three years to write, and his wife read each chapter as he finished it. It was rejected by numerous agents and publishers and was eventually picked up in 1989 by Windwood Press. They published 5000 copies, and he bought 1000 of them. So, he went to the local library and asked if he could have a book party there. He said the book party was a great success, but at the end, "I still owned 882 copies." So his librarian called other libraries around Mississippi, and he took his show on the road, selling books from the trunk of his car for the rest of the summer of 1989. When he published his second book, *The Firm*, in 1991 "most of the encouragement came from two groups—independent booksellers and librarians." He said that the book quickly became a word-of-mouth bestseller, in large part because librarians recommended the book to their patrons.

He got the idea to write *Theodore Boone* from his daughter, who is an elementary teacher. She told him about the kinds of books her students were reading, and none of them were reading books about the law. He came up with the idea of a 13-year-old kid who is an only child, whose parents are both lawyers and practice together. "Theo doesn't want to go to ballgames, he wants to go to trials." Theo wants to be a famous trial lawyer or a judge. He knows every judge in town, every lawyer, every policeman, every court clerk, and can hack into anything which, Grisham said, means that "Theo is going to be in a lot of trouble for many episodes to come." The book came out in May of this year, and Grisham looks forward to writing more Theo books in the future.

Grisham is disciplined about his writing, and said, "If I didn't write every day, I don't know what I would do." To aspiring writers, he offers this advice, "writers, until you write one page a day, nothing is gonna happen." He is currently working on a new legal thriller that will come out just before Christmas.

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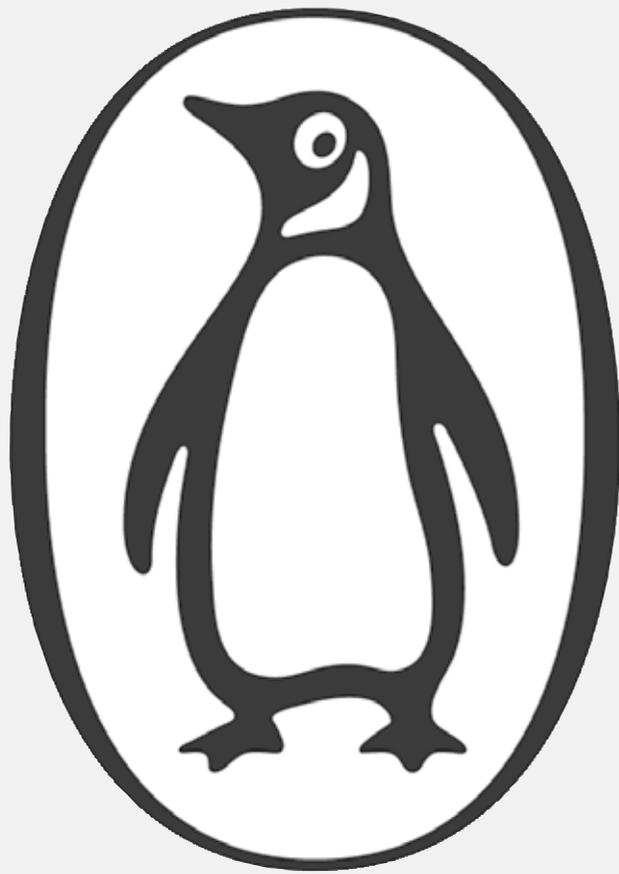
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GRAND CENTRAL

Economic Crunch Places Americans At Risk of Losing Library Service

By Camila Alire and Ginny Cooper

It seems that every time you pick up a newspaper or read a web site, you can find a story about libraries facing major budget cuts.

From big to small towns, budgets are being slashed as governments scramble to halt the flow of red ink.

Even the D.C. Public Library system, which is in the process of building and renovating libraries across the city to provide state-of-the-art services, has been hit by budgetary pressure.

In the past three years, D.C. has reduced library spending in all areas: books, supplies, training, and travel. The Library also reduced hours and eliminated the community outreach van.

While the D.C. Public Library's 2011 budget had overall decrease of about \$177,000, costs increased in many areas including salaries, benefits and operating new libraries. To accommodate these costs, the library has implemented staff reductions, leaving vacancies unfilled and eliminating the equivalent of 23.5 full-time positions.

Sadly, D.C. does not stand alone. How dire is the situation?

Data from the American Library Association's 2010 State of America's Library Report shows 41 percent of

America's public libraries are fiscally responsible and wise investments.

states report declining state funding for public libraries in the current fiscal year. Declines in funding often are compounded by reductions at the local level—creating a snowball effect that will effect the millions that depend on library service.

Libraries provide an anchor of stability for millions of Americans tightening their financial belts during these tough economic times. They are essential to jobs and opportunity, community empowerment and lifelong learning.

A recent University of Washington Information School study entitled, "U.S. Impact Study: Web Survey Results," showed that 40 percent of computer users at the D.C. Public Library use computers to research and apply for jobs, with a success rate of one in five. With job applications and a number of federal and local government programs only available online, more people turn to the library to access the Internet.

The results of the study bear out recent statistics on library usage. Data from a January 2010 Harris Interactive poll provides compelling evidence that a decade-long trend of increasing library use is continuing—and even accelerating during economic hard times. The national survey indicates that some 219 million Americans feel the public library improves the quality of life in their community, an increase from 209.8 million reported in 2006. Survey data also indicate that more than 223 million Americans feel that because it provides free access to materials and resources, the public library plays an important role in giving everyone a chance to succeed.

Funded by nearly 35 tax dollars per person each year, America's public libraries are fiscally responsible and wise investments. Instead of seeing the nation's libraries as excess budgetary baggage, federal, state and local governments should view libraries as essential to our recovery effort. Americans clawing their way out of three years of economic woe are ill served when they are cut off from access to the very resources that can help them find a new job or career.

As our nation struggles to emerge from the recent economic crisis, we cannot afford to close the book on libraries.

Camila Alire is the president of the American Library Association. She currently serves as Professor of Practice (adjunct) for Simmons College's PhD program in Managerial Leadership in the Information Professions and adjunct professor at San Jose University Executive MLIS program.

Ginnie Cooper is chief librarian of the D.C. Public Library, with more than 20 locations in Washington D.C.

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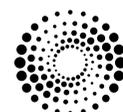


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History of the Destruction and Confiscation of Libraries During Wartime

By Frederick J. Augustyn, Jr.
The Library of Congress

Beverly Lynch, Chair of the International Relations Committee (IRC), introduced a panel on Saturday, sponsored by ALA's IRC as well as by its

International Relations Roundtable (IRRT) featuring: Sem Sutter, Director of Collections and German Bibliographer at the University of Chicago Libraries; Corinne Wegener, founder and President of the U.S. Committee

of the Blue Shield; Dr. Richard Werking, Library Director and professor of history at the U.S. Naval Academy; and Ann Parham, Librarian of the U.S. Army for the past 12 years.

Sutter presented a sweeping historical perspective on the travails of libraries during war, stating that the books of the enemy can be viewed variously as "objects of hatred, fear, or reverence.... Ancient history is replete with the annihilation of libraries." This trend continued with historian Edward Gibbon deploring the medieval Crusaders sack of Constantinople's books. During the war that began in 1812, the U.S. in 1813 attacked the library of York (now Toronto) Canada with the British burn-

ing the Library of Congress collection the following year. Books are often destroyed "as links to memory" rather than as artifacts. The late 20th century

witnessed examples of destruction of these cultural symbols in Sri Lanka in the 1980s. During the Balkan Wars of the 1990s, "cultural cleansing" often accompanied ethnic cleansing and Sarajevo's multicultural collections especially suffered. In the Iraq War, the U.S. probably did not adequately protect collections that arsonists and looters depleted. But sometimes enemies plundered and kept books rather than destroy them. Many early Roman libraries and the holdings of Matthias Corvinus of Hungary were built that way. Poland's National Library emerged after the nation reappeared following World War I, only to travel in advance of the Nazis to France, then Britain, and finally Canada. In 1959, Polish books and manuscripts finally returned from the New World to their

homeland where they were properly preserved. Wegener, a retired army reservist whose last assignment was in Baghdad, recounted the story of the Blue Shield, which originated with the Hague Convention of 1954, as the first international attempt to safeguard cultural properties. As Wegener said, "think of it as the Red Cross for culture." Although the U.S. helped to devise it, President Eisenhower did not choose to forward the convention to the Senate during the Cold War. Consequently, it was not until 2008 that the U.S. Senate ratified it resulting in America joining 122 other signatory countries in a stated desire to protect and restore

works of architecture, art, and archaeological sites, as well as manuscripts, books, and the buildings that house them. Unlike most countries, however, the

U.S. faces the difficulty of implementing the guidelines of the Hague Convention without a Ministry of Culture. Ironically, adverse world opinion toward U.S. military actions in Iraq may have helped to motivate subsequent American conservation efforts there. Wegener stated that with today's all volunteer army, few of our colleagues become involved with cultural restoration under the auspices of the military. Wegener herself arrived in Iraq in May 2003 a month after the Iraq National Library was burned largely by Baathists seeking to destroy incriminating records.

Werking emphasized the continuity and changes of American library services to its military forces. The distribution of books or other reading matter during World War I was largely performed voluntarily by ALA. In 1921, the U.S. Army Library Service was founded as a government agency. Because of down time military personnel often have opportunity to read. With "a faith in the power of print," soldiers have often had an inclination to do that in order to improve their morale and character even when other recreational pursuits were available.

Parham said that American soldiers' reading interests have often reflected those of the larger society with Civil War combatants often choosing religious books and novels; World War I soldiers reading Progressive Era materials for efficiency and uplift; and those during World War II (as during previous conflicts) reading for tactical understanding, as well as for recreation. She also mentioned the volunteer driven War Library Service established in 1917 by the Secretary of War (and succeeded by the Army Library Service) largely staffed by ALA (and directed by Librarian of Congress Herbert Putnam) with assistance from the YMCA and the Red Cross. The Vietnam War marked one of the last great involvements of librarians in the U.S. military.



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**The distribution of books
or other reading matter
during World War I was
largely performed
voluntarily by ALA.**

Spencer G. Shaw (1916 - 2010)

"When you speak of storytelling, many people relegate it to the nursery. I use storytelling as an important means of sharing cultures of the world. I use storytelling for all age groups, regardless of how young or how old they may be."



The University of Washington Information School and community mourns the loss of nationally and internationally known librarian, storyteller, and educator Professor Emeritus Spencer G. Shaw. Spencer passed away on June 16 at the age of 93.

We invite you to a celebration of Spencer's life at this year's Spencer G. Shaw Lecture featuring Jane Yolen, on October 14 at the University of Washington.

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(top left) New York Times best-selling author *Dennis Lehane* discusses his soon to be released book *Moonlight Mile* at the Auditorium Speaker Series. (above) Librarians called "The Texas Arrangers" from Midlothian ISD, Midlothian, Texas, perform on their way to winning the Silver Cart during the Sixth Annual Library Book Cart Drill Team Championship, sponsored by Demco. (bottom left) After a culinary cooking demonstration on the Cookbook Stage, chef *Matthew Locricchio* signs copies of his book *Teen Cuisine*.

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