

COGNOTES

ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION
June 25-30, 2015

2015
ANNUAL
HIGHLIGHTS
Edition

SAN FRANCISCO, CA

USE THE TAG #alaac15

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



Sarah Lewis

Sarah Lewis Explores Creativity, Inspiration, Mastery in President's Program

By Brad Martin, LAC Group

Sarah Lewis began her remarks on June 28 by saying that it was “an honor to be in this room” and ended by stating that addressing the ALA audience was an even greater privilege than writing her book *The Rise*.

Lewis has served on President Obama's Arts Policy Committee and is a Du Bois Fellow at Harvard University. She has also been selected for *O, The Oprah Magazine's* Power List.

In her talk, Lewis explored themes in *The Rise*, which she said is about “the unlikely foundations of creative behavior,” and used

examples of artists, inventors, and writers to illustrate the importance of “private domains and the function they serve for thought, creativity, and justice.”

Lewis said her grandfather, Shadrach Emmanuel Lee, was the inspiration for the book she would later write. Being told at a young age by a teacher that black people were not in history books because they had not contributed anything, Lee was not frightened by the prospect of failure and went on to become a painter and jazz musician. Lewis recalled visits to his house as a child, where she would see his art – and the small room that provided the

» see page 12

Closing Session: Grand Ending to a Great Conference

By Steve Zalusky

The American Library Association held the “last waltz” for its 2015 Annual Conference & Exhibition in San Francisco, with a Closing General Session on June 30 that featured Rock and Roll Hall of Famer Robbie Robertson and Caldecott Medal Honor winner David Shannon (*No, David!*).

Prior to their appearance, 2014-2015 ALA President Courtney L. Young passed the gavel to 2015-2016 ALA President Sari Feldman and introduced the new division

presidents.

Feldman announced “Libraries Transform,” a new, multiyear public awareness campaign. The campaign's ultimate goal is to increase funding support for libraries and advance information policy issues in alignment with ALA's strategic advocacy goals. She also announced the website, www.librariestransform.org.

Feldman then interviewed Robertson and Shannon about their new book, *Hiawatha and the Peacemaker*.

The book tells the story of the strong and

» see page 15



The Band's Robbie Robertson (left) and illustrator David Shannon share a laugh while discussing their book *Hiawatha and the Peacemaker* during the Closing Session.

2015 ANNUAL CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS



U.S. House of Representatives Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi recognizes the efforts of Roberta A. Kaplan after the Opening General Session June 26. (See story and video on page 4).



Looking Forward to Seeing You in Boston Next January

I hope you enjoyed the energetic Annual Conference in beautiful San Francisco as much as I did, and came away with new ideas, strategies, and tools for helping our libraries stay future-focused. The number of inspiring events, sessions, programs, exhibit-floor activities, and networking opportunities seems to grow every year, and I was impressed by the many ideas and resources that we can readily implement when we return home. Thank you all for your hard work, creativity, and active participation.



ALA President Sari Feldman

A personal highlight for me was being inaugurated as the 2015-16 ALA President at the brunch event on Tuesday. It gave me the opportunity to reflect on what I hope to accomplish during my presidential year and to introduce “Libraries Transform,” a new, multi-year public awareness campaign (*see video on page 5*). The campaign’s ultimate goal is to increase funding support for libraries and advance information policy issues in alignment with ALA’s strategic advocacy goals. Our profession needs to share a consistent message about libraries today – that they are less about what they *have* for people, more about what they do *for* and *with* people. This campaign is designed to shift general perceptions of libraries from “obsolete” or “nice to have” to *essential*. You can find out more about the campaign and share your perspective about the ways in which *libraries transform* at www.librariestransform.org.

ALA’s success is dependent upon your active engagement, so we are already looking forward to building on that engagement at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Boston. Keep an eye out for announcements about exciting speakers, authors, and thought leaders who will join us there. We will also offer 18 new format “deep dive” workshops in addition to the hundreds of discussions and sessions on timely topics, pre-Midwinter Institutes, exciting book award announcements, and exceptional networking opportunities. The Exhibit Floor will again be buzzing with events, authors, and more than 450 exhibitors showing off the latest technologies, titles, and more.

Save the date for the 2016 Midwinter Meeting, January 8 – 12, 2016, in Boston (note the earlier-than-usual dates!), and then for the Annual Conference June 23 – 28, 2016, in Orlando, where you will find a renovated, tight conference “campus,” plentiful new transportation options, and affordable room rates. Book early to be sure you get the discounted early-bird registration rates for both events. (Bundle registration opens September 9, Midwinter-only registration October 1, and Annual-only registration January 19).

I look forward to seeing you there, and, in the meantime, here’s to our ongoing shared work in helping libraries transform.

Manzano Stresses Reading, Empathy, Understanding

By Kacee Anderson, Harmony Science Academy

Sonia Manzano, writer and Emmy Award-winning actress best known for her years on “Sesame Street,” wrapped up the Auditorium Speaker series June 29. Manzano opened her session with a montage of “Sesame Street” clips from throughout her 45 years with the show. “I really enjoyed

writing about my life’s issues as they happened to me on ‘Sesame Street.’” Sadly, Manzano’s time with the show has come to an end – she announced during her presentation that she is retiring from the show – but she will undoubtedly continue to have a strong influence on young learners for years to come.

Manzano focused her discussion on her latest book *Becoming Maria: Love and Chaos*

in the South Bronx. *Becoming Maria* is a result of Manzano’s examination of her journey to “Sesame Street.” It is the story of her life as a young Puerto Rican girl who was born in Manhattan and raised in the Bronx. Her parents struggled with the system, with speaking English, and with each other. The struggle, or “la lucha,” was an everyday occurrence in her household. Due to this struggle and her father’s violence, Manzano said, “I looked to television to find sanctuary, to find order, to find comfort.”

With true children’s storyteller enthusiasm, Manzano read an excerpt from her memoir describing the time when her 4th grade teacher took her to see *West Side Story*. “I could separate myself from the turmoil. There was more to life than this struggle.”

Manzano’s success with the show helped her to understand her past and reach out to children in similar situ-

ations. “I didn’t become Maria on ‘Sesame Street’ in spite of my childhood, I became Maria on ‘Sesame Street’ because of my childhood.” Maria was not just a fictitious character, as Manzano simply had to be herself. While portraying Maria, Manzano imagined a little girl in a destructive household watching her on television in the same way she watched characters on television as a child. “My character Maria has mirrored my experience. I think of it as the first reality show.”

One of Manzano’s areas of focus in writing and acting on “Sesame Street” was to help children to reflect on other people’s lives. Manzano stressed that, “Young people who grow up to be empathetic adults will create a more passionate world,” noting that the only frontier where that’s possible is in books. Manzano referenced Katherine Applegate’s *The One and Only Ivan*. “We’re afraid of showing kids a sad book, but that’s a way of connecting with people in other situations. ‘Telling kids repeatedly to be nice is nothing, unless it’s coupled with empathy.’”

During the question-and-answer segment, Manzano praised librarians and teachers who are able to offer books to children for the simple pleasure of reading. In today’s data-obsessed world, Manzano stated, “Reading books is the only time when right answers are not required.”





Danticat's Book Reveals Hard Truths in Plain Ways

By Barbara Flohr, Student to ALA

Edwidge Danticat was thrilled to be holding the hard copy of her latest book, *Mama's Nightingale: A Story of Immigration and Separation*, for the first time on Monday, June 29, during the Auditorium Speakers Series.

This book has brought about a rebirth for her as an author and was shaped by her own experiences with immigration. Danticat grew up in Haiti under a dictatorship where people were so afraid of the effects of being caught with books that many would bury their libraries in their backyards. Her parents moved to the United States on tourist visas in the 1970's; however they had to leave Danticat and her brother at home. Fortunately, her parents were able to provide documentation for her and her brother to move to the U.S.

Her love for books began at the age of



Edwidge Danticat gives her Auditorium Speaker Series presentation.

12, when she spoke no English. She entered the public library in Brooklyn where she

was able to check out 10 books. She could not believe she was able to take that many

books, and then the librarians informed her "We want them back."

In *Mama's Nightingale*, Danticat set out to "tell hard truths in plain ways." She has known many families who have gone through arduous journeys when on the path to immigration and wanted to tell a story of hope, but also the true despair that these families felt as well. Her hopes in writing the book are to allow for: realization that people have a voice and can make a difference even when the situation is bigger than they are; comprehension of the power of words; and encouragement to share a story over sitting silent.

Danticat told attendees that the illustrator of her book was inspired by Haitian art, allowing for the creation of beautifully crafted pages showing a child who shares her story, resulting in liberation and freedom.

From Cover to Screen: Evolving Books to Movies



Joshua Davis (from left), author of *Spare Parts*, is joined by producer Rick Jacobs and film critic David Thomson to talk about writing the book, creating the movie, and how movies are judged and reviewed.

By Rachael Wettstein, Student to ALA

Joshua Davis, author of *Spare Parts: Four Undocumented Teenagers, One Ugly Robot, and The Battle for the American Dream* was joined by film producer Rick Jacobs and film critic David Thomson for a wide-ranging discussion that touched on everything from the challenges of creating movies based on books to the meaninglessness of mankind. The combination Auditorium Speaker Series/United for Libraries

President's Program was held June 29.

Davis spent 10 years covering the story of four undocumented Mexican teenagers overcoming all odds to win a high-tech underwater robot competition against teams from elite universities. He told the audience what makes a good story is whether or not it passes "the campfire test. If you can tell a story around a campfire and it holds people's attention, then it's worth writing down," said Davis.

Producer Rick Jacobs said the challenge

of adapting a true story to screen is having to make the choice of where to stay true to the original story and when to make departures in order to amplify the narrative – all within 90 minutes.

Film critic David Thompson contextualized the current state of America's mainstream film industry, expressing that the film industry has generally given up on making good films.

Further, he feels today's films largely succumb to the whims of technology in hopes of appealing to a more youthful audience. "Underdog films such as *Spare Parts* may be nearing an end – along with the business of movie theaters all together," he said, adding it's not all grim. "It's not about whether film can change the world; it's about keeping hope alive and a part of the conversation."



GALE RESEARCHER

COMING SOON:

The most direct path to student success.

Students will spend less time searching for credible sources and more time thinking critically about their papers and projects.

Find out how Gale Researcher is revitalizing research at www.galeresearcher.com

GALE
CENGAGE Learning



Snoopy, honorary chair of Library Card Sign-up Month 2015, gets a kiss from Lorna Dawes (left), Lincoln, Neb., and Sena Dawes (right), Seattle, Wash., while promoting library cards outside the ALA Store.



Auditorium Speaker Haifaa al-Mansour Embraces Life



By Rachael Wettstein, Student to ALA

Award-winning Saudi film director and screenwriter Haifaa al-Mansour took the stage on June 27 welcomed by great applause. Her film, “Wadjda,” was screened earlier in the day as part of the Now Showing @ ALA Film Program. She emphasized the importance of bringing as much authenticity to the film as possible, i.e., shooting in Saudi Arabia – which no one had ever done before

– and where cinemas are outlawed.

The audience was treated to clips during the making of “Wadjda,” which captured the innumerable restrictions the production crew had to navigate, such as, men and women being unable to work together in public, often resulting in al-Mansour having to direct her actors and crew from remote locations. The short sequences also touched upon the initial culture clashes between the Saudi and German production crews.

Ultimately, al-Mansour said “Wadjda” seeks to spark a dialogue about the balance of modernity in the face of an ultra-conservative

“Wadjda” seeks to spark a dialogue about the balance of modernity in the face of an ultra-conservative society.

society. She spoke poignantly about how we often need to step away from tradition in order to move forward, stressing the urgent necessity to provide girls with opportunities to rise to their full potential.

The film has become the basis for her

» see page 10

Steinem: Libraries Important to Community and Conversation

By Talea Anderson,
Washington State University

Speaking to a full auditorium on June 27, writer and activist Gloria Steinem praised libraries for helping to democratize knowledge. “Librarians saved my life,” she said, “They saved my internal life ... and I’m here to say thank you.”

Steinem emphasized that free access to knowledge profoundly impacted her childhood and inspired her career in writing and activism. In particular she noted that librarians encouraged her to read widely – not just *Nancy Drew*, but also the *Hardy Boys*; not just books for children, but grown-up novels as well.

Pointing to tragedies like the Charleston shootings, Steinem suggested that librarians have a pivotal role to play in combatting patriarchal power structures. Libraries, she noted, could remind people



of forgotten histories – how the Second Amendment had ties to white supremacists, how transgender identity once held honored status in indigenous societies. “We do our

best to democratize the knowledge we have,” she said, reflecting on her own reluctant transition into the public sphere. Steinem only took up public activism after finding

that journalism could only do so much to support her vision for social justice and gender equality.

Steinem has recently completed a memoir, *Diary of a Nomad: My Life on the Road*, which recounts her peripatetic childhood as well as the past 20 years of her career in activism. She encouraged others to take up her work in public speaking, noting that something special – empathy – happens when people meet in the real world rather than on the page. “We understand each other in physical space,” she said, remarking on the importance of libraries as places for community and conversation.

Concluding on a hopeful note, Steinem urged the audience to regard today as the “first day of a new era” – a post-racist, post-monotheistic, post-nationalist era of peace and understanding. Libraries, she suggested, would be crucial to bringing about this new world.

Kaplan Opens Conference with DOMA Case Insight

By Brad Martin, LAC Group

On the same day the United States Supreme Court declared gay marriage legal in all 50 states, attorney Roberta Kaplan was full of pride on June 26 as she celebrated the victory. She told of how her personal struggles as a gay person led to her successful litigation of another important gay rights case involving the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA).

Kaplan is a lecturer in law at Columbia Law School and a partner at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP. According to ALA Immediate Past President Courtney L. Young in her introduction, Kaplan is a “litigation superstar,” and earned the 2014 Litigator of the Year award. In her forthcoming book, *Then Comes Marriage: United States V. Windsor and the Defeat of DOMA*, Kaplan tells the story of how she successfully argued the case before the Supreme Court that resulted in the DOMA defeat.

Kaplan described her first meeting with defendant Edie Windsor in an apartment near Washington Square Park in New York City. Thea Spyer, Windsor’s longtime partner, had passed away, and the federal government refused to recognize their marriage, which left Windsor with a huge estate tax problem. Kaplan said she realized she had met Spyer

years before when looking for help in dealing with her own issues of being gay and the complications of coming out.

When she met Windsor, Kaplan said, “All I could think of was that I would do this for Thea... I honestly felt at the time as if God had dropped the case in my lap as a way to pay Thea back for helping me so much through some of the darkest days of my life.”

The early ‘90s was a much less enlightened time concerning gay rights, and when Kaplan came out as a lesbian, her mother reacted “by literally banging her head against the wall.”

Kaplan said, “As a closeted lesbian high school student in Cleveland, as a closeted lesbian college student at Harvard, and as a slightly less-closeted lesbian law school student at Columbia, if you had told me that I would marry a woman, have a child, and then win a landmark civil rights case before the United States Supreme Court, I would

have told you that you were going to far too many Grateful Dead concerts.”

She added that if anyone had told her back in the ‘80s that the Supreme Court would make the ruling they did this week, striking down state bans on gay marriage, “I would have told you that you were certifiably insane.” Kaplan, referring to both the most recent Supreme Court case and the one

decided two years ago, said that these cases can be seen as an “antidote to cynicism” that is all too common today.

“What these cases mean is that the courts matter,” she said. “What these cases mean is that the Constitution matters, and what these cases mean is that what we do as lawyers every single day, as a part of what I still believe is a noble profession, really, really matters a lot.”





The Library and Information Technology Association Presents Awards

LITA members received awards and were treated to an informative speaker during the LITA Awards Presentation and President's Program on Sunday.

During the event:

The Library Hi Tech Award was presented to David Walker for outstanding communication in library and information technology.

EX Libris Student Writing Award was presented to Heather Terrell for "Reference is dead, long live reference; electronic collections in the digital age."

The Frederick G. Kilgour Award was presented to Ed Summers for research in library and information technology.

Following the awards, the President's Program featured Lou Rosenfeld, founder of Rosenfeld Media, which publishes materials and produces events on user experience (UX) and coaches and trains user experience teams. Rosenfeld has also co-authored many books including *Information Architecture for the World Wide Web*; co-founded the Information Architecture Institute and the

Information Architecture Summit and Enterprise UX conferences; was a former columnist for *Internet World*, *CIO* and *Web Review* magazines; and has aided many large enterprises in making their information more visible through independent consulting.

Rosenfeld answered numerous questions during the Q&A session facilitated by Rachel Vacek, LITA president, about user experience. He started the session by stating that UX librarians require many skills, but they can't do everything. All librarians have a basic understanding of user experience through cataloging and reference interviews, but UX librarians have the responsibility to make the physical and digital spaces

LIBRARIES TRANSFORM



Robots 'Vincent' and 'Nancy' Interact with Humans

By Robert Manzo, Student to ALA

The audience at the Graphic Novel & Gaming Stage on June 28 found that robots are not the "next" big disruptive technology; they are the "now" big disruptive technology. That is how Bill Derry, director of innovation, Westport Public Library, Connecticut, described robots before he introduced Vincent and Nancy, two toddler-size robots recently acquired by his library. Unique user groups such as homeschoolers, autistic adults, and teenage girls have engaged eagerly with the two robots. They have proved a successful way to reach out to these ordinarily hard-to-reach groups.

Vincent and Nancy are human in form, with arms, feet, legs, torso, and head, and are manufactured by Aldebaran, a robotics design and manufacturing company based in Paris, France. Alex Giannini, manager of digital experience at Westport Library, helped name the robots. Giannini and Derry explained that Vincent and Nancy are from a proprietary line of Aldebaran robots called "Nao" robots, built about two feet tall, made to be interactive with humans and responsive to questions.

Once purchased, the robots can be programmed to move and talk however the owner desires. Although the underlying programming is written in Python programming code, Aldebaran provides a simple software interface that allows users to create new speech and movement patterns by manipulating a graphic model of the robot on a computer screen. Motion sequences and speech can be saved on a desktop computer, then uploaded to the robot. Therefore, anyone from infants to adults can program the robots.

Giannini and Derry unveiled Vincent and Nancy to their community at an event called Star Wars Reads Day on October 11,

Attendees of the session went up to the stage and asked him questions, to which he responded. The Aldebaran robots cannot answer just any question, since they have only a limited number of programmed responses. But they will almost always say something if asked, though what they say may not be wholly relevant.

2014. They held a contest in which patrons programmed a dance, song, or poem in one of the robots, which was won by an elementary-school girl. From October to December 2014, more than 700 people came to Westport Library to see Vincent and Nancy. So far in 2015, there have been more than 1,000 visitors to see the robots. Thanks to an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grant, monthly residencies have been made possible, enabling everyone from technicians to schoolchildren to visit Westport Library and experience the robots.

Vincent performed a dance and recited a talk about what he was designed to do. Attendees of the session went up to the stage and asked him questions, to which he responded. The Aldebaran robots cannot answer just any question, since they have only a limited number of programmed responses. But they will almost always say something if asked, though what they say may not be wholly relevant. The Nao line of robots costs in the thousands of dollars to the consumer, a price worth it for the forward-thinking Westport Public Library.

of the library seamless.

Rosenfeld suggested that all libraries can improve their user experience and gave examples of "simple ways to get started." He suggested starting small; that a librarian can purchase a book and start reading, although he indicated that "learning from a book is not ideal, but it's a place to start" and that all libraries should have more than one user experience librarian.

Vacek asked Rosenfeld his opinion about

what librarians are doing well or doing not-so-well and answering hesitantly, he suggested that librarians need to promote themselves more; that they need to tell stories about themselves and the libraries in which they work. Rosenfeld said that technology "should never drive what a library is doing. It is a means to a goal" and suggested that technology shouldn't be front and center in the library – librarians need to create good experiences through technology.



Did you get to play GIANT WORD WINDER[®] at the conference? If not, no worries. We've made it easy for you to learn all about it.

GIANT WORD WINDER incorporates movement, literacy skills, and team building for an educational game that's fun for all ages. Players hone spelling and vocabulary skills while making a winding path of words that, when victorious, successfully crosses one side of the board to the opposite side.



Watch our video at www.GiantWordWinder.com



Invented by David L. Hoyt, the author of JUMBLE, WORD ROUNDUP and more.

16 double-sided GIANT WORD WINDER boards create 263 decillion combinations. No two games will ever play the same!

Visit: GIANTWordWinder.com
Connect: @GIANTWordWinder
Share: #GIANTWordWinder
For ordering information contact: claire@wordwinder.com

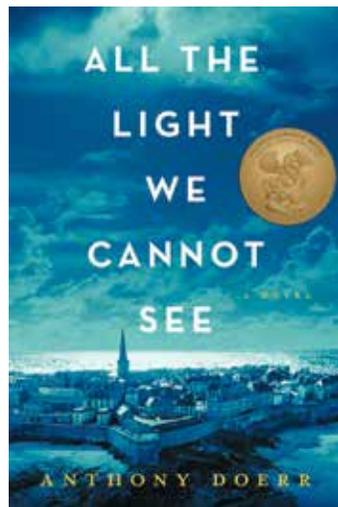


All the Light We Cannot See and Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption Win 2015 Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence

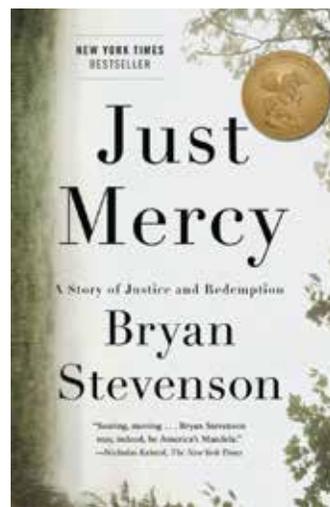
The American Library Association (ALA) is pleased to announce this year's recipients of the Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Nonfiction, funded, in part, by a grant from Carnegie Corporation of New York. *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr won the medal for fiction and *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson received the medal for nonfiction. The selections were unveiled during the Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Nonfiction Ceremony and Reception. The event took place June 27 and is a highlight of the ALA Annual Conference & Exhibition.

The medals, established in 2012, recognize the best fiction and nonfiction books for adult readers published in the U.S. during the previous year and serve as a guide to help adults select quality reading material. They are the first single-book awards for adult books given by the ALA and reflect the expert judgment and insight of library professionals who work closely with adult readers. Brad Hooper, adult books editor, *Booklist*, and winner of the 2015 Louis Shores Award for excellence in reviewing, serves as chair of the 2015 awards selection committee.

"Three years ago, at the first Carnegie



2015 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction



2015 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction



Bryan Stevenson and Anthony Doerr with their medals. Each medal is accompanied by a \$5,000 check.

Medals announcement ceremony, Nancy Pearl, former selection committee chair, greeted the audience members by saying, "We are going to make publishing history tonight," explained Hooper. "And as the current chair of the selection committee, I say that we are still making publishing history. The esteem in which the Carnegie medals are held by librarians, publishers, authors, and the

reading public continues to grow.

"The selection committee members derive great pleasure from reading lots of wonderful books and arriving at a short list of three fiction titles and three nonfiction titles and then from that list choosing the two medal winners. It's an unforgettable experience."

Doerr's *All the Light We Cannot See*, published by Scribner, a division of Simon & Schuster, Inc., tells intertwined stories of a sightless French girl and a German soldier. Doerr masterfully and imaginatively re-creates the harsh conditions in WWII-torn France and the strictly controlled lives of the military occupiers.

Stevenson's *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*, published by Spiegel & Grau, an imprint of Random House, is a passionate account of ways our nation thwarts justice and inhumanely punishes the poor and disadvantaged.

Before a crowd of more than 300, including ALA leadership and event featured speaker Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Doerr and Stevenson shared remarks and accepted their medals and \$5,000 prizes.

Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Nonfiction finalists each received \$1,500. Fiction finalists included *Nora Webster* by Colm Tóibín, published by Scribner, a division of Simon & Schuster, Inc.; and *On Such a Full Sea* by Chang-rae Lee, published by Riverhead Books, a member of Penguin Group, USA.

Nonfiction finalists included *The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History* by Elizabeth Kolbert, published by Henry Holt; and *Thirteen Days in September: Carter, Begin, and Sadat at Camp David* by Lawrence Wright, published by Alfred A. Knopf, a division of Random House, LLC.

Members of the 2015 Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Nonfiction selection committee included: Chair Brad Hooper, *Booklist*, Chicago; Betsy Burton, owner, The King's English, Salt Lake City; Keir Graff, *Booklist*, Chicago; Kathleen De La Peña McCook, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida; Elizabeth Olesh, Baldwin (New York) Public Library; Katharine J. Phenix, Rangeview Library District (Anythink Libraries), Thornton, Colorado; and Donna Seaman, *Booklist*, Chicago.

The awards are made possible, in part, by

a grant from Carnegie Corporation of New York in recognition of Andrew Carnegie's deep belief in the power of books and learning to change the world, and are co-sponsored by ALA's *Booklist* publications and the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA).

Annotations and more information regarding 2015 winners, finalists and the awards are available at <http://www.ala.org/carnegieadult>. Book cover artwork and event photos are available for download at <http://tinyurl.com/cm15artwork>.

Carnegie Corporation of New York was established in 1911 by Andrew Carnegie to promote the advancement and diffusion of knowl-

The medals, established in 2012, recognize the best fiction and nonfiction books for adult readers published in the U.S. during the previous year and serve as a guide to help adults select quality reading material. They are the first single-book awards for adult books given by the ALA.

edge and understanding. In keeping with this mandate, the corporation's work focuses on the issues that Andrew Carnegie considered of paramount importance: international peace, the advancement of education and knowledge, and the strength of our democracy. *Booklist* is the book review magazine of the American Library Association, considered an essential collection development and readers' advisory tool by thousands of librarians for more than 100 years. *Booklist Online* includes a growing archive of 160,000+ reviews available to subscribers as well as a wealth of free content offering the latest news and views on books and media.

The Reference and User Services Association is responsible for stimulating and supporting excellence in the delivery of general library services and materials, and the provision of reference and information services, collection development, readers' advisory, and resource sharing for adults, in every type of library.



Anthony Doerr discusses the Carnegie Medal and the richness of libraries.

COGNOTES

ISSN: 0738-4319 ■ Volume 2015 ■ Issue X

Senior Reporter
Brad Martin
LAC Group
New York, NY

Reporters
Kacee Anderson
Harmony Science
Academy
Fort Worth, TX

Talea Anderson
Washington State
University
Pullman, WA

Michelle Kowalsky
Rowan University
Glassboro, NJ

Sara Zettervall
Hennepin County
Library
Minneapolis – St. Paul,
MN

Students
Barbara Flohr
Robert Manzo
Rachael Wettstein

Publisher/
Managing Editor
Deb Nerud Vernon

ALA Liaison
Paul Graller

Photography
Curtis Compton
Nick de la Torre
Michael Buxbaum

Production
Tim Mercer
CustomNews, Inc.

Media Manager
Fiona Soltes

Video Editors
Olaf Anderson
Phil Bowen
Guido Ronge



Create Flexible Learning Spaces for the Future

By Michelle Kowalsky, Rowan University, NJ

"If we move too much toward social learning environments, we lose the quiet contemplative spaces," said Mark Walters, category-product manager, Steelcase Education, in a session sponsored by ALA's Center for the Future of Libraries. Walters and his team observed and photographed thousands of library users in a variety of environments over a period of several years. Researchers noted university students' thinking and working processes, in addition to their physical postures, and then performed contextual interviews to determine their unmet needs. Library furniture and interiors were then designed and rapidly prototyped to alleviate any disconnects between natural library user behaviors and available spaces for learning.

Walters suggested that librarians intentionally plan for zones with realistic adjacencies, so that quiet individual spaces are distinguished from "alone together" spaces, and also from

places for animated group work. Purposeful design will ensure that spaces for opposite types of activities are not too close together. "Deep thinking requires blocking out distractions," he explained, "which takes energy away from the task at hand. Instead, we want to help people be more effective by providing a variety of spaces which support specific thinking and learning behaviors."

On the ALA Exhibit Floor, Steelcase introduced the Brody WorkLounge, a laptop pod seating unit that provides opaque privacy screens which extend above the head in order to help users focus. Students' observed

lounge postures also indicated the need for a footrest and multiple power outlets, which continue to provide challenges to designers. Nevertheless, various institutions have successfully implemented and assessed designs for flexible multi-purpose spaces, such as Grand Valley State University (GVSU) Libraries in Allendale, Michigan.

Tips for designing library learning spaces for the future also included providing tools in social spaces, such as whiteboard walls and markers, digital displays like monitors and projectors, and tables for teamwork. Librarians and administrations should also

consider spaces that are flexible enough to be moved or repurposed in order to support multiple learning behaviors which may arise at different times of day. Over time, features of many modern library spaces will also start to mimic some of the dynamic environments which students may encounter when entering the corporate world.

White papers, case studies, and examples arising from Steelcase's extensive library observations, along with ongoing analyses of current facility design issues in their *360 Magazine*, are available at <http://www.steelcase.com/> under the Insights tab.

The Show Must Go On: Inviting Neurodiverse Students into Your Library

By Robert Manzo, Student to ALA

Although technically the program "Everyone's REALLY Welcome: Inviting Neurodiverse Students into Your Library" had been cancelled, public and school librarians that came to the session did what only librarians would...they decided to organize their own discussion group on the topic.

Attendees talked about their experiences with autistic, dyslexic, and ADHD children. A common difficulty encountered by all was not with the children, but rather with other adults' and librarians' reactions to these unique, neurodiverse patrons. The discussion became emotional, as several attendees were either parents or close relatives of autistic, dyslexic, or ADHD children.

Especially problematic are library co-workers who make insensitive comments to parents of neurodiverse children. School librarians in the audience recommended that public librarians partner with education specialists to plan staff training sessions on neurodiversity and mental health-friendly etiquette. Concerned parents may also be willing to talk to library staff about how to approach an ADHD or autistic child who is being disruptive. Librarians sometimes mistake disruptive actions as behavioral rather than, for example, the result of sensory processing difficulties that stress autistic children.

Other suggestions discussed included: cut a narrow slit in a piece of cardboard, then paste a piece of colored plastic over one side, and a dyslexic child can use it to focus on one line of text at a time as she reads; have a designated time or space in the library and make available Lego bricks or books catering to specific interests; have a focused, enjoyable task to do in a quiet and visually unbusy corner.

Although the planned session was cancelled, the resulting discussion group was honest, productive, and educational.

All the **socializing** you're up for!

Library of the Future sessions including futuring and innovation techniques

Books, media, and **100s of authors**

Informal learning, formal learning

Unlimited **connections** with colleagues from all types of libraries, doing all kinds of library jobs, at all levels

"News You Can Use," updates, policy priorities, strategies for engaging decision-makers and influencers

Innovation-spurring **deep dives** (piloting at 2016 Midwinter), pre-conferences, and institutes

Award announcements and celebrations

New products, technologies, and services with expert vendors in the **exhibits**

2016 ALA MIDWINTER

Meeting & Exhibits

January 8–12, 2016

ANNUAL

Conference & Exhibition

June 23–28, 2016

ALA American Library Association

MIDWINTER MEETING & EXHIBITION

The conversation starts here...

BOSTON

JANUARY 8-12, 2016

ALA

Orlando

ANNUAL

CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

JUNE 23-28, 2016

Transforming Our Libraries. ourselves.

alaannual.org

BUNDLE—best value registration for both conferences plus priority access for housing—opens September 9, 2015

MIDWINTER MEETING Early Bird opens October 1, 2015

ANNUAL CONFERENCE Early Bird opens January 19, 2016

All registrations open at noon (Central)

alamidwinter.org | alaannual.org



Illustrator Christian Robinson and author Patricia Hruby Powell, who worked on the book *Josephine: The Dazzling Life of Josephine Baker*, show off their dance moves after Robinson received a Coretta Scott King Book Award for illustrating the book.



Librarians crowd the exhibit floor during the ALA Annual Conference & Exhibition's Exhibits Opening Reception June 26. More than 900 companies offered librarians the latest in technologies, products, and services.

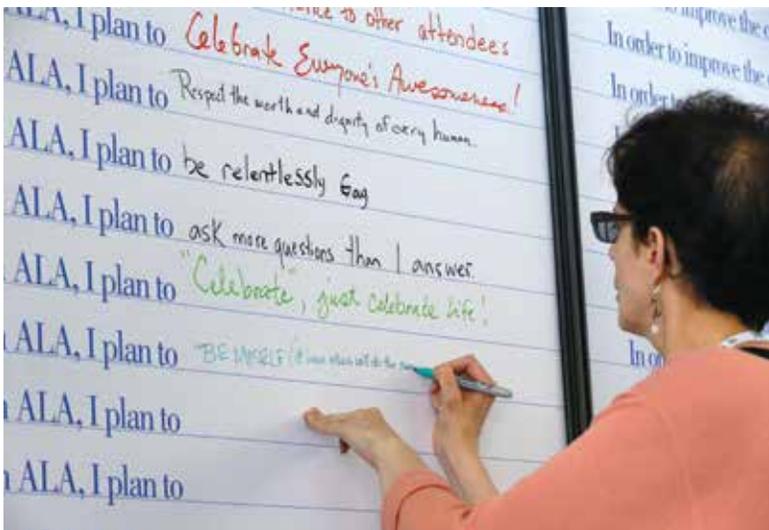


Annual Conference & Exhibition attendees pass by a display for the book *Furiously Happy* on the Exhibits floor.



Teen librarian Andrea Mullarkey, Berkeley Public Library, Berkeley, Calif., participates in a game of Word Winder puzzle play by David L. Hoyt, using clues to help find ALA-related words on a grid at ALAplay.

Antonia Ruiz Koffman, California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco, adds her thoughts to the Idea Exchange Board in the Networking Uncommons.



A young girl participates in the SF Pride Parade June 28 and smiles as she makes her way past the cheering crowd on Market Street, just a few blocks from Moscone Center. This year's theme was "Equality Without Exception." Librarians participated in the parade, other Pride events, and programs that covered a wide range of diversity and equality issues, and celebrations during the Annual Conference.



Vowell Explores History, American Identity with Fresh Eye

By Robert Manzo, Student to ALA

Sarah Vowell introduced herself and her latest book, *Lafayette in the Somewhat United States* (October 2015 Riverhead, a division of Penguin) as she took the stage at one of the June 27 Auditorium Speaker programs. This was her first event promoting the book and she admitted she had finished writing it only a few weeks before. In her hour-long presentation, she discussed Lafayette, the Revolutionary War, and American culture, and answered questions from guest interviewer Nick Offerman.

Marquis de Lafayette, the subject of her book, was a hero of the American Revolutionary War, a French soldier who sought battlefield glory by fighting in the colonists' war against Britain, and an enemy to both America and France.

Vowell talked about her book's larger theme of American identity, showing that from the beginning, America was a nation of factions and competing groups. The role of France in the war was divisive, with some colonists supportive of France's involvement, some not, and opinions that differed on the merits of independence from Britain.

A surprise appearance by Nick Offerman became a full interview with Vowell. Offerman, also an Auditorium Speaker on June 27 and a friend of Vowell, decided to

take over the role of interviewer for her session. He broached questions about the themes within Vowell's book and her writing process.

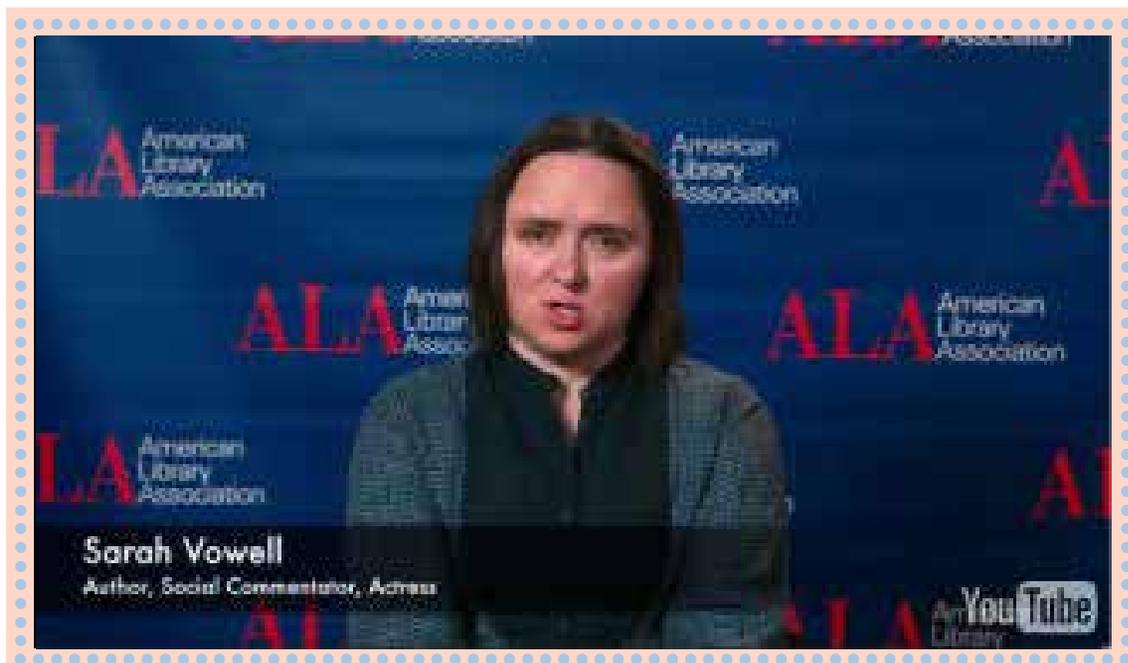
Vowell described traveling to Brandywine (Pennsylvania), the site of a major battle and defeat for Washington's Continental Army on September 11, 1777. Ironically, when she visited, a battle re-enactment was taking place on Quaker-owned land. Quaker orthodoxy is pacifist, anti-war. These subtle historical ironies thrill Vowell and fill her books. She also described her travels to Monticello, Mt. Vernon, Yorktown, Gettysburg, France, and Thailand.

Her interest in Lafayette came about because one of her favorite novels is *Moby Dick* by Herman Melville. Melville's wife, as a two-year-old child, had met Lafayette during the hero's post-war visit to America. Some 80,000 people greeted Lafayette when his ship docked in New York City in 1824. Intrigued by the fuss made over this man's

hero status in American culture at the time, Vowell investigated him further, leading to the book.

Vowell told Offerman that she often skipped school and took refuge in the local public library, and that at age 10, she received *The Diary of Anne Frank* as a Christmas present. The book spoke to her in a profound way. For the first time she realized literature was a socially acceptable place to speak one's mind.

Offerman and Vowell spoke about America and the value of public discourse and argument, and how these freedoms are unavailable to many people in countries around the world. She said that Americans are often frustrated by the open expression of sometimes hateful opinions, but should value the fact that we are not persecuted or censored as citizens in many other countries are.



ALSC Closes on a "Sweet" Note with President's Program

By Sara Zettervall, Hennepin County Library

The Association of Library Service to Children (ALSC) Charlemae Rollins President's Program lived up Monday afternoon with two different but equally engaging keynote presentations on "More to the Core: From the Craft of Nonfiction to the Expertise in the Stacks."

Author and illustrator Melissa Sweet captivated a packed audience with a visually rich presentation about her unique approach to the craft of illustration. Dr. Judy Cheatham, vice president of literacy services at Reading Is Fundamental (RIF), followed with powerful data on how nonfiction picture books like Sweet's can improve literacy for children at the bottom of the achievement gap.

Sweet, along with her frequent author-collaborator Jen Bryant, received the 2015 Robert F. Sibert Medal from ALSC earlier this year for *The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus*. Using examples of the paintings and collages in her books, images of her visual mock-ups and studio materials, and videos of herself at work, she brought her audience on a journey through her creative process. Whether working on her own or with a collaborator, Sweet follows her inspiration to research historical figures. The resulting books have covered the lives



Award-winning children's book illustrator Melissa Sweet speaks at the Charlemae Rollins ALSC President's Program on June 29.

of everyone from African American painter Horace Pippin to Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade balloon inventor Tony Sarg.

Inspired to become an artist when she saw a modernist exhibition at the age of seven, Sweet always begins her process by asking, "Who were these people as children? What did they do to lead to the people they became?" She works on sketching and storyboarding until she finds a way into por-

traying the person: a particular color, word, or thought can get her started. The truth of each story is important to her, but she strives to provide interpretation of each person, rather than mimicry of their art or writing. "That's the sweet spot," she said. "The story is still true, but the joy of my making it comes through." For example, she first thought to use collage in book illustration while visiting the childhood home of John James Audubon. Audubon's taxidermy collection was a visual representation of his thought processes, and Sweet wanted to convey that same information on the page.

Leaving the audience with a teaser that her next book would focus on E. B. White, Sweet turned things over to Cheatham. Cheatham, a longtime educator and literacy advocate, began to work on literacy as a tool for teaching Common Core and Sci-

ence, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) when a Kentucky librarian invited her to design a training session. Her response: "I can't drive in traffic, and I can't use my phone, but I can do stuff around reading." Eventually, in her work with RIF, she put carefully selected "best books" into the hands of teachers whose schools often hadn't been able to buy new materials for 20 years or more. Her research assessed the impact reading those books aloud and sending them home with children over the summer.

The results have been strikingly positive. In schools where teachers read aloud once a week for 10 weeks, and children were sent home with eight books to read over the summer, literacy improved rather than sliding during the summer break. Reports on this work are available on the RIF website (www.readingisfundamental.org). "If you want to write a grant with it, you should," Cheatham said. "I'm giving you all my data." Significantly, she tied that data back to the artistry of Sweet. She explained how important context can be for learning technical terms, or what Common Core would call "level three" literacy. Beautiful, visually rich nonfiction books for children aren't only engaging – they create a scaffolding for children's minds to climb toward full comprehension. *Firefly July*, a book of poems illustrated by Sweet, is one of 140 "best books" on the RIF website with free, high-quality, downloadable classroom activities that can be tied directly to Common Core and STEAM outcomes.

The lucky librarians at this session walked away with a treasure trove of swag, including their own copy of a "best book" and a postcard of Sweet's art. But their most important takeaway will be a renewed enthusiasm for great children's nonfiction.

In schools where teachers read aloud once a week for 10 weeks, and children were sent home with eight books to read over the summer, literacy improved rather than sliding during the summer break.



Offerman Entertains with History and Giggles

By Sara Zettervall, Hennepin County Library (Minn.)

Nick Offerman would like to make sure everyone knows he does not hate librarians. His character on “Parks and Rec,” Ron Swanson, is still collecting YouTube hits on clips that creatively insult the public library. “That’s just comedy,” he told a standing-room-only crowd of librarians on June 27. “Librarians were chosen as the most unassailable group of professionals.”

He needn’t have worried, though. Before he even had a chance to speak, he was greeted by a standing ovation. Still, he took the time to explain that his sister runs the library in his home town of Minooka, Illinois, and his sister-in-law also works there. His family, he explained, are “great lovers of librarians – both figuratively and literally.”

Like librarians, Offerman is a shameless fan of his favorite writers. His new book, *Gumption: Relighting the Torch of Freedom with America’s Gutsiest Troublemakers*, highlights 21 Americans who have inspired him. Several of those are authors who are alive today, and Offerman was clearly thrilled to be able to use the excuse of writing his book to spend time with the likes of George Saunders and

Michael Pollan. But his favorite author seemed to be Wendell Berry, whom he described as a “well of common sense.” Be sure to check out the audiobook version of *Gumption*, which includes Offerman’s recording of a Berry poem that Saunders set to music.

Following a reading that was punctuated by his infamous giggle, Offerman was joined on stage by fellow comedian-author Sarah Vowell. She teased him for being too much like Theodore Roosevelt, who is featured in the book, calling him “annoyingly well-rounded.”

Offerman admitted that Roosevelt was “kind of a freak” who hired men to wrestle with him in the Oval Office, but he wanted to highlight that kind of gumption in the book. They also swapped stories of admiration for Conan O’Brien, credited by both for giving



their careers and comedic self-esteem a boost.

On a more serious note, Vowell suggested there was a tension in Offerman’s book between each figure’s “niceness” and their simultaneous ability to blow off the opinions of people who opposed them.

Offerman agreed, saying, “I want to live somewhere where we can disagree and then shake hands afterward.” He admired each figure for “making the Robert Frost choice” to take the road less traveled and hoped to inspire others to do so, too.

Deep Reading in the Digital Age

By Robert Manzo, Student to ALA

The Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) invited Maryanne Wolf to speak at this year’s ALCTS President’s Program on Monday, June 29. Wolf is director of the Center for Reading and Language Research at Tufts University, Massachusetts. Her talk, “Three Short Stories about Deep Reading in the Digital Age,” centered on the concept of “deep reading” or focused, contemplative reading.

She contrasted deep reading with distracted reading, which readers using digital devices often experience. Distracted reading happens because digital devices support applications other than ebooks or have access to a hypertext-based internet. Wolf pointed out

that no media, new or old, is perfect; each has its own pros and cons. Socrates scorned writing, believing its practice clouded memory and true contemplation. Similarly, in the 21st century, we as a society must ask what are the pros and cons, for example of the ebb of handwriting as a cultural practice and the advent of digital new media to replace analog (particularly print) media.

Wolf’s research explores the effect of digital media on literacy development, the connections between reading and writing, and the influence of how we read on how we think (and vice versa). She stated that we are not only *what* we read but also *how* we read. In the era of digital devices, “skimming is the new normal.” Studies by reading researcher Naomi Baron, whom Wolf frequently cites, show that people aged 30 or younger spend

less time in deep reading and are distracted, or move attention between texts or media objects, 27 times per hour on average.

Research by Baron and others show that the materiality of paper books and the fixed position of text on printed pages encourages slower, more focused reading and results in easier reading. If distracted while reading a print text, for example, the ease of going back to a fixed place on the page is greater. Human memory has a more difficult time navigating digital media that zooms in and out, or text that scrolls on and off screen. However, Wolf believes that digital reading devices will fix these problems as technology improves.

Wolf’s professional stance, to be clear, is not against any type of media, including digital. She embraces any means by which knowledge is transferred from one person

to another. In fact, her most recent project is an initiative to deliver tablet computers to poorer parts of the world. These tablets, she hopes, will help the 57 million children worldwide who have no access to school or teachers learn to read. So far Wolf’s initiative has delivered tablets loaded with literacy applications to Ethiopia, Uganda, South Africa, and, in the U.S., rural Alabama, and Georgia. In Ethiopia, within one month children had gained facility with the tablets and were reading English words on sight, although not yet sentences or paragraphs.

In closing, Wolf called on librarians as the “informed curators of knowledge” to understand how different media influence human literacy development and to facilitate a positive relationship for users between media they use and literacy.

al-Mansour

» from page 4

upcoming debut middle-grade novel *The Green Bicycle*. She told the audience that writing the book granted her the opportunity to introduce information that was not addressed in the film. For al-Mansour, the ability to fight against a restrictive environment comes with having an unwavering resilience and desire to “embrace the love of life,” much like the female characters have in her narratives.

The Green Bicycle will be released by Dial Books for Young Readers in September 2015. Her next film, “A Storm in the Stars,” is about Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley and stars Elle Fanning.

Relationships with Social Services Build Library Presence

Dozens of librarians gathered on Monday morning for the conversation starter, “...And Social Justice for All: How Can Librarians and Social Workers Collaborate?” Librarian Sara Zettervall (Hennepin County Library, Minnesota) and social work PhD candidate Mary Nienow (University of Minnesota) led the discussion. Their focus was on the experiences and questions that participants brought to the session.

San Francisco Public Library was the first library in the nation to hire a full-time social worker. In recent years, many urban library systems have followed its model, including Washington, D.C., Denver, Dallas, and Edmonton (Canada). These large-scale models are blazing the trail into this new realm of collaboration, and staff from the Washington, D.C., Public Library were present and contributed to the discussion of how those

models work. Much of the conversation, though, turned on how smaller libraries that don’t have the capacity to hire a full-time social worker can get involved.

Some tips and takeaways that are scalable to all library systems are:

Invite social work interns into your library. Social work students are all required to complete an extensive internship. Contact your local college or university’s school of social work and ask to speak to the internship director to get started. One participant gave the example that Stony Brook University (New York) has been consistently placing MSW interns in the local public library system.

Contact local social service agencies. What do you do when one of your patrons is clearly in crisis, and you don’t know how to help? Call up a social service agency and ask them. This kind of relationship-building helps library staff gain new skills and teaches social service providers about the work of librarians.

San Francisco Public Library was the first library in the nation to hire a full-time social worker.

Take advantage of free or low-cost training sessions for staff. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (<http://www.nami.org>), for example, has a presence throughout the United States and can connect libraries with resources. Many local nonprofits can also provide trainings as part of their missions for outreach and advocacy.

In addition, the presenters encourage continued conversation on their blog, Whole Person Librarianship (<http://mlismsw.wordpress.com>). This session was truly a conversation starter, and the discussion should continue far beyond the conference.



Accessible Gaming Helps Libraries Fulfill Social Mission

By Michelle Kowalsky, Rowan University, NJ

A panel of experts discussed the social justice implications of gaming in libraries at the ASCLA program on June 27. Librarians from the Brooklyn and District of Columbia Public Libraries have implemented programs which adapt popular video game consoles for people with various physical disabilities. Mark Barlet, director of the AbleGamers Charity, explained that “a video game is one of the only places on earth where your disability does not have to define you. When playing a fairy or an orc or a knight in a game online, you don’t have to identify yourself as disabled, and no one expects you to.”

Assistive technologies for gaming include adapted game controllers, such as the LP Pad, a controller with large buttons, or the Adroit Switchblade™, which allows users to remap buttons and switches in order to manipulate the controls in alternate ways. Users who have a limited range of motion, or who have visual or auditory disabilities, are able to have the same experience of certain games on Xbox One™ PlayStation4™, for example, with adjustments to game settings or controllers which are not traditionally hand-held.

Most libraries already have equipment available to create an “arcade” environ-

“Gaming ... provides an opportunity for a person with a disability to master the skills of the martial arts or be a superhero.”

ment with multiple data projectors and stations operating simultaneously to reduce wait time for participants, or rooms which can accommodate several gamers moving about simultaneously, such as when playing virtual bowling. Nick Higgins, Brooklyn Public Library, explained that he uses games to teach turn taking, and often participates in modeling and parallel play with students who have intellectual disabilities. “Gaming is a shared social achievement,” Higgins stated, “and it provides an opportunity for a person with a disability to master the skills of the martial arts or be a superhero.”

The session emphasized that librarians must always find a way to include everyone in gaming activities, since these are important intergenerational and multicultural programs for people of all abilities. Librarians who engage gamers are able to help all members of their communities become lifelong learners, meet new people, and experience being part of a team, while promoting library services in the process.

2015 LITA Forum, Registration Now Open

Plan now to join the Library and Information Technology Association (LITA) in Minneapolis, Minnesota, at the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, November 12 – 15, 2015, for the 2015 LITA Forum, a three-day educational event that includes two pre-conferences, three keynote sessions, more than 55 concurrent sessions, and 15 plus poster presentations. Full details at the 2015 Forum website: <http://litaforum.org>.

The 2015 LITA Forum is the 18th annual gathering of technology-minded information professionals and is a highly regarded annual event for those involved in new and leading edge technologies in the library and information technology field. Registration is limited in order to preserve the important networking advantages of a smaller conference. Comments from past attendees:

- “Best conference I’ve been to in terms of practical, usable ideas that I can implement at my library.”
- “I get so inspired by the presentations and conversations with colleagues who are dealing with the same sorts of issues that I am.”
- “After LITA I return to my institution excited to implement solutions I find here.”

Keynote Sessions

Mx A. Matienzo

Director of technology for the Digital Public Library of America, he focuses on promoting and establishing digital library interoperability at an international scale. Prior to joining DPLA, Matienzo worked as an archivist and technologist specializing in born-digital materials and metadata management.

Carson Block

Carson Block Consulting Inc. has led, managed, and supported library technology

efforts for more than 20 years. Block has been called “a geek who speaks English.”

Lisa Welchman

Welchman is president of digital governance solutions at ActiveStandards. In a 20-year career, she has paved the way in the discipline of digital governance, helping organizations stabilize their complex, and multi-stakeholder digital operations. Her book, *Managing Chaos: Digital Governance by Design*, was published in February 2015 by Rosenfeld Media.

Preconference Workshops

“So You Want to Make a Makerspace: Strategic Leadership to support the Integration of New and Disruptive Technologies into Libraries: Practical Tips, Tricks, Strategies, and Solutions for Bringing Making, Fabrication, and Content Creation to Your Library.”

Presenters include:

Leah Kraus

Director of community engagement and Experience at the Fayetteville (New York) Free Library

Michael Cimino

Technology innovation and integration Specialist at the Fayetteville Free Library

“Beyond Web Page Analytics: Using Google Tools to Assess Searcher Behavior Across Web Properties.”

Robert L. Nunez

Head of collection services, Kenosha Public Library, Kenosha, Wisconsin

Keven Riggle

Systems librarian and webmaster, Marquette University

Visit <http://litaforum.org> for registration and additional information.

Generate Noise to Find the Love for School Libraries

By Kacee Anderson, Harmony Science Academy

Eli Neiburger, deputy director of the Ann Arbor District Library, gave a charismatic and subtly funny presentation at the AASL President’s Program on June 27, asking attendees, “Where is the love for school libraries?” Funding issues are widespread and Neiburger noted that, “All libraries are in a pickle, but school libraries are at the pinch point of this problem.”

Many challenges facing school libraries are perceptual. Part of the problem are the mistaken assumptions people make about libraries, such as the belief that everything is on the cloud, so we don’t need libraries. In reality, there is no cloud; it is just someone else’s computer. Other mistaken assumptions are that businesses care about you, when they care about maximizing shareholder value; and that publishing is philanthropy, when it’s the publisher’s job to restrict access and the library’s job to get it out there.

Neiburger provided insight into the mistaken assumption that ebooks will replace paper books. He stated, “Because we’ve seen other formats eat each other, we assume the same is going to happen to books. The reality is that ebook sales have cratered.” The book market is actually remaining rather strong in print.

So, how to foster love in the school library? First, do not worry about reading. School librarians do not need to worry about

School librarians do not need to worry about those avid fiction readers; they need to work to reach the other 80 percent of the students.

those avid fiction readers; they need to work to reach the other 80 percent of the students. According to Neiburger, “This is a golden age of reading and writing. This is the highest literacy rate our society has ever achieved.”

In terms of education, Neiburger discredited the assumptions that schools are in the education business and that education can be measured. In reality, the product of schools is not education, it’s accreditation. Education is immeasurable. Summer slump is a test-taking slump, not a knowledge slump. Kids’ leisure pursuits are more challenging and relevant to them than the tests. Librarians should find ways to bring those outside interests into school libraries. Neiburger has set up video game tournaments in his own public library to draw in and serve those patrons who might not otherwise utilize the library.

School librarians need to remember that generating noise is what moves the needle. It has to get to the point where cuts to the library result in hundreds of people showing up to the school board meetings. Librarians also should discard the assumption that



Eli Neiburger said school libraries need some love during the AASL President’s Program on Saturday.

libraries are all about books. Libraries are not really about books anymore. The book is actually just one of the many ways to serve users.

One of the biggest keys to fostering love in the library is for librarians to ditch as many rules as possible. The rules are a big part of the problem. The archaic idea that the library needs to be a quiet space should no longer be

reflected in libraries. Quiet is not a resource of the library, especially in schools. Rules such as no food or drink hinder students and ignore their biological needs. Kids need a space where they are free to discover, learn, and be themselves. Librarians who work to create a less restrictive space for students are far more likely to receive the love that they seek.



Keeping Graphic Novels in the Collection

By Kacee Anderson, Harmony Science Academy

A panel spoke June 28 on the Graphic Novel Stage about the challenges that libraries and authors face in relation to graphic novels all over the world. The panel included Mariko Tamaki, co-author of *This One Summer*, one of the most frequently challenged and banned books of the year; Gene Luen Yang, best known for his work *American Born Chinese*; and Eva Volin, supervising children's librarian at Alameda Free Library in California. Charles Brownstein, executive director of Comic Book Legal Defense Fund (CBLDF), moderated the session.

The panel kicked off with panelists sharing their own experiences with and reactions to graphic novel challenges. Yang talked briefly about his often-criticized character in *American Born Chinese*, Cousin Chin-kee, a representation of all stereotypes about Chinese Americans that he could think of, put into one character. "I wanted to talk about stereotypes in an explicit way, but when you bring up stereotypes, you might be perpetuating them."

Tamaki stated that writers do not focus on what's appropriate, only what feels authentic. "Literature is literature. It's an experience. A book is there to reflect an experience in a way that's safe for readers. I also don't believe that you're going to read about something and then go and do it." It's also not the role of the librarian to police the collection. According to

Volin, "My job is to have something for every child in the community in the collection."

The panel also discussed issues that often arise when parents get involved. Offering his own experiences as a parent, Yang stated, "Being a parent is just constantly having your source of authority undermined... for 18 years. As a parent you do your best, but you also have to be a little bit humble about your experience." The CBLDF's position is that if you're a parent and you don't want your kid reading something in your home, that is your right, but you don't have the right to take that choice away from another parent. According to Yang, "Parents should attempt to try and scaffold information in a way that builds kids up."

Only a fraction of book challenges are reported. Volin noted that challenges in the library typically begin with a parent expressing unhappiness. Librarians should try to start a dialog right there at the desk as this can often squash problems before they even begin. Too often, books are challenged and removed from a local library without going through the proper channels. Schools and libraries will simply pull a book rather than worry about losing funding or support. Brownstein noted that, "Other times people don't want to deal with the legal process. But you are doing your community a disservice by removing something that might help kids deal with the realities of life."

The same books that are being challenged are the books that can change or touch a



Gene Luen Yang (left), Eva Volin, Mariko Tamaki, and Charles Brownstein participate in a discussion about Graphic Novel challenges.

reader in a profound way. "There are realities that touch on kids' lives that we wouldn't think to relate to them," noted Mariko.

Yang added, "As a parent, it's a temptation to try and raise my kids in a sort of Disneyland, which is impossible. One of the jobs of stories is to try and help us as readers understand those bad things that come along."

The entire panel seemed eager to move toward a point when graphic novels are used more in the school curriculum. Volin stated, "Sixty percent of people in the world are visual learners. We encourage this starting in

kindergarten. Suddenly when you hit fourth grade, you are no longer expected to be a visual learner." Pictures are often used to help learners understand concepts that might otherwise be above their current level. She continued, "To disregard graphic novels in a school curriculum is doing students a disservice, because students are still expected to understand and interpret visual cues."

For more information on challenges to graphic novels, lesson plans, and other resources, visit <http://www.CBLDF.org> or stop by booth 211.

Geek Out! The Importance of Pop Culture in Libraries

By Robert Manzo, Student to ALA

The average comic book reader is 18 to 30 years old and equally likely to be female or male, said Ivy Weir, Kennett Public Library, Pennsylvania, during her June 27 presentation on teens and geek culture in public libraries. There are simple ways librarians can make libraries welcoming for teens interested in things traditionally labelled 'geeky.'

One way is for libraries to partner with comic book shops, to share expenses for author visits, movie showings, costume parties, and other events. Some comic book shops celebrate Free Comic Book Day every year and libraries can provide space to hold a formal celebration or give out publisher-provided materials.

Another way is to organize regular group get-togethers. Weir has 'Geek Gang' meetings once a month during the school year (once a week in summer) for anyone in grades 8 – 10. Attendees read together, read aloud, write fan fiction, illustrate, and discuss their favorite books, comics, games, and shows. Other library-hosted groups include a video game club and Magic: The Gathering club. Game systems or card decks can be costly, but crowdfunding and donations have helped Weir offset costs for her groups' materials.

Librarians can make connections with authors or comic creators through social media or by emailing publishers, agents, authors, or creators directly. The key, said Weir, is "not to harass or harangue authors incessantly, but to send short, carefully worded letters and invitations."

Skype is a no-cost way that authors can, and often are willing to, connect with geek groups at libraries, if in-person visits are not possible. Weir also recommended holding annual Library ComicCons, which can draw fans from a larger regional area than regular groups. In these ways, public librarians can make their libraries welcoming for fans of pop and geek culture.



Lewis

» from page 1

private space for her grandfather to pursue his passions. Fascinated by how her grandfather had overcome any fears of failure placed upon him by society, Lewis decided to study the lives of the masters of various fields to see if there were traits they all might share.

Lewis said that very often, the great ones aim is for mastery and not success. She said that Thomas Edison was asked at one point about his failure at creating the electric light, and replied that he had not failed, but had found 10,000 ways that do not work. This quality has been called "grit," and Lewis said it shows up again and again in the work of the masters. Observing archers at Columbia University, Lewis said she could see the difference between success – hitting the bullseye once in a while – and mastery – being able to hit the

bullseye again and again.

Lewis noted that Paul Cezanne did not sign 90 percent of his paintings, because he did not consider them finished; he quoted Michelangelo, who said, "Lord, grant that I always desire more than I can accomplish."

Private domains, according to Lewis, "allow for the space and time to be a deliberate amateur." She added that private domains are not just about a space for creativity, but that they allow for "transformation that we can have no other way."

Lewis also pointed out that private spaces do not always refer to physical spaces, but can happen at any time. One example she cited was attorney Charles Black Jr., who had a transformational experience after listening to Louis Armstrong. Black would be so moved that he would later become one of the lawyers for the case of *Brown v. Board of Education* and would go on to teach constitutional law.



Charlene Li Graces ASCLA President's Program Stage

By Talea Anderson Washington State University

At the ASCLA President's Program on June 28, Charlene Li, bestselling author and founder of Altimeter Group, spoke about engaged leadership in the digital era. Li encouraged libraries to focus less on technologies and more on relationships as they build their strategic plans. "What kind of relationship do you want with your community?" she asked, explaining that the choice of technologies always comes second after settling on a mission, a strategy, and goals for community engagement.

Li explained that social media communication always emerges naturally from organizational strategy. Once the library has defined its goals, listened to users, identified metrics for measuring impact, and drawn up a road map for reaching those goals, the choice and use of digital technologies will follow. "Stop trying to be all things to all people," Li said, referring to the library's tendency to adopt

technologies for their own sake. Technologies are tools – to be chosen selectively as a means to an end rather than the end itself.

For Li, listening to users is key to achieving an organization's mission. She suggested that libraries seek out their core audience and take the opportunity to listen to them online – by observing social media "likes" or asking their users questions about their needs and values. To engage this audience, Li advised telling stories about the library, creating a sense of community by sharing others' content, or developing a voice that is both honest and authoritative. She suggested that libraries look to active social media communities such as the one surrounding Seattle Public Library to see how others have managed to engage with their users.

Li encouraged library leaders not to fear engagement via social media. She noted that active listening – for instance, perusing Twitter feeds – can happen if the leader invests only 15 minutes per day. She advised building a



Charlene Li

culture of trust, in which the library demonstrates its ability to remain present on the media that its community values most. This,

she suggested, is the best thing that an effective, engaged organization can do – use digital technologies as a tool to build community.

Library School Accreditation Standards are Streamlined

By Michelle Kowalsky, Rowan University, NJ

ALA's Committee on Accreditation (COA) discussed updates on June 28 to the Standards for Accreditation of Master's Programs in Library and Information Studies (LIS) which were adopted at the 2015 Midwinter Meeting. Changes to the standards include required public disclosure of a program's accreditation status; more flexibility in determining the size of the panel for on-site visits, due to expense of travel and the number of university faculty participating; and a small increase in the fees in applying for accreditation to keep pace with expenses. The number of standards was reduced from six to five in order to collapse similar thematic components and to remove redundancy in language which had caused confusion for previous applicants.

Accreditation standards are meant as quality-control measures which are implemented via peer and self-assessments. An updated version of the standards will apply to library school master's degree programs seeking the "ALA-accredited" designation as of Spring 2017. LIS programs which are scheduled for review prior to this date may choose to provide their program review based on either the new

or previous ALA standards.

Library school programs must show documentation regarding achievement of their identified graduate student learning outcomes, as well as describe how decision-making about educational programs for pre-service librarians is driven by ongoing data collection and analysis. Panels of experts including library school faculty and practicing librarians are formally trained to provide comprehensive reviews of the documentation and data provided by universities in their accreditation applications.

The standards continue to stress innovation, espouse diversity, and recognize individual programmatic differences between universities. They evaluate a LIS program's effectiveness on five areas including systematic planning, curriculum, faculty, students, administration, finances, and resources.

For librarians, a master's degree from a program accredited by ALA is still considered the first professional degree. For school librarian preparation programs in particular, these revisions affect master's programs with a specialty in school librarianship from a program in an educational unit recognized by AASL and accredited by Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP).



Sarah Pekkanen (from left), Adriana Trigiani, John Katzenbach, Paula McLain, Matthew Pearl, and Barbara Shapiro headline the Gala Author Tea.

ACRL/STS Scholarly Communications Committee Conducts Survey

By Talea Anderson, Washington State University

At the ACRL/STS Scholarly Communications Committee Forum on June 28, committee members presented findings from a survey recently distributed to scholarly communication practitioners about their needs and current practices. Conducted in April 2015, the survey brought in 217 responses from the ACRL Science and Technology Section (STS), the Education and Behavioral Sciences Section (EBSS), and the Engineering Libraries Division (ELD). Committee members from each of these sections commented on early findings from the survey, noting that more subject-specific training material may be required for those who provide scholarly communication services in subject areas such as the sciences.

As organizers of the scholarly communication survey, Mel DeSart (University

of Washington), Brian Quinn (Texas Tech University), Lutishoor Salisbury (University of Arkansas), and Julie Speer (Virginia Tech) summarized preliminary findings at the forum session. They noted in particular that most survey respondents identified themselves as subject-area liaisons who dedicate relatively little time to scholarly communication issues. Still, survey respondents requested further training from STS and other divisions so as to better understand issues and practices like researcher IDs, subject-area depositories, and data management.

Reflecting on their findings, survey organizers remarked that responses may have been colored by individual perceptions of scholarly communication – what it constitutes and how it looks in practice. Relevant ACRL units will begin to analyze survey results and provide recommendations on training and support for scholarly communication practitioners in the sciences.



The ALA Council poses for a group photo in the Moscone Center.



Spectrum Scholars Celebrate New Connections at ProQuest Events and the Spectrum Institute

The 2014-2015 Spectrum Scholars and alumni of the Spectrum Scholarship Program gathered together at this year's Spectrum Leadership Institute on June 26. The 2015 Institute included education programs developed and presented by Spectrum alumni, networking opportunities with alumni and leaders from across the association, and opportunities for Spectrum Scholars to experience the full scope of the ALA Annual Conference.

Since 2001, ProQuest funded 150 Spectrum Scholars through direct contribution and sponsorship of the Scholarship Bash (which ended in 2014).

ProQuest continues to support the Spectrum Scholarship Program with a \$52,000 donation to fund seven scholarships, plus one dedicated in memory of Ron Clowney, a former ProQuest executive. The company has worked closely with the

Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services to increase the level of engagement and interaction with Spectrum Scholars. In addition to meeting the scholars at a June 26 luncheon, ProQuest extended an invitation to all current and alumni scholars to attend two educational sessions it hosted the following day.

"The talent and passion for librarianship across many career paths was evident in talking to the scholars," said Christine Goetz, public relations manager, ProQuest. "ProQuest is committed to supporting diversity of future leaders in the profession of library and information science to best position libraries and institutions at the core of today's culturally diverse communities."

To learn more about the 2014-15 ProQuest Spectrum Scholars, visit the ProQuest blog to read their stories.



ProQuest 2014-2015 Spectrum Scholars John Edward Martin (from left); Karen Chen, Jessica Humphries; Olivia Dorsey; Christine Goetz, ProQuest public relations manager; Kiyoko Shiosaki; and Ben Rodriguez, Spectrum staff.

Learning Spaces in Libraries Include More than Books

By Barbara Flohr, Student to ALA

The Public Library Association (PLA) hosted "The Fusion of Play – and All Five Early Literacy Practices – into Library Environments" on June 27. During this session, librarians and designers described how they successfully incorporated early learning designs into their libraries with different-sized budgets.

Dorothy Stoltz, Carroll County Public Library, Maryland, used the Every Child Ready to Read and Zero to Three programs and Kindergarten Assessments in order to design early literacy play and learn centers. She was able to renovate two branches: the Westminster Branch for \$100,000 and the Mt. Airy Branch for \$86,000. In each of these renovations, the play and learn centers include bright colors; incorporate a puppet theater, play materials, and adult seating; and lend themselves to being a creative space.

Dana Bjerke, Hennepin County Library, Minnesota, did not have a substantial budget – somewhere between \$500 and \$1,500 – but she was able to work with other librarians to create play areas to prepare children for kindergarten. In order to create these spaces,

Early Literacy Traveling Teams (ELTT) were created which consisted of library staff who traveled to other branches to learn about the patrons, create a purchase list, and schedule a date for installation. The ELTT also provided play training for all staff members and mentoring for the head librarian. The materials purchased for the learning spaces included light tables, doll houses, science and engineering materials, and reading and writing materials to provoke imaginative and creative play, social skills, and letter and number recognition.

Two of the presenters worked with designers to create early literacy spaces. Christy Estrovitz, San Francisco Public Library, embedded early literacy centers in the public libraries over 10 years. She worked with Kim van der Veen of Burgeon Group, which is committed to creating interactive learning spaces for public libraries. The two have created cozy nooks, colorful interactive spaces, and active learning areas for children and parents.

Marisa Conner, Baltimore County Public Library, worked with Blake Ratcliffe, founder and co-owner of TMCKids, to create play areas that produced learning with

the overarching goal being school readiness. Connor included play nooks in each branch complete with colorful rugs, bin units, magnetic boards, and adult-child seating created by TMCKids. Conner also worked with designer James Bradberry of James

Bradberry Architects to design Storyville, a children's area of 2,500 square feet located at the Rosedale Public Library in Rosedale, Maryland. This \$1.75 million venture included separate areas developed to foster early literacy and school readiness skills.

ALA Black Caucus Unveils Reading Is Grand! Celebrating Grand-Families

Kevin Watson, president of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA), announced that four libraries will receive the 2015 Reading Is Grand! Celebrating Grand-Families Telling Our Stories @ Your Library grant. Reading Is Grand! is a celebration of the important role African-American grandparents and older adults play in the lives of children.

The grant-winning libraries – Wayne County Public Library, Goldsboro, North Carolina; Allen Parish Libraries, Oberlin Branch, Oberlin, Louisiana; Durham County Library, Main Branch, Durham, North Carolina; and Boston Public Library, Dudley Branch, Boston, Massachusetts were selected based on the level of creativity and

originality of program criteria, action plans, level of involvement of grandparents in the activities, and impact of the program on the community.

Each grant-winning library will receive \$500, which will be used to supplement their Reading Is Grand! Program. Funds may be used to purchase books, and/or activities for their programs.

The Reading Is Grand! Project is supported by the Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA). It was developed as part of 2009–2010 American Library Association President Camila Alire's Family Literacy Focus Initiative, an initiative to encourage families in ethnically diverse communities to read and learn together.

Pride in San Francisco



(left) Megan McFarlane, Chicago, Ill., waves her Pride flag on June 28, coinciding with the San Francisco Pride Parade. (above) A bookmobile and techmobile from the ALA Exhibits were part of the parade festivities.



Closing

» from page 1

articulate Mohawk chosen to translate his spiritual guide the Peacemaker's message of unity for the five warring Iroquois nations during the 14th century. This message not only united the tribes, but also forever changed how the Iroquois governed themselves – a blueprint for democracy that would later inspire the authors of the U.S. Constitution.

Robertson is perhaps best known as the lead guitarist and primary songwriter of the legendary musical group The Band. Born of Mohawk and Cayuga descent, Robertson said he first heard the story of Hiawatha when he was nine years old, at the Six Nations reserve, where his mother was born and raised.

"I heard an elder tell this story, and it ran right through me," he said. "I have never been able to shake the effect of what that storytelling had on me."

He told his mother, "When I grow up, I want to tell stories like that."

He said that it was at the urging of his son Sebastian that the book project began, he credited his son with conducting the research.

When the time arrived to choose an illustrator, Robertson said he asked his publisher, Abrams Books for Young Readers, "Who is the best in the world to do the illustrations for this? I didn't say, 'Who is the best in town?'"

He was led to Shannon, seeing his cover for *The Rough Face Girl*.

"It just tore my heart out just looking at this illustration," he said.

Shannon was "a goner" after Robertson played a song he wrote about Hiawatha and the Peacemaker.

The story of Hiawatha is commonly known in this country through a poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, "The Song of Hiawatha." But Robertson said, "His

story (of Hiawatha) has nothing to do with the real story of Hiawatha."

The internationally acclaimed illustrator of numerous bestselling books for children, whose illustrations have appeared in a wide variety of publications including *The New York Times*, *Time*, and *Rolling Stone*, Shannon called the partnership "a true collaboration," pointing out that it is more common for the illustrator and the author to work separately, with the editor serving as a conduit.

"I wasn't going to have any of that," he said.

Shannon said he once wrote a story about a magic fish named Jangles, who tells stories from the beginning of time.

"At one point, he tells a young boy, 'I'm a storyteller and a story.'" Shannon said, "Robbie is kind of like that fish. Not as cold and clammy."

Robertson and Shannon also spoke about the impact of libraries on their lives.

Robertson said that when he was growing up, "There was two sides to the coin on libraries. There was the side of it where this is where you could find out everything that you know, everything you need to know. But there was a side of it where cool kids and tough kids . . . you go to the library, you're going to get a knuckle sandwich. There was an edginess to it."

Years later, when he began playing music professionally, he said he became a bookworm, "trying to make up for something that I felt was missing by reading a lot."

Eventually, when he was writing "The



Night They Drove Old Dixie Down" and seeking a different perspective, he sat at a library to do his research.

"Here I was, back doing rock and roll and had to go to the library to get it right," he said.

Robertson told his mother, "When I grow up, I want to tell stories like that."

Creator of Award for Excellence In Military Fiction Passes Away

William Young Boyd II, who created the W. Y. Boyd Literary Award for Excellence in Military Fiction passed away on December 31, 2014, at the age of 88. He was born March 5, 1926, in Panama City, Republic of Panama.

Boyd graduated from Phillips Academy Andover in 1944 and was drafted into the U.S. Army as an infantry replacement. He was in combat in Europe from January 1945 through the end of the war in May. As part of the distinguished 242nd Infantry Regiment of the Rainbow Division, he participated in the Battle of the Bulge and the liberation of Dachau Concentration Camp, and saw action in the Alsace, the Ardennes, the Rhineland, and Central Europe. He was awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Bronze Star Medal for exemplary conduct under enemy fire and three campaign stars on his E.T.O. (European Theater of Operations) medal. His Antitank Division earned a Presidential Unit Citation for its heroic and successful stand against overwhelming odds during the German winter offensive in January 1945. Boyd received a Purple Heart for wounds sustained in battle. On June 6, 2014 (the 70th anniversary of D-Day), Mr. Boyd was awarded the French Legion of

Honor at the French Embassy in Panama.

Boyd was the author of five published novels, including three on World War II: *The Gentle Infantryman*, *A Fight for Love and Glory*, and *A Rendezvous with Death*, as well as *Bolivar: Liberator of a Continent* and *Panama and the Canal*, which have been translated into Spanish. He has also written pieces for the *Wall Street Journal* (principally about the necessity for a sea-level canal in Panama).

The W. Y. Boyd Award for Excellence in Military Fiction was created in 1995 and for two years was administrated by the American Publishing Association. In 1997 Boyd moved it to the American Library Association. In 2005 Boyd endowed the award. Boyd attended many ALA Annual Conferences to present the award in person. He was extremely proud of the ALA award and its ability to shine a spotlight on history and war-related fiction.

A list of the authors who have won the award can be found at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/W.Y._Boyd_Literary_Award_for_Excellence_in_Military_Fiction. This year's winner of the W. Y. Boyd Award for Excellence in Military Fiction is Phil Klay, author of *Redeployment*, published by Penguin Press.



ALA outgoing President Courtney L. Young turns the gavel over to incoming ALA President Sari Feldman



OCLC research scientist Constance Malpas talks about the emerging higher education landscape and learning to embrace its challenges during the ACRL President's Program: "The Power of Mindset: Fostering Grit on the Way to New Roles."



Forecasting the Climate of Intellectual Privacy

By Rachael Wettstein, Student to ALA

Two celebrated defenders of civil liberties discussed the current climate of intellectual privacy and surveillance on June 29. Neil Richards, professor of law at Washington University, and David Greene, senior staff attorney and civil Liberties director at the Electronic Frontier Foundation, came together at the session, “Principles & Politics: Intellectual Privacy and Surveillance in the Digital Age.”

Richards began by introducing the definition of intellectual privacy: the protection from surveillance or interference when engaged in the processes of generating ideas. He explained how behavior changes when people are aware that they are being monitored. For example, in some cases having a video camera in front of a cash register may reduce the number of employees stealing money. While this may seem like good news for surveillance, Richards argues it may also stifle people’s intellectual curiosity.

He pointed to Google analytics, which revealed after Edward Snowden’s documents leaked that people began searching less for things which may be socially disfavored – i.e., topics of terrorism, homosexuality, and eating disorders.

Greene stressed that what is most important, especially for information professionals, is to make sure researchers do not have to make a trade-off between the research and the resources available that have privacy options. “We want to make sure that when people are using tools that they make conscious decisions about whether or not they want to share their information.”

Neil Richards and David Greene’s Recommended Intellectual Privacy Resources

- Mozilla Firefox** (approved privacy browser)
- DuckDuckGo** (approved privacy browser)
- HTTPS Everywhere** (for encryption)
- Privacy Badger** (prevents third-party tracking)

- Organizations that can help educate on issues of privacy and surveillance:
- <https://www.eff.org>
 - <https://ssd.eff.org>
 - <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/privacyconfidentiality/toolkitsprivacy/privacy>
 - <https://libraryfreedomproject.org>

ALA Midwinter Deep Dives

The inaugural ALA Midwinter Meeting Deep Dive half-day education sessions are for active, participatory learning in an intimate, interactive workshop-style setting. The maximum attendance for each session will be 25. Advance registration is required.

Participants may be required to do some advance work. To receive CEUs, a participant must attend the entire course.

ALA Midwinter Deep Dive sessions will be scheduled either 8:15 – 11:30 a.m. or 1:00 – 4:15 p.m. (each session includes a 15-minute snack break – provided). All Deep Dive sessions will be in rooms set with round tables. The standard AV set will include a projector, laptop, and screen. Deep Dive sessions will not be recorded. All Deep Dive sessions will be scheduled during the Midwinter Meeting, i.e. Saturday – Monday.

Call for Proposals:

Proposals for ALA Midwinter Deep Dive

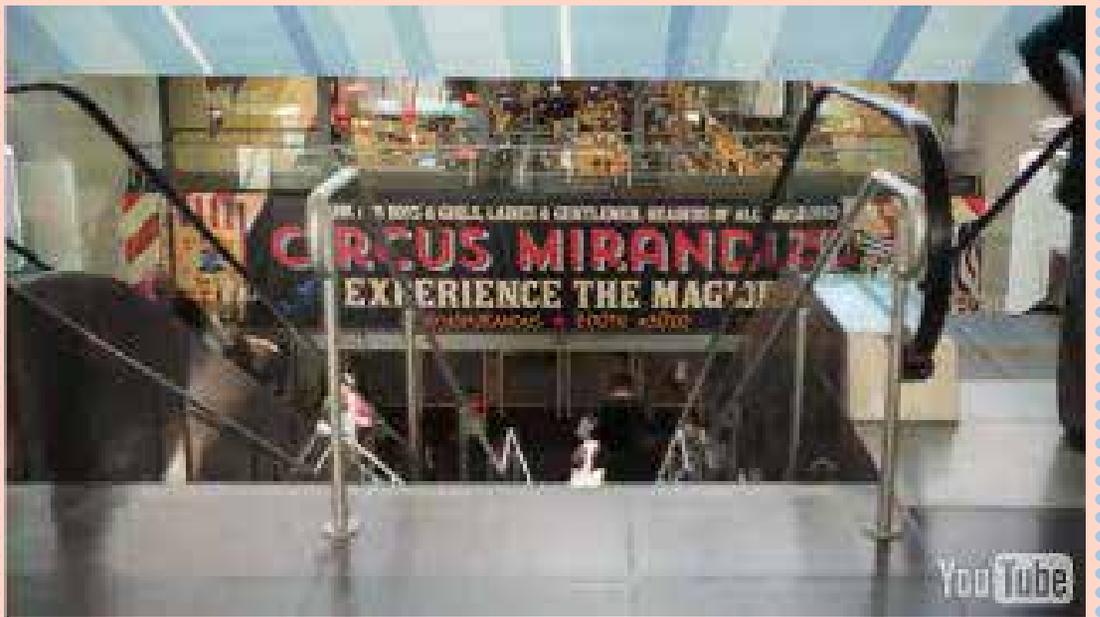
sessions at the 2016 Midwinter Meeting in Boston will be accepted online. Contact Alea Navarro at anavarro@ala.org for more information.

Focused proposals are specifically requested within the following broad areas:

- Learning in libraries (e.g. connected learning, gamification, making)
- Data management and use
- Digitization and preservation
- Diversity and inclusion
- Futuring/trend-watching
- The library in the community

These broad areas are selected based on post-conference survey responses indicating that ALA attendees seek “skill-building” opportunities, particularly in these areas, to provide leadership in a transforming library environment and to manage complex services. They are also informed by the work of the ALA Center for the Future of Libraries.

IN THE EXHIBITS



Thomas MacNamara of Index Data shows Darrell Davis of Berkeley, Calif., how to use the virtual reality catalog in the Exhibits.



2016

Save the Dates

ALA Midwinter Meeting & Exhibition
January 8-12, Boston

ALA Annual Conference & Exhibition
June 23-28, Orlando

Director, Fairfax County Public Library

Fairfax County’s Public Library system invites your interest in Job # 15-01052, the Director of Fairfax County Public Library.

With over 75 years of service, the Fairfax County Library (FCPL) system was established by vote of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in 1939, and has grown into the **largest library system in Virginia**. FCPL is comprised of 23 library branches including Access Services for persons with disabilities.

The Position

The Director serves as the Chief Executive Officer for the Fairfax County Library system. Subject to the policies, guidelines, and supervision of the Fairfax County Public Library Board of Trustees and under the administrative direction of the Deputy County Executive, the individual plans and directs the overall operation of the Fairfax County Public Library system, and provides results-oriented leadership to address emerging trends in a digital environment. Develops and implements the long-range strategic plans to fulfill the mission of the Library to secure success into the future and optimize support for learning within the Library and the community.

To Apply

To learn more or to submit your application, go to: agency.governmentjobs.com/fairfaxcounty

Deadline for applications is July 31, 2015. Salary negotiable with excellent benefit package.

Fairfax County is an Equal Opportunity Employer that does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, creed, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veterans’ status or disabled veterans’ status. Reasonable accommodations are available to persons with disabilities during application and/or interview processes per the Americans with Disabilities Act. Contact 703-324-4900 for assistance; TTY 703-222-7314. Minorities and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply. EEO/AA/TTY.