Report to Council and Executive Board

October 21, 2013

Keith Michael Fiels
Executive Director

Center for the Future of Libraries

The American Library Association (ALA) has been awarded a Librarians for the 21st Century Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to establish an ALA Center for the Future of Libraries. The goal of the project will be to provide library planners and community leaders with information resources and tools that will help them better understand the trends reshaping their libraries and communities and help them incorporate foresight into their planning processes. The $50,000 planning grant project will help ALA develop a Center for the Future of Libraries website; establish a "futures" discussion group and blog; present interactive programming at the ALA Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference and convene a summit of thought leaders to help shape the future direction of the center. In creating the Center for the Future of Libraries, ALA will also collaborate with the American Alliance of Museums, which established a Center for the Future of Museums in 2008. The Center will help public, academic and school communities build connections with experts and innovative thinkers in other fields who can help libraries better understand and meet the challenges of the future.

 Declaration for the Right to Libraries Initiative

An online toolkit was recently published and is available at
http://www.ala.org/advocacy/declaration-right-libraries-toolkit. With assistance from the ALA's Information Technology and Telecommunication Services (ITTS) department, the online declaration was recently launched. It's available at
http://www.ilovelibraries.org/declaration/sign. More than 1750 signatures were collected in just the 10 days after it was launched. More information can be found at
http://www.ala.org/advocacy/declaration-right-libraries. The Office for Library Advocacy is coordinating the Declaration for the Right to Libraries initiative.

ALA Launches "Authors for Library E-books" Campaign

In June, ALA announced the launch of "Authors for Library E-books," a new initiative that asks authors to stand with libraries in their quest for equitable access to e-books. Bestselling authors Cory Doctorow, Ursula K. Le Guin and Jodi Picoult are helping kick off the campaign. The campaign represents an extension of ALA's advocacy strategy to ensure all people have access to the world's knowledge and literature through our nation's libraries—regardless of format. Developed by the ALA's Digital Content & Libraries Working Group, the campaign encourages authors to sign on to a statement of shared values, to discuss the issue with their publishers,

and raise awareness of their concerns through their websites, social media and other communications channels.

<u>ALA Leadership Institute</u>

Forty future library leaders participated in the American Library Association's first Leadership Institute on August 12-15, 2013. Led by ALA Immediate Past President Maureen Sullivan and ACRL Content Strategist Kathryn Deiss, the four day curriculum included leading in turbulent times, interpersonal competence, power and influence, the art of convening groups and creating a culture of inclusion, innovation, and transformation. The program is intended to allow participants to return to their institution with greater self-awareness and self-confidence, equipped with better skills for leading, coaching, collaborating, and engaging within their organizations and in their communities, and to be better leaders, prepared to identify, develop, and implement solutions which will benefit all stakeholders. Participants will also have the opportunity to form a vibrant learning community and network, which is an essential element of effective leadership development.

<u>Banned Books Week</u>

Banned Books Week 2013 took place September 22-28, 2013. This year's observance marks 31 years of ALA's celebration of the freedom to read and received wide attention in the press and in social media [*see the PIO report below*]. Libraries and bookstores hosted special events and exhibits on the power of literature and the harms of censorship, and ALA, along with its Banned Books Week co-sponsors, hosted the third annual Virtual Read Out. The Virtual Read-Out was held on YouTube [http://tinyurl.com/bbwvro13], where participants posted videos of themselves reading from their favorite banned books. Past participants have included highly acclaimed and/or frequently challenged authors such as Judy Blume, Chris Crutcher, Whoopi Goldberg, Lauren Myracle and many others. In 2012, OIF recorded 464 reported attempts to remove or restrict materials from schools and libraries. The number one most challenged book for 2012 is Dav Pilkey's *Captain Underpants.*

<u>Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Nonfiction Awards</u>

More than 400 people celebrated the presentations of the second ever Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Nonfiction at the Awards Presentation during the Annual Conference in Chicago. Richard Ford's *Canada* received the medal for fiction, and Timothy Egan's *Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher: The Epic Life and Immortal Photographs of Edward Curtis* received the medal for nonfiction. Both authors were present to receive their medals and $5,000 prizes. All six finalists (Richard Ford, Timothy Egan, David Quammen, Jill Lepore, Junot Diaz, and Louise Erdrich) offered touching speeches that honored libraries and thanked librarians. Media and social media coverage was broad and enthusiastic again this year; media outreach activities resulted in more than 1,800 mentions/articles, a circulation rate of more than 820 million and a publicity value of more than $250,000. Placements were secured with mainstream national and international media and trade publications including the Associated Press (AP), BBC, *Publishers Weekly*, *Huffington Post*, Salon.com, *Los Angeles Times* and many other top-tier publications. *The New York Times* ran a full-page print ad in the July 1 Arts section. More than 400,000 Web placements were captured via Google search. The awards, co-sponsored and administered annually by *Booklist* magazine and the Reference and User

Services Association (RUSA), are funded through a grant from Carnegie Corporation of New York. They were established in 2012 to recognize the best titles in fiction and nonfiction for adult readers published in the U.S. in the previous year and serve as a guide to help adults select quality reading material. Annotations, long- and shortlists, committee members, and more information on the finalists and the awards are at http://www.ala.org/carnegieadult.

ALA JobLIST

The highly rated ALA online job board and career resources hub, a shared project among *American Libraries*, the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)'s *C&RL News*, and the Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment (HRDR), has seen online classified job ads achieve new heights in its seventh year of operation. Having recovered fully from the impact of the recession, ALA JobLIST seems to be trending toward continued growth at a steady rate. ALA JobLIST is the key source for job listings in library and information sciences. To find out more about JobLIST, see http://joblist.ala.org/

ALA OFFICES

ALA Library and Knowledge Management

Reference Transaction Statistics for 2013

The ALA Library has continued its work in responding to the information inquiries of staff, members, and library professionals from around the world while also building, or sometimes rebuilding, information resources. Reference transaction statistics for the 2013 fiscal year just ended: 3,174 queries answered, overwhelmingly by email (61%).

Weekly Roundup of Online News Stories

Valerie Hawkins, reference assistant, prepares a weekly roundup of online news stories about association management, technology, and social media using Scoop-it (see http://www.scoop.it/t/acronyms). The link is public for anyone who has an interest.

Updates to Library-Developed Resources

When the ALA Library identifies information on a topic—whether as a result of responding to an inquiry or general monitoring of blogs, news items, and current publications—the staff update the appropriate Library-developed resource: the ALA Library Fact Sheets (http://www.ala.org/tools/libfactsheets), the growing topical information pages (http://www.ala.org/tools/atoz), a simple tweet, a Delicious tag, or a blog post (http://www.ala.org/tools/ask-ala-library). This summer Pinterest boards were added on Carnegie Libraries, Adaptive Reuse, and Seriously Overdue Books Returned (http://pinterest.com/alahqlibrary/boards/)

Locating Information on the Affordable Care Act

The "bestseller" of these information resources is a guide to locating information on the Affordable Care Act (http://www.ala.org/tools/affordable-care-act) posted just after the Annual Conference and garnering enough hits in the first two months to place it in the top 100 of pages on the ALA website.

Membership Development

Membership

As of July 31, 2013, total ALA membership was 56,858. This is 1.85% less than July 2012. Two divisions and nine round tables had membership increases compared to July 2012. A special promotion to encourage lapsed small/very small libraries to rejoin launched in April and ended in June.

Office for Diversity
(OFD)

Diversity Research Grant Recipients:

The 2013 Diversity Research Grant recipients have been announced (see http://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2013/10/ala-awards-2013-diversity-research-grants), as has the 2013 honoree for Achievement in Diversity Research, Dr. Patricia Montiel-Overall (see http://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2013/10/dr-montiel-overall-named-2013-achievement-library-diversity-research-honoree). Dr. Montiel-Overall will make opening remarks at the Diversity Research Update session during Midwinter on Sunday, January 26 at 3 p.m.

8th National Conference of African American Librarians

In early August, OLOS Director Michelle Harrell Washington, attended and exhibited at the 8th National Conference of African American Librarians. This was yet another opportunity to promote Diversity/OLOS, ALA overall, and also to promote the Declaration for the Right to Libraries. Signatures were collected on two Declaration sheets during the Conference, and staff plan to follow up with those who are interested in promoting the Declaration in their library communities.

Please see the OLOS report on earlier conference activities where both the Office for Diversity and OLOS were represented.

Office for Government Relations (OGR)

<u>Library Services Impacted by Government Shutdown</u>

From October 1st to October 17th, 2013, the U.S. government shut down after Congress failed to compromise on a continuing resolution to fund the government. While the ALA Washington Office remained up and running, the shutdown had a noticeable impact on library services across the country. The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) was closed and was unable to disperse grants and funds to libraries as part of the Library Services and Technology Act. U.S. Census websites and collection surveys were unavailable, and the Government Printing Office had been shut down. Finally, the Library of Congress was closed to the public and researchers for the duration of the shutdown.

<u>OGR Welcomes the New Public Printer of the United States</u>

Jessica McGilvray was pleased to represent the Office of Government Relations at the swearing in ceremony of Davita Vance-Cooks on August 21. Vance-Cooks is the 27th Public Printer of the United States Government Printing Office (GPO) and the first woman to serve in this position. She was confirmed unanimously by the Senate on August 2 and was proudly sworn in later that month. The ALA looks forward to working with the GPO and the Public Printer in the coming years.

<u>OGR Involved with New Project on Seniors and Technology</u>

OGR cosponsored and participated in a pilot workshop with Senior Service America, Inc., Montgomery County Public Libraries, the Benton Foundation as well as officials from both the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) and the Maryland Workforce Corporation. This is part of ALA's efforts to assure that libraries are recognized and can get funding for workforce investment programs. The pilot workshop is intended to be replicated in a number of other states and support senior job hunters by offering digital literacy training through libraries and cooperative activities with various state and local government employment services.

<u>ALA President Speaks on National Security Agency Leak; Organization Launches Privacy Toolkit</u>

In July, ALA launched "ALA Liberty," a new website that contains tools libraries can use to host educational sessions and public forums that help Americans understand their First and Fourth Amendment rights. The launch of ALA Liberty comes as a response to revelations that the U.S. government obtained vast amounts of data on the activities of millions of innocent Americans. The website contains guides and tip sheets for libraries interested in informing members of the public about their civil liberties. The tools provide an overview of the deliberative process and outline ways that the public can demand government oversight and transparency from legislators.

ALA Joins Apple, Microsoft in Demanding Transparency in Government Surveillance

In July, the American Library Association joined an unprecedented coalition of Internet companies and advocates to deliver a letter to the U.S. government demanding greater transparency around national security-related surveillance of Internet and telephone communications. Key civil liberties organizations and major companies such as Apple, Facebook and Twitter, joined in the effort with dozens of other companies and organizations, both large and small. WeNeedToKnow, the newly launched petition directed at the White House invites the public to contribute to the call for greater transparency around government surveillance.

IMLS, ALA Detail Affordable Care Act Resources for Library Staff

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and ALA recently announced information resources for libraries to use to assist patrons about the Affordable Care Act. OCLC's library program WebJunction will provide online educational webinars, tip sheets, and other resources to help library staff members respond to increased patron information needs related to the new health insurance marketplace. Library staff can access materials, online resources, webinar registrations, and archived webinar recordings at http://www.webjunction.org/explore-topics/ehealth/get-involved.html.

Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment (HRDR)

HRDR Turns 40

The Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment (HRDR) formerly the Office for Library Personnel Resources (OLPR) celebrated its 40th Anniversary on Saturday, June 29, 2013 in the ALA JobLIST Placement Center. President-Elect Courtney L. Young brought greetings and was on hand for the cake cutting.

ALA JobLIST Placement Center

The ALA JobLIST Placement Center had a very successful conference in Chicago. Over 50 individuals had career counseling sessions while 538 people attended the eight career development workshops.   Employers representing 21 organizations participated in the Open House that 125 individuals attended. 207 individuals had their resumes reviewed by volunteers from the New Members Round Table (NMRT), and 12 organizations exhibited as recruitment vendors.

Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP)

Digital Content Working Group Prepares for Virtual Town Hall

On October 23, 2013, the ALA Digital Content Working Group (DCWG) will host its Virtual Town Hall on Ebooks, an interactive online session that will take place from 11 a.m. – noon (Central). Participants will have the opportunity to join ALA President Barbara Stripling, Immediate Past President Maureen Sullivan and the leadership of the ALA's Digital Content Working Group to learn about ALA ebook activities, plans and future directions. Panelists will provide views on the current digital publishing climate and discuss ways that ALA can better advocate for important library interests. Register now.

American Library Association Leads Libraries on E-rate Reform

This summer, President Obama announced the ConnectED initiative, which aims to connect America's students to high-capacity broadband and high-speed wireless. In September, ALA asked the Federal Communications Commission to accelerate deployment of the high-capacity broadband needed to serve students and learners of all ages through our nation's libraries and schools. ALA calls for new E-rate funding to jumpstart and sustain high-capacity broadband connections that support digital learning and economic development through libraries and schools, referred to as "ConnectUS." ALA leadership discussed E-rate in October at the Schools, Libraries and Health Broadband Coalition meeting in Washington, D.C.

OITP Talks Ebooks with Publishers in New York

In late September, Barbara Stripling led an ALA delegation to New York to meet with publishers and others in the publishing ecosystem; the delegation includes Maureen Sullivan, Keith Michael Fiels, DCWG Co-chair Robert Wolven and Alan S. Inouye. ALA delegation members met with executives at Penguin Random House and Simon & Schuster, the Association of American Publishers and the American Booksellers Association. Alan Inouye wrote about the leadership meetings on the *American Libraries*' E-content blog.

ALA Submits Comments to the FCC Opposing the E-reader Accessibility Exemption

ALA's Office for Information Technology Policy submitted comments to the FCC in response to a petition from the E-reader Coalition Petition of Class Waiver of Commission's rules for Access to Advanced Communications and Services for People with Disabilities. The E-reader Coalition—Amazon, Sony and Kobo— assert that their e-readers were manufactured for the sole purpose of reading text, therefore they should not be required to comply with FCC regulations that e-readers be accessible. The E-reader Coalition suggests that e-readers are a different class of product. ALA argues that the E-reader Coalition exemption would be discriminatory.

ALA Launches "Authors for Library E-books" Campaign

(see highlights section)

Maine State Librarian Touts E-Rate Successes at Congressional Hearing

In July, Maine State Librarian, Linda Lord, called for a "proactive vision for meeting the educational and learning needs of our communities for the next 15 years and beyond" at a hearing of the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. Representing our nation's 16,400 public libraries, Lord touted the success of the E-rate program in helping connect nearly 100 percent of libraries to serve more than 30 million people every week. The hearing came before the Federal Communications Commission considered a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to modernize the E-rate program to support high-speed broadband for digital learning technologies and ensure all students, educators and library patrons have the tools they need to succeed in the 21st century. With demand already double the available E-rate funding, ALA will submit comments to the FCC on raising the funding cap for the E-rate program.

Google, ALA Host Webinar: Revisiting CIPA 10 Years Later

In July, the American Library Association and Google, Inc. hosted a national symposium where library, education, technology, legal and policy experts considered the impact of the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) on access to electronic information. Participants joined a wide range of experts to discuss insights looking at legal, ethical, and political implications of how the CIPA requirements have been implemented in the past 10 years. "Revisiting the Children's Internet Protection Act: 10 Years Later" was part of the Office for Information Technology Policy and Office for Intellectual Freedom's larger project on CIPA and access to information, made possible through support of Google, Inc. A white paper will be released this fall.

Library Copyright Alliance Hails WIPO for Landmark Victory for the Blind

In June, the Library Copyright Alliance applauded the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) for finalizing the Treaty for the Blind, a treaty that will allow nations to share or make accessible copies for the print disabled in other countries, who more often than not, have little access to reading materials. The Treaty for the Blind creates a copyright exception and makes it legal to share accessible print copies with other nations. Before the landmark decision, antiquated international copyright laws made it difficult for developing nations—where 90 percent of the world's 285 million blind live—to convert print materials into Braille books, audio recordings, or accessible digital files. As a result of the treaty, the diversity of content available to the blind will increase dramatically around the world. The Library Copyright Alliance is made up of the ALA, the Association of College and Research Libraries and the Association of Research Libraries. Read the full treaty: http://www.ip-watch.org/weblog/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/WIPO-Dipl-Conf-Adopted-Draft-Treaty-June-2013.pdf

**Office for Intellectual Freedom
(OIF)**

IFLA / FAIFE Report

The August 17-23 International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) Congress in Singapore echoed concerns of June's ALA Annual Conference—questions and deep concerns about privacy and surveillance, in the wake of the leaks about National Security Agency (NSA) surveillance of telephone calls, which of course included international communications. Several countries have expressed their interest in joining with ALA in creating awareness of how these serious invasions of privacy affect libraries. CILIP (the UK's Charted Institute of Library and Information Professionals) met with an ALA representative to determine next steps in collaboration. Other interested parties include Finland and Germany, and there are sure to be more. IFLA's FAIFE Committee (Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression) is planning a meeting of interested parties in London later this fall. FAIFE is also drafting a policy on Privacy and Surveillance to be ready for the IFLA Executive Board meeting in December. For further information, please contact Barbara Jones, Director of ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom or Loida Garcia-Febo, a U.S. member of the IFLA Executive Board.

Banned Books Week

(see highlights section)

**Office for Library Advocacy
(OLA)**

Declaration for the Right to Libraries Initiative

(see highlights section)

**Office for Literacy and Outreach Services
(OLOS)**

Association of Rural and Small Libraries Conference in Omaha, NE

During October, Michelle Harrell Washington exhibited at the Association of Rural and Small Libraries Conference in Omaha, NE. Additionally, both John Amundsen and Michelle exhibited at the Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services Conference in Baton Rouge, where they also presented the session 'Literacy for All' during the conference on Wednesday afternoon, and again on Thursday morning. During this session highlighting OLOS' toolkits, the focus was on the Literacy for All toolkit, developed in 2012. Both presentations of the topic generated lively discussion and very positive feedback about how valuable the resources that were shared will be to the work that people are doing in terms of literacy services at their libraries.

Annual Conference Provides Opportunities for Member Interaction

The Office for Literacy and Outreach Services and the Office for Diversity were provided with excellent opportunities at the Annual Conference to offer worthwhile programs from the roundtables and committees, as well as opportunities to engage in invigorating conversations regarding member involvement and partnerships, including the Veterans Administration's initiative to push out information to librarians and library workers that can be shared with library users who are veterans and at risk (homeless, mental health/suicide).

Association for Tribal Archives, Libraries and Museums Conference

Just prior to the Annual Conference, OLOS Director Michelle Harrell Washington attended and exhibited at the Association for Tribal Archives, Libraries and Museums Conference in Santa Ana Pueblo, NM. This was an excellent opportunity to engage with conference attendees and talk with them about Diversity/OLOS and ALA overall.

Ardmore (Oklahoma) Literacy Initiative

In mid August, a new initiative being spearheaded by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, the Ardmore (Oklahoma) Literacy Initiative, took Michelle Harrell Washington to Ardmore, OK. This initiative is just getting off the ground, so there will be more to come, but this on-site visit provided an excellent opportunity to meet and engage in productive conversation regarding the initiative with its local and national partners. OLOS is working with the Ardmore Public Library and incorporating some of the takeaway lessons from the Dollar General-funded American Dream Starts @ your library Project.

Office for Research and Statistics (ORS)

Public Library Resegr4ch Clearinghouse

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (PLFTAS) Grant, 2009-2012 received a second extension to December 2013. The extension provides funding to address action items identified during the Invitational Seminar for Public Library Researchers that took place May 16-17 at ALA headquarters in Chicago. ORS staff will develop a web-based clearinghouse for public library research and data collection efforts. The site will include supports for finding, interpreting and using data, and links to grant opportunities.

IMLS National Leadership Grant

ORS and the University of Maryland College Park have launched the Digital Inclusion Survey for Public Libraries. An IMLS National Leadership Grant titled *Public Libraries as Providers of Digitally Inclusive Services and Resources: A National Survey Redefined* funds the survey. Partners include OITP and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA).

<u>CIPA Forum</u>

Kathy Rosa participated in the *Revisiting Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) Forum* at the Google office in Washington, D.C., July 29-30. The symposium provided the opportunity to review the previous 10 years of CIPA implementation and review the efficacy of the law as a solution to protecting young people from harmful content on the internet. The symposium is one component of a larger project coordinated by the Office for Information Technology Policy and the Office for Intellectual Freedom and will inform a white paper that will be published in the fall.

<u>IMLS Library Statistics Working Group (LSWG)</u>

Kathy Rosa participated in the IMLS Library Statistics Working Group (LSWG) biannual meeting held on Thursday, July 11 in Washington, D.C. The LSWG represents State Data Coordinators and other public library stakeholders and advises IMLS on the conduct of national public library and state library data collections. The LSWG is active in the development of the Public Library Survey data elements, software, and training.

<u>Presentations</u>

Kathy Rosa was a panel speaker at the 2013 Annual Conference (AC13) for the session titled *Measuring Up: Developing New Metrics for Assessing Library Performance,* a session selected as an Editor's Pick by *Library Journal*. Rachel Fleming May and Anne Houston joined Rosa in this Committee on Research and Statistics (CORS)-sponsored session that was attended by over 300 people. Kathy also delivered two presentations during the SDLA—NDLA—MPLA (South Dakota – North Dakota – Mountain Plains Library Associations) TriConference. The conference was held in Sioux Falls on September 25 – 27. The programs were *Library Management and the Digital Shift* and *Amplify Library Value: Using Data for Results*.

<u>Worldwide Virtual Conference</u>

Kathy Rosa is delivering a session as well as serving on the Advisory Board for the Library 2.013 Worldwide Virtual Conference to be held October 18 – 19. Rosa's presentation is titled *ALA Presents—Public Libraries: Communicating Impact with Stats and Stories.*

Public Information Office (PIO)

<u>Disney Princess Belle Appears in September Celebration of Library Card Sign up Month</u>

As part of the September celebration of Library Card Sign up Month, Disney Princess Belle the fictional main character who appears in Walt Disney Picture's popular animated film, *Beauty and the Beast,* joined the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) member Amber Claflin in an event at Grapeland Elementary School in the Anaheim, CA, area. Disney Book Group, working with the ALA Campaign for America's Libraries, sponsored the event, which featured Belle reading to and interacting with students.

<u>Free Customized PSAs of Luol Deng, Honorary Chair of Library Card Sign up Month</u>

This year, Chicago Bulls player and all-star, Luol Deng, was the Honorary Chair of Library Card Sign up Month and appeared in print and web based public service announcements (PSAs) that libraries can have customized at no cost. A native of the Sudan, Deng has won the NBA's sportsmanship award for the player who best exemplifies ethical behavior, fair play and integrity on the court. In 2008, Deng was honored with the United Nations Refugee Agency's Humanitarian of the Year Award for his efforts to bring education and sports to millions of displaced children.

<u>Publicity for Banned Books Week</u>

PIO worked with the ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom to secure publicity for Banned Books Week, September 22 - 28. PIO has secured national and international print and radio interviews for ALA and OIF leadership with the [Huffington Post](#), [CNN.Com](#), [The Guardian (UK)](#) , [BBC Persia](#) and [Sydney Educational Broadcasting](#). Banned Books Week articles/mentions appeared on news websites including: [UPI](#), [ABC News](#), [MSNBC](#), [Entertainment Weekly](#), [Market Place](#), [Parade](#), [Washington Post](#), [Forbes](#), [Christian Science Monitor](#), and [Boing Boing](#) . From September 1 – October 7, more than 2,500 articles were captured by ALA's monitoring software CisionPoint. As of October 7, media outreach efforts produced a snapshot circulation rate of more than 1.3 billion and a publicity value snapshot of more than $700,000. PIO also crafted a series of press materials, including [PSAs](#), a [Web press kit](#), calendar notice, press release, media plan and talking points.

Public Programs Office (PPO)

The Promise… Tools Support Library-Led Community Engagement and Innovation
Attendees at the recent 2013 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago got a first look at an array of tools produced to assist libraries with community engagement and innovation as part of *The Promise of Libraries Transforming Communities*. ALA has partnered with the Harwood Institute for Public Innovation for this multiphase initiative to develop a sustainable national plan to advance community engagement and innovation and transform the role of libraries in their communities. These Harwood Institute tools, shared as part of *The Promise of Libraries Transforming Communities* project, include: Turn Outward, Aspirations, Intentionality, Sustaining Yourself, and How Librarians and Libraries Can Lead Community Conversations for Change. A webinar on this conversation guide, presented in June 2013, is archived and accessible through the project web page: http://www.ala.org/transforminglibraries/libraries-transforming-communities .

<u>Year-long Public Innovation Training Opportunity</u>

The Promise of Libraries Transforming Communities initiative is the first step in building a sustainable and scalable national plan for library-led community engagement. Continuing the collaboration between the Harwood Institute and the American Library Association on *The Promise of Libraries Transforming Communities* initiative, a three-day Harwood Institute Public Innovators Lab, designed especially for libraries, kicks off a year of coaching and webinar

support. The three-day immersion in the Harwood practice, October 28-30, 2013, at the District of Columbia Public Library Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, will be followed by one year of scheduled coaching support for library teams from a Harwood certified coach, plus six live webinars to support and reinforce the learning from the Lab. Although registration is now closed, more information on the Harwood Public Innovators Lab and the training opportunity is available at http://www.ala.org/transforminglibraries/year-long-public-innovation-training-opportunity .

"Dust, Drought, and Dreams Gone Dry," Traveling Exhibition

The ALA Public Programs Office (PPO), in partnership with the Oklahoma State University (OSU) Library and the Mount Holyoke College (MHC) Library, is in the process of selecting public, academic and special library sites for *Dust, Drought, and Dreams Gone Dry: A Traveling Exhibition and Public Programs for Libraries about the Dust Bowl.* The project features a traveling exhibition and a series of programs designed to help public audiences engage in discussions about the human and ecological consequences of one of America's most disastrous environmental experiences. The project draws upon OSU's "Women in the Dust Bowl," online oral histories of Dust Bowl survivors, and the MHC's Caroline Henderson papers—letters, essays and articles by a woman who farmed throughout the Dust Bowl period. Ken Burns' film, "The Dust Bowl," is also an inspiration for the project. Twenty-five sites will be selected to present the exhibition and associated public programs in their communities for a period of six weeks. The tour and programs will begin in June 2014 and continue through December 2015. The project is made possible in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities: Exploring the Human Endeavor.

"Changing America: The Emancipation Proclamation, 1863 and the March on Washington, 1963," Traveling Exhibition Opportunity

The ALA Public Programs Office (PPO), in collaboration with the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) and National Museum of American History (NMAH), invites applications from public, academic and special libraries, small museums, and historical societies for the traveling exhibition *Changing America: The Emancipation Proclamation, 1863 and the March on Washington, 1963. Changing America* will help public audiences understand and discuss the relationship between two great peoples' movements that resulted in the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 and the March on Washington in 1963. The traveling exhibition is made possible by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Online applications must be submitted to ALA by October 21, 2013. Fifty sites will be selected to present the traveling version of the exhibition in their communities for a period of six weeks. The tour and programs will begin in January 2014 and continue through December 2017.

Planning Meeting for "U.S. Citizenship in the 21st Century" Convened in Atlanta

On October 2-3, 2013, in Atlanta, the ALA Public Programs Office and the American Bar Association co-convened the first of two planning meetings for the National Endowment for the Humanities-funded planning grant *U.S. Citizenship in the 21st Century*. The project team included scholars with expertise in jurisprudence, political science, and literature, and programming librarians from rural, suburban, and urban communities. The meeting explored possible project themes, with the group tentatively deciding to focus on Rights and

Responsibilities, Equal Citizenship, Identities and Cultural Citizenship, and Transnational Citizenship. The second and final planning meeting will be held December 12-13, 2013, in Chicago. This meeting will focus on reading material selection, program model format, and development of other supporting resources. Work products developed during this planning grant phase will be made available online as at least two, ready-to-implement library programming modules in May 2014.

PPO Proposed Collaboration with Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History (NMNH)

The ALA Public Programs Office has partnered with the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) Human Origins Project in a proposal to the John Templeton Foundation for a traveling exhibition to public libraries entitled "What Does It Mean to Be Human: Promoting a National Conversation on Human Evolution by Touring the Smithsonian's Hall of Human Origins." Plans call for the interactive exhibition to travel to 19 sites over a three-year period. Scholars and educators from the NMNH staff will visit each site to help develop and present programs for the public about the exhibition content. The NMNH premise for the project is an inclusive one: Scientific findings, by themselves, do not inform all there is to know about the qualities that define human uniqueness and its causes and implications. If funded, the project will begin in July 2014.

PPO Proposed Collaboration with the Folger Shakespeare Library

The ALA Public Programs Office has partnered with the Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, D.C., in an implementation proposal to the National Endowment for the Humanities for "Shakespeare and His First Folios," a project which will include a traveling exhibition and display of an original Shakespeare First Folio in every state.

ALA DIVISIONS

American Association of School Librarians (AASL)

Sylvia Knight Norton Named AASL Executive Director

Sylvia Knight Norton is the new executive director of the American Association of School Librarians. Sylvia comes to AASL from the College of Communication and Information, School of Library and Information Studies, Florida State University, where she has been school library media internship coordinator and instructor. During this period, she also served as state E-Rate coordinator, Florida Department of Management Services (2011-2012). For more information, please see bit.ly/aasl_skn.

AASL Awarded IMLS National Leadership Grant

AASL has been awarded a National Leadership Grant for Libraries from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). AASL's "Causality: School Libraries and Student Success

(CLASS)" national research forum is one of 42 grants awarded by IMLS totaling more than 14.6 million dollars. National Leadership Grants for Libraries support projects that improve professional practice beyond the grantee institution. AASL will use the $99,398 in grant monies to host a national forum to outline a research agenda for future school library research.

AASL Member Deven Black Receives Inaugural School Librarian Bammy Award

AASL member Deven Black was named the 2013 Bammy Award recipient in the inaugural school librarian category. Presented by the Academy of Education Arts and Sciences International, the Bammy award is a cross-discipline award recognizing the contributions of educators from across the education field. Black was presented with his award by Sylvia Knight Norton, then AASL incoming executive director, during a red-carpet event in Washington D.C. on September 21. Jennifer Lagarde and AASL members Shannon Miller, Joyce Valenza and Matthew Winner joined Black as nominees for the award.

AASL Releases Executive Summary of 2011-2012 NCES Schools and Staffing Survey

AASL has released an executive summary of the 2011-2012 National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Schools and Staffing Survey (SASS). Prepared by the AASL research and statistics committee with a data analysis by Sue Kimmel, the summary highlights findings relevant to the school library profession and areas inviting further study. The executive summary can be downloaded as a PDF via the AASL website at www.ala.org/aasl/research.

New AASL Publication Helps School Librarians Navigate the Changing Landscape of e-books

The newest publication from AASL, "Ebooks and the School Library Program: A Practical Guide for the School Librarian," provides school librarians with a roadmap to help navigate the vast and intricate world of e-books. Written by AASL members Cathy Leverkus and Shannon Acedo, the book familiarizes school librarians with available e-book devices and helps facilitate decision making about e-book collections. The publication is available in both print and e-book formats, as well as a print/e-book bundle, and can be purchased through the ALA online store at www.alastore.ala.org/aasl.

AASL Learning Standards and Program Guidelines Available On the Go

AASL has released e-book versions of its learning standards and program guidelines publications, "Standards for the 21st-Century Learner In Action" and "Empowering Learners: Guidelines for School Library Programs." Both titles are now available in print and e-book formats, as well as in a print/e-book bundle. These and other AASL publications can be purchased through the ALA online store at www.alastore.ala.org/aasl.

Online Application for AASL's National School Library Program of the Year Award Now Open

The online application for AASL's 2014 National School Library Program of the Year (NSLPY) Award is now open. Sponsored by Follett Library Resources, the NSLPY Award annually recognizes three school library programs that meet the needs of the changing school and library environment and are fully integrated into the school's curriculum. Schools and school districts interested in applying can access the application using AASL's online awards database.

AASL Commends 10 Programs Aligned with Association's Values and Mission

Moving on recommendations made by its Affiliate Assembly, AASL formally commended 10 programs based on the programs' support of the school librarian profession. Commended programs included:

- BE A PRO - Digital Literacy for Families
- Cleveland Plain Dealer "Tapping Into Parent Power"
- Common Ground 2013: Leading and Learning in the Digital Age
- Gary Literacy Coalition
- Humanities Tennessee Student Reader Day Program
- Librarian to Librarian Networking Summit
- Library: A Weinberg Project
- Second and Seven Foundation "Tackle Illiteracy"
- Tennessee First Lady's Read20 Book Club
- YALLFest: Raising local literacy through great YA authors.

To be considered, programs must align with AASL's learning standards and program guidelines as well as the principles expressed in the AASL mission and value statements.

Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)

ACRL Funds 2013 Spectrum Scholar Jessica Bastian

As part of a commitment to furthering diversity in librarianship, ACRL is supporting Jessica Bastian as its 2013-14 Spectrum Scholar. Bastian attends the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Bastian's interest in the library profession began in the summer of 2005, while doing an internship at the National Archives as a part of the Western Illinois University Learning to Lead Internship Program. She plans to pursue a career in academic librarianship with a focus on engaging communities of diverse users and improving civic and information literacy instruction within the traditional university system. Learn more about Jessica on the ACRL Insider blog.

Ganski Named ACRL Visiting Program Officer

ACRL is pleased to announce the 10-month appointment of Kate L. Ganski, Library Instruction Coordinator at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee (UWM), as visiting program officer in support of the association's Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education Task Force. Ganski will create a communication plan that will help the task force, charged with revising the ACRL Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education, reach a wide variety of constituents outside the library profession and across the higher education community. Working with members of the task force and ACRL staff, she will identify key communication channels and draft ancillary materials to communicate the task force's revisions of the widely cited standards. Learn more about Ganski and the standards revision process on the ACRL Insider blog.

Online Open Forums on Revised Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education

The task force that will substantially revise ACRL's seminal Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education by June 2014 will hold three online open forums in October and November for the library and higher education community to learn more about the composition of the group, the direction it is taking in revising the standards, and share input, reactions, and questions. Links to the recorded forums will be posted afterwards on the website. More information is available on the ACRL Insider blog.

Twenty-First-Century Access Services: On the Front Line of Academic Librarianship

In July 2013, ACRL published "Twenty-First-Century Access Services: On the Front Line of Academic Librarianship," edited by Michael J. Krasulski, Jr. and Trevor A. Dawes. The access services departments in academic libraries are literally and metaphorically at the front line of 21st century academic librarianship. The ten chapters in "Twenty-First-Century Access Services" highlight these roles and services, while discussing the role access services departments will continue to play in the success of the library, as well as place these services in the context of supporting the academic mission of the institutions of which the libraries are a part. "Twenty-First-Century Access Services: On the Front Line of Academic Librarianship" is available for purchase in print, as an e-book, and as a print/ e-book bundle through the ALA Online Store; in print and for Kindle through Amazon.com; and by telephone order at (866) 746-7252 in the U.S. or (770) 442-8633 for international customers.

Finding a Public Voice: Using Barbara Fister as a Case Study

ACRL also recently published "Finding a Public Voice: Using Barbara Fister as a Case Study," edited by Danielle Theiss and Diane Kovacs. This eclectic volume shares vivid examples of how academic librarians, inspired by the writings of noted library leader and blogger Barbara Fister, are engaging with others and blazing a leadership path for the profession on topics such as information literacy, scholarly communication and e-publishing, librarian career adaptability and healthcare privacy rights. "Finding a Public Voice: Using Barbara Fister as a Case Study" is available for purchase in print, as an e-book, and as a print/ e-book bundle through the ALA Online Store; in print and for Kindle through Amazon.com; and by telephone order at (866) 746-7252 in the U.S. or (770) 442-8633 for international customers.

Designing Training

ACRL additionally published *Designing Training* by Melanie Hawks, the fifth entry in the ACRL Active Guides series, in September 2013. Focusing on the needs of the adult learner, *Designing Training* will help librarians and library staff plan training sessions for takeaway value, learner engagement and learning transfer. Hawks provides examples and exercises that demonstrate how to design highly effective learning events from the ground up. The practical activities provided throughout this title will lead the reader through the process of developing well-designed training that sets up both the trainer and the learners to succeed. *Designing Training* is available for purchase in print through the ALA Online Store and Amazon.com; and by telephone order at (866) 746-7252 in the U.S. or (770) 442-8633 for international customers.

C&RL Now On Facebook and Twitter

College & Research Libraries (*C&RL*) journal launched [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) presences in September 2013. Both sites will be home to updates on pre-print and current articles, book reviews, highlights of past articles from the journal's nearly 75 year history, and exclusive content from *C&RL* editors and researchers. Posts will be made, on average, once per week. Current *C&RL* contents are also available through [RSS feeds](#) and [email alerts](#) on the journal's online home. *C&RL* will be moving to an online-only publication model in January 2014.

Keeping Up With… Flipped Classrooms and Digital Badges for Instruction

The latest editions of [Keeping Up With…,](#) ACRL's online current awareness publication featuring concise briefs on trends in academic librarianship and higher education, are now available. The August 2013 issue features a discussion of [Flipped Classrooms](#) by Candice Benjes-Small and Katelyn Tucker of Radford University, and the September issue featured [Digital Badges for Instruction](#) by Nicole Pagowsky of the University of Arizona. Keeping Up With… is available on the ACRL website and each issue will be sent via email to ACRL members. Non-members can visit our [email subscription page](#) to sign up to receive Keeping Up With… and a variety of other ACRL awareness publications.

CHOICE E-Collection (CeC) Adds Free De-duping Benefit

The [CHOICE e-Collection](#) (CeC) is the first collection of e-books made up exclusively of titles reviewed by CHOICE. Currently consisting of several hundred titles spanning the entire liberal arts and sciences curriculum, the CeC presents CHOICE-reviewed titles from a growing list of publishers, including the University Press of Mississippi, Wesleyan University Press, M.E. Sharpe, McFarland, and Vanderbilt University Press, among others. The CeC combines quality content with ease of use and now features a free de-duping service that allows a library to determine within 48 hours which CeC titles it already owns. To explore the CHOICE e-Collection, visit the [collection website](#).

ACRL-CHOICE Fall Webinar Program

The ACRL-CHOICE webinar program connecting academic and research librarians with a host of content and service providers, publishers and other experts who serve their market is back with an exciting new fall roster of topics and speakers discussing issues pertinent to today's academic library landscape. Recent and upcoming ACRL-CHOICE webinars cover a wide gamut of timely topics important to academic libraries, including Key Trends in Business Research (August 22), Assessing Your Collection by Quality and ROI (September 24), and The Role of the Librarian in an Open Access World (October 23). Structured as 60-minute, live, interactive webinars, the program offers an unprecedented way for libraries to learn about new ideas, developments and products, and to actively participate in discussions with companies that serve their market. Complete details are available on [ACRL Insider](#).

Cardenas-Dow Named 2013 ACRL/LLAMA Presidents' Program Leadership Moment Contest Winner

ACRL and the Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA) are pleased to announce that Melissa Cardenas-Dow, Outreach/Behavioral Sciences Librarian at the University of Redlands Armacost Library, has been selected as the winner of the associations' leadership moments essay contest, held in conjunction with the joint ACRL/LLAMA Presidents' Program held at the 2013 ALA Annual Conference. Cardenas-Dow's winning essay is available on the ACRL website (PDF).

2014 Award Nominations

For more than three-quarters of a century, ACRL has been committed to celebrating the achievements of academic and research librarians through the presentation of awards, grants, and fellowships. With almost $35,000 donated annually by corporate sponsors, ACRL has and will continue to nominate, select and honor the very best in academic librarianship. Members are an integral part of ACRL's successful awards program. ACRL urges members to nominate colleagues whose work has influenced their thinking and growth as an academic librarian, and whose contributions merit recognition by the profession. Member nominations will ensure that the pool of candidates for each award remains both competitive and distinguished. Nominations and supporting materials for most awards must be submitted by December 6, 2013. Complete details, including a list of awards, are available on ACRL Insider.

2013 Women's Leadership Institute

ACRL is collaborating with higher education associations to offer the 2013 Women's Leadership Institute. This year's institute will be held December 3-6, 2013, in Amelia Island, FL. The discounted early-bird registration deadline for the institute is November 1, 2013. The Women's Leadership Institute is an experience which provides professional development opportunities on issues that affect women within the higher education community. The program is designed for directors of libraries and those who report directly to them in positions such as associate university librarian or assistant library dean. Complete program details, cosponsors, and a link to registration materials are available on the institute website.

ACRL Springboard Event on Financial Literacy Education

ACRL offered its fourth annual Springboard Event on September 30, 2013. ACRL President Trevor A. Dawes led a discussion on the need for academic libraries to get involved in financial literacy education. Current successful efforts from across the country were highlighted, including a presentation from Shana Gass, Towson University, on how academic libraries can participate in Money Smart Week @ your library, April 5-12, 2014. Chris LeBeau, past chair of the Business Reference and Services Section (BRASS) of the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA), provided information about the new RUSA-BRASS IMLS grant to develop guidelines for financial literacy programming as well as some current resources for financial literacy education. The ACRL Springboard Event is a live, interactive webinar offered free of charge to all ACRL members. This year's webinar was offered in partnership with RUSA BRASS and the ALA Chapter Relations Office.

<u>Immersion '14 (Teacher and Program Tracks) Applications</u>

ACRL is currently accepting applications for the Information Literacy Immersion '14 Program (Teacher and Program tracks) to be held July 20-25, 2014 at Champlain College in Burlington, VT. Immersion '14 provides four-and-a-half days of intensive information literacy training and education for academic librarians. Immersion allows librarians to embrace their educational role by embarking on a path of teacher development and pedagogical inquiry in a community of practice for academic librarians devoted to collaborative learning, individual renewal, and instructional effectiveness. Acceptance to Immersion '14 is competitive to ensure an environment that fosters group interaction and active participation. Complete program and track details, along with application materials, are available on the Immersion website. The application deadline is December 6, 2013 and notifications will be issued in February 2014.

<u>2014 Scholarly Communication Road Show Applications</u>

ACRL is once again taking its popular scholarly "Scholarly Communications: From Understanding to Engagement" workshop on the road to five locations in 2014. The day-long workshop is led by two expert presenters at locations across the country, and the content is updated annually to meet the evolving needs of the community. New this year, the association is shifting the timeline so that hosts selected for the subsidized version of the program will have longer to prepare and promote the workshop on their campuses. The program continues its cost-sharing model as ACRL is committed to underwriting the bulk of the expense for delivering the road show, and the cost for successful host institutions is $2,000. Apply by Tuesday, November 12, 2013, at 5 p.m. (Central). Find out more on the program website.

<u>E-Learning Update</u>

ACRL's e-Learning program offered three online courses and one live event during this report period. 67 individuals and 14 groups participated in these e-Learning events on topics including the Standards for Libraries in Higher Education, information literacy, and accessible video tutorials. Applications are now being accepted for ACRL e-Learning scholarships. Twelve e-Learning scholarships will be awarded – seven covering the registration cost of a Webcast and five covering the cost of an online course. To qualify for a scholarship, applicants must be ACRL members, complete the online scholarship application form and submit a 300-word written statement that describes how participation in an ACRL e-Learning event meets the applicant's professional needs and goals. The application deadline is November 1, 2013, with notifications issued in December 2013. Complete details and application materials are available on the ACRL e-Learning website. A call for e-Learning proposals was also issued in October 2013. Proposals must be submitted via the online submission form by November 1, 2013.

Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS)

<u>ALCTS Fall Continuing Education</u>

ALCTS fall continuing education offerings are now on the website. They cover a variety of topics from MOOC's to floating collections to e-resources workflows. ALCTS will be offering a

few webinars during the year free of charge. Check the website for more information. As always, LIS students and faculty who wish to use the webinar in their classroom can register for free. Visit the ALCTS events page: http://www.ala.org/alcts/confevents

<u>Standards Task Group Submits Final Report</u>

After a year of deliberation, the ALCTS Standards Task Force submitted its final report to the ALCTS Board of Directors at this past Annual Conference. The report's recommendations were discussed at the ALCTS Board meeting in Chicago. The report takes a broad look at current and future ALCTS standards involvement including a recommendation to establish an ALCTS Standards Committee to oversee and coordinate ALCTS involvement in standards development. ALCTS is already involved at various levels of the organization including cataloging, metadata, and NISO.

<u>Advocacy Resources Task Force Submits Final Report</u>

The Technical Services Advocacy Resources Task Force submitted its final report which focused on advocacy for ALCTS areas within the library. They created a collection of resources to assist ALCTS members in demonstrating and articulating the value of library functions in ALCTS' areas of coverage, historically known as technical services. The Task Force recommended that an Advocacy Resources web site be created making available resources on advocating for technical services within a library. Elements of the website would include elevator speech examples, specific information about functional areas, glossary, literature sources, and links to useful websites.

<u>Minimum Capture Requirements Endorsed by the ALCTS Board</u>

The ALCTS Board has endorsed "Minimum Digitization Capture Recommendations." A Task Force of the Preservation and Reformatting Section (PARS) Preservation Standards and Practices Committee was commissioned to develop minimum standards for the digital capture or reformatting of documents for preservation purposes. The Task Force was chaired by Ian Bogus of the University of Pennsylvania. The Recommendations are available on the ALCTS website. The "Minimum Digitization Capture Recommendations" were "created as a guideline for libraries digitizing content with the objective of producing a sustainable product that will not need to be re-digitized. Institutions can feel secure that if an item has been digitized at, or above, these specifications, they can depend on it to continue to be viable in the future. In some cases, institutions may want to request a digital copy to preserve themselves, further safeguarding materials by preserving them in multiple locations.

<u>ALCTS Offers Two New Publications Through the ALA Store</u>

Sudden Selector's Guide to Physics Resources by Michael Fosmire (due October, 2013) and *The Institutional Repository: Benefits and Challenges,* edited by Pamela Bluh and Cindy Hepfer may be purchased at the ALA Store, http://www.alastore.ala.org/

Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC)

Launch of *Everyday Advocacy Matters* Newsletter

ALSC's first issue of *Everyday Advocacy Matters* was emailed to ALSC members on October 2 via InFormz. The new quarterly e-newsletter complements the ALSC Everyday Advocacy website (www.ala.org/everyday-advocacy), extending the site's rich resources with targeted, timely, and fun content. Regular features of the publication include From the Editor; Everyday Advocacy Spotlight; News You Can Use; Get Inspired; Calendar; and Resources links.

Read! Build! Play!

ALSC and LEGO DUPLO have announced a *Thank your Public Library for Making Summer Reading Fun* giveaway through the Read! Build! Play! initiative. The public has been invited to "thank" their local public library for great summer programming for children by entering their zip code into a facebook giveaway. The public libraries in the neighborhood with the most votes will receive $5,000 from LEGO DUPLO.

Everyone Reads @ your Library

ALSC and YALSA have been awarded a 4th year of grant support from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation in the amount of $246,806 through the Everyone Reads @ your Library grant. ALSC will use grant funds to continue to support and grow the Día de los niños/día de los libros (Día) initiative. ALSC announced the applications for Día Family Book Club mini-grants. Up to 15 mini-grants will be awarded at $2,000 each to public libraries which demonstrate a need to better address diversity within their communities through Día Family Book Club programs. In addition to awarding mini-grants, funding from this grant will also allow ALSC to create a Día Family Book Club National Curriculum that will be accessible to all.

ALSC Launches Mentoring Program

In August, ALSC launched a new mentoring program. The program, which is open to members and non-members, is intended to help build a new collection of leaders in the field of library service to children. Applications were due on August 30, 2013 and over 150 children's librarians, school librarians, information professionals, and MLIS students applied to take part in this program. Members of the ALSC Membership Committee and the ALSC Managing Children's Services Committee, who administered the matching mentors and mentees, were excited and overwhelmed by the positive response to the program. 60 applicants were matched. Unsuccessful applicants will have the opportunity to re-apply in January when the second round of applications opens, and an ALA Connect Community will be available to unmatched mentees to allow another opportunity for peer networking.

ALSC Offers Student Session on Balancing Social Media

In September, ALSC hosted a student session on social media in libraries. Balancing Social Media: How to Separate Your Library's Facebook Page From Your Own was hosted by Joella Peterson, Youth Services Librarian at the South Jordan Library, part of the Salt Lake County

(UT) Library System. ALSC Student Sessions were online workshops that lasted about an hour and were led by ALSC members from across the country. Hosted by the ALSC Membership Committee, these student sessions were open to all students, ALSC members and non-members. They were offered free of charge.

Great Websites for Kids

ALSC added more sites to Great Websites for Kids, its online resource containing hundreds of links to exceptional websites for children. The newly added sites are:

BBC Primary History - www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/
Kids.gov - http://kids.usa.gov/
Smithsonian Kids - www.si.edu/Kids
Mi Héroe (Spanish site for My Hero Project) - www.miheroe.org
Talking Glossary of Genetic Terms - www.genome.gov/Glossary/
Walking with Dinosaurs - www.walkingwithdinosaurs.com/dinosaurs/catalogue/

IMLS National Leadership Grant for Every Child Ready to Read

On September 26, ALSC and the Public Library Association (PLA) were awarded a 2013 National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The awarded amount is $499,741 for the project "Brining Home Early Literacy: Determining the Impact of Library Program on Parent Behavior." This multi-year project will work to evaluate the effect of the Every Child Ready to Read program. *Please see further details in the PLA section of this report.*

Members to Represent ALSC at Local/State Conferences

ALSC recently announced ALSC is providing limited funding to members who are interested in staffing booths, presenting programs or coordinating social events at state or local conferences. Conferences must be related to library service, children's publishing, or have some connection to library services. The ALSC Roadshow program pays the registrations costs for members who are attending these conferences. The ALSC Membership Committee will be assessing proposals on an on-going basis in 2013-14.

May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture Location

The host of the 2014 Arbuthnot Lecture will be the University of Minnesota's Children's Literature Research Collections. The 2014 May Hill Honor Lecture will feature *New York Times* best-selling writer Andrea Davis Pinkney.

ALSC Professional Award Applications

ALSC is now taking applications and nominations for the Professional Awards and Grants. Each year ALSC gives away over $100k in awards, grants, and scholarships to its members. Applications and nominations are open for The Light the Way Grant; The Penguin Young Readers Group Award, ALSC Distinguished Service Award, and the Louise Seaman Bechtel Fellowship.

ALSC Spectrum Scholarship

ALSC is sponsoring [Marco Veyna-Reyes from the University of North Texas as its 2013-2014 Spectrum Scholar](). ALSC uses funding from the Frederic G. Melcher Endowment and sponsors one Spectrum Scholar interested in library service to children each year.

ALSC Holds Community Forum on New Media in Libraries

On August 20 and 21, 2013, ALSC held two [Community Forum]() live chats on the topic of new media in libraries. These events which were hosted by the ALSC Board of Directors, featured news from ALSC President Starr LaTronica with background provided by ALSC Children & Technology Committee member Cen Campbell. The forum also included a discussion of the usage of new media in member libraries. The recorded webinar is available for ALSC members.

November ALSC Student Session on Being New to the Children's Library

In November, ALSC will offer a new student session, "New to the Children's Library: What I Didn't Learn in Library School," presented by Katrina Hartz Taylor and Eileen Makoff. Registration is now open for this event which will take place on Wednesday, November 20, 2013 at 5 p.m. (Central). [ALSC Student Sessions]() are free, one-hour virtual workshops. Held quarterly, these free webinars are hosted by the ALSC Membership Committee and directed specifically at students, but open to all members and non-members with an interest in children's library services.

ALSC Offers New Webinar on Children with Autism

In November, ALSC will host a webinar entitled, [What's After Storytime: Programming for Children and Tweens With Autism]() with instructor Barbara Klipper. This webinar will provide participants with helpful background information on autism and specific techniques to use when working with school-age children with this disability. Open to anyone with an interest in increasing their inclusive library programming. This webinar will be offered four different times through the winter.

Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA)

Midwinter Institutes and Networking Event

Three timely, skill-building ASCLA institutes and a popular luncheon are planned for the Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia:
- *Designing Online Courses for Significant Learning Experiences:* Presenters will guide institute participants through the (re)design of an online course. Participants will leave with the skills to develop their own online training modules or courses, and assist others in the development of online courses.
- *Knowing You, Knowing Them: The Secret to Successful Leadership:* Participants will leave this session with insights into personalities, emotional intelligence, dealing with

change and creating a motivating environment—secrets that can help them be more successful leaders.

- *Assembling a Consulting Toolkit: What You Need to Know to be a Successful Library Consultant:* This is a repeat of a wildly successful, sell-out workshop from 2010. Takeaways include marketing tips, pricing your services, responding to RFPs, finding clients, business management strategies and more.
- *Consultants Networking Luncheon:* Hosted by ASCLA Library Consultants Interest Group (http://connect.ala.org/node/151445), this event provides an opportunity for consultants and independent librarians to make connections with other professionals.

For more information on these events, go here: http://www.ala.org/ascla/asclaevents/midwinter/midwintermeeting To register, visit: http://alamw14.ala.org/.

ASCLA Awards

The nomination period is now open for awards representing ASCLA's diverse areas of library services. The awards are:
The ASCLA/KLAS/NOD Award
The Francis Joseph Campbell Award
The Exceptional Service Award
The Leadership and Professional Achievement Award
The Cathleen Bourdon Service Award

For more information about the awards see ASCLA's blog post here: http://tinyurl.com/ascawards2013.

Fund Raising Trips

The next ASCLA fundraising trip will be a tour of San Francisco, San Jose, Monterey, Carmel and Napa Valley, April 23-30, 2014. Three innovative and interesting libraries will be toured: San Francisco Public, well-known for its accessibility programs and services; San Jose Public Library/ San Jose State University, an award-winning public and university library combined into a single building; and (just added to the tour!) the Civic Center Library in San Rafael, located in a Frank Lloyd Wright building. In addition, the tour will visit Monterey, Carmel, Pebble Beach, Big Sur, selected Napa Valley wineries, the Franciscan vineyards and Chandon. More about the trip can be found here: http://www.ala.org/ascla/travel-ascla.

AccessAbility Academy

The AccessAbility Academy project has been completed. The first module, an online tutorial to help library staff working with people with disabilities, has been completed and will be released in the next two weeks.

Board Member Biographies

Members can now meet the ASCLA board members through new featured interviews on the ASCLA blog. Go here to see the current interviews: http://ascla.ala.org/blog/?s=board+members. Questions we asked included:

- What are you currently reading or listening to?
- What is the most interesting "reference" question you've ever been asked?
- Give one fun fact about yourself—can be personal or professional.
- Any hobbies?
- Why did you join ASCLA (and/or sections)?

Library and Information Technology Association (LITA)

LITA Forum

Registration is open for the 2013 LITA Forum in Louisville, KY, November 7-10, 2013. The theme is "Creation, Collaboration, Community." This three-day educational event includes preconferences, three keynotes, and more than 30 concurrent sessions. The keynote speakers are Travis Good from *Make Magazine*, Nate Hill from the Chattanooga Public Library, and, Emily Gore from the Digital Public Library of America. As one would expect of a LITA program, the Forum programming addresses technology in all types of libraries and includes all types of services within those libraries. Many networking opportunities provide all participants a chance to explore ideas, issues, problems, and, answers with each other, LITA leaders, and Forum speakers. http://www.ala.org/lita/conferences/forum/2013

Online Learning Opportunities

LITA offered a course and a webinar in August: *Building Web Applications with HTML5, CSS3, and Javascript: An Introduction to HTML5* by Jason Clark, Montana State University, and, *All Aboard—The Party's Starting! Setting a Course for Social Media Success* by Mary Anne Hansen, Doralyn Rossmann, Angela Tate, and, Scott Young, Montana State University. For additional information, visit http://www.ala.org/lita/learning/online.

Technology for Small and One-Person Libraries by Rene J. Erlandson and Rachel A. Erb

The LITA Guide series provides practical information, advice, tools, and best practices for anyone working with technology in libraries. *Technology for Small and One-Person Libraries* is written for librarians, library staff, and, administrators at libraries serving populations of 15,000 or less. This Guide provides basic information on the full range of library technology and is available from the ALA Store, http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=4261 .

Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA)

LLAMA Webinars

Fall has been a busy season for LLAMA's webinar program. On September 4, Charmaine Scott presented "Getting Started with User Focus Groups" to more than 70 participants. September

18, LLAMA presented a free webinar geared towards recent and upcoming MLS graduates. "Cover Letter and Resume Tips to Get an Interview" had 420 registrants. October 2, Shelly McCoy presented "Multimedia spaces: Creating a Culture of Creativity" to 152 registrants. On August 7, it presented "Going Solo: Managing the One-person Library." The topic was geared towards solo librarians and included special registration for SLA members. On August 21, LLAMA presented, "It Worked for Steve Jobs But Will It Work For You: Finding Your Leadership Style," featuring Steven Bell. It drew more than 115 participants. Overwhelmingly positive evaluations were received for all of these sessions.

Public Library Association (PLA)

IMLS Early Learning Grant

PLA and ALSC have received a three-year National Leadership Project Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The $499,741 grant will be used to support "Bringing Home Early Literacy: Determining the Impact of Library Programming on Parent Behavior," a research project that will examine how early literacy programming offered by public libraries affects parent behavior and engagement during their children's most formative years. Objectives of this project are to further establish and advance the valuable role of public libraries as partners in early literacy and community learning and to provide critically needed research on the impact of parent/caregiver intervention in young children's reading success. The project will use the Every Child Ready to Read® @ your library® Second Edition (ECRR2) as the parent education model to study. Because ECRR2 promotes a common set of goals and program content for libraries, use of this model will insure consistency in the study.

PLA 2014 Conference

Registration and housing for the PLA 2014 Conference is now open. The schedule is packed with education, inspiration and entertainment. Keynote speaker Bryan Stevenson, founder and executive director of the Equal Justice Initiative, will welcome attendees at the Opening Session, while David Sedaris will send them off from the Closing Session. Recently added events include the Young Adult Author Lunch with John Green, Children's Author Lunch with Brad Meltzer, Opening Lunch with Richard Ford, and The Ann Patchett Book Hour. Additionally the PLA 2014 Program subcommittee has added more than 45 ConverStations to the education schedule. In between, there's a lot to keep attendees busy: more than 150 educational programs, carefully chosen by the PLA Conference Committee from the more than 400 proposals received; PLA's new Big Ideas Series; author events with Jane Pauley, Craig Johnson, Mary Kay Andrews, Andre Dubus II, Walter Mosley and others; unique networking opportunities; and a bustling exhibits floor. For complete details on PLA 2014, visit www.placonference.org.

Call for Contributors

The January/February 2014 issue of *Public Libraries* will focus on public library innovation, and PLA is asking for contributors. For this special issue, PLA will select three feature articles and

two opinion pieces. Articles can focus on any innovative idea, program, or library service. Feature articles are generally 2,500-5,000 words and Verso columns (opinion pieces) are 1,500 words. Pieces should be submitted online by November 15 to be considered. All submissions will go through a peer-review process. Send queries or requests for more information to PL Editor Kathleen Hughes.

DigitalLearn.org

Since launching in March 2013, DigitalLearn.org, a PLA digital literacy initiative funded by IMLS, has exceeded expectations. The site is intended to create an online hub for digital literacy support and training. It includes self-directed tutorials for users, as well as a community of practice for staff at libraries and community organizations who are working to bridge the digital divide. The site has had over twenty thousand unique visitors, doubling the goal of ten thousand unique visitors for the first year of the site. Most users spend about five minutes on the site with each visit. The community of practice has had almost five thousand registrations, and since April 1, more than seventeen hundred people have completed the self-directed end user classes. Surveys have indicated that the classes are used both by independent individuals as well as libraries and non-profits using the classes in conjunction with in-person classes. Visit the site at www.digitallearn.org.

PLA Awards

Through the generosity of sponsors, the Public Library Association (PLA) is offering nine awards/grants designed to highlight the best in public library service and to honor those bringing innovation, creativity and dedication to public libraries. Many of the awards include honoraria; please visit the website for details on each award and nominate a colleague or library through December 2, 2013.

On Demand Webinars: 2013 PLA Virtual Spring Symposium

Nine sessions from the 2013 PLA Virtual Spring Symposium (March 20) are now available on demand. Purchase informative programs in administration/leadership, youth services, marketing/customer service, and technology, in addition to the closing session with futurist Garry Golden. Read more...

PLA Emerging Leader Project

One of PLA's Emerging Leader group created a publication that explores successful public awareness campaigns in public libraries around the country. The case studies represent a wide range of libraries, from a single-location rural library in the Midwest to the 91-branch New York Public Library system. View the publication.

Edge Initiative

PLA has launched its Edge training curriculum as part of the program's soft launch in seven states with 160 libraries. The training includes four highly interactive, synchronous webinars

two hours in length: Community Assessment and Planning, Advocacy, Library Leadership, and Technology Management. The soft launch is offering valuable time to test the entire Edge Process: online assessment, results and recommendations, action plans, support tools, and training. Following refinements, the national launch is anticipated in early 2014. Visit www.libraryedge.org for more information.

Reference and User Services Association (RUSA)

SPARKS! Grant

RUSA successfully applied for an Institute of Museum and Library Services, Sparks Ignition Grants for Libraries (IMLS SPARKS!) grant in February to create guidelines and an outline of best practices in the financial literacy education field. The grant runs from October 1, 2013 to October 1, 2014. A project manager, Kit Keller, has been hired to manage the grant and activities.

Board Member Biographies

Members can now meet the RUSA board members through new featured interviews on the RUSA blog. Go here to see the current interviews: http://rusa.ala.org/blog/index.php?s=board+members. Questions asked included:

- What are you currently reading or listening to?
- What is the most interesting "reference" question you've ever been asked?
- Give one fun fact about yourself—can be personal or professional.
- Any hobbies?
- Why did you join RUSA (and/or sections)?

RUSA Awards

Nominations are now being sought for 2014 RUSA achievement awards, research and travel grants. RUSA offers over 15 awards and grants. For more information on each of the awards, please visit: http://rusa.ala.org/blog/page/2/.

RUSA Spectrum Intern

Kirk MacLeod, MLIS candidate in the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Alberta and serials technician for the Government of Alberta, will serve as the Spectrum Scholar for RUSA. MacLeod is a 2012 Spectrum Scholarship recipient, and will work with RUSA's member leaders on various professional and association-related projects, including launching a weekly "I Am A" question-and-answer with a different RUSA member each week and revitalizing the RUSA Ambassadors outreach to LIS programs.

RUSA CODES Conversation

Asynchronous readers' advisory was the subject of the most recent Collection Development and Evaluation Section (CODES) Conversations, a listserv-based discussion hosted by RUSA and CODES. Over 400 people participated. From September 24-25, 2013, readers' advisory experts from CODES facilitated a focused online conversation entitled *Form-Based RA* [Readers' Advisory]*: What Asynchronous RA Can Teach All of Us (even those not offering such an option) About Service, Appeal and Working With Readers*. CODES also prepared a resource guide that highlights two asynchronous readers' advisory programs: the award-winning "Looking for a Good Book" program at the Williamsburg (VA) Regional Library and the Seattle Public Library's "Your Next Five Reads" program. Download the resource guide here: http://www.ala.org/rusa/sites/ala.org.rusa/files/content/sections/codes/section/rusacodes2013formbasedreadersadv.pdf.

United for Libraries: the Association for Library Trustees & Advocates (UNITED)

Kansas Joins Nebraska and North Dakota in Statewide Membership

The state of Kansas has joined Nebraska and North Dakota in purchasing group membership in United for Libraries for all of its 328 library locations. President Rod Wagner, State Librarian for Nebraska, is planning to grow this statewide membership concept during his presidential year.

Grant Recipients Receive Consulting to Increase Budgets or Pass a Bond/Referendum

Five of the ten first round Neal-Schuman grant recipients have received professional advocacy consulting to increase their budgets or pass a bond/referendum. These include Long Beach, CA; Gladstone, OR; Salem-South Lyon, MI; Winona, MN; and Clarkston, MI. The remaining five are scheduled for later this year or early next year and include Dallas, TX; Gilmanton, NH; Red Bank, NJ; Grants Pass, OR; and Pomona, CA.

Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA)

Call for Programs and Papers for 2014 YA Literature Symposium

Beginning the first week of September, YALSA opened a call for program and paper proposals for its 2014 YA Literature Symposium, which will be held October 31—November 2, 2014, in Austin, TX. To learn more, or to sign up for updates, visit www.ala.org/yalitsymposium .

Dollar General Literacy Foundation Helps Fund 2014 Teen Read Week™/ Summer Reading

YALSA has received $137,000 to use to support its 2014 summer reading and Teen Read Week™ efforts. Applications for summer reading and teen summer intern grants opened on September 16. YALSA will also use part of the funds to create an Android version of the Teen Book Finder app. Learn more at www.ala.org/yalsa/products/teenbookfinder

Practical Programming – It's Here!

This brand new book from YALSA is chock full of great, tried and true teen program ideas which can be easily implemented by busy librarians and library workers. Get yours today at www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=10707 ($36 for members, $40 for all others)

Upcoming Events & New Initiatives

- October 13 – 19, Teen Read Week™, "Seek the Unknown @ your library," www.ala.org/teenread
- November 1, 2014 Teen Tech Week™ "DIY @ your library" site launches, www.ala.org/teentechweek
- December 1, deadline to apply for most of YALSA member grants & awards, www.ala.org/yalsa/awardsandgrants/yalsaawardsgrants
- week of December 2: finalists announced for Morris & Nonfiction Awards, www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists
- January 1, application period closes for summer reading grants, http://summerreading.ning.com/
- January 27, YALSA announces the winners of its 6 book awards, www.ala.org/yma

ALA PUBLISHING

American Libraries

The 2014 American Libraries media kit is now available online. Since June 30, AL Twitter followers increased by 1543 to 21,463 followers; AL Facebook fans increased by 381 to 4,967 fans (and in addition, the page averages 5,232 impressions daily); AL Pinterest added 2 boards, so there are now 18 boards for AL alone (not including shared boards) with 4,421 followers on Pinterest. A special digital issue of *American Libraries*, including ALA Annual post-conference coverage, appeared online in July. A special limited-run IFLA print issue was produced for distribution at the IFLA conference in Singapore in August, where former AL editor Leonard Kniffel was also blogging daily. A final wrap-up piece appeared in the IFLA digital supplement in September. americanlibrariesmagazine.org

New Digital Journal from ALA TechSource

The first issue of *eContent Quarterly*, a new digital journal, edited by Sue Polanka and Mirela Roncevic, was published in September. The journal will cover the topic of digital content from every angle, harnessing the editors' in-depth knowledge of the e-content landscape.

ALA Editions/ALA Neal-Schuman

Some of the new professional development books published include *Developing and Managing Electronic Collections: The Essentials*, *Getting Started with Evaluation*, *Successful Social Networking in Public Libraries* and *RDA: Strategies for Implementation* (ALA Editions); the third edition of *Management Basics for Information Professionals*, *Storytimes for Everyone!*

Developing Young Children's Language and Literacy, the revised edition of *Including Families of Children with Special Needs: A How-To-Do-It Manual for Librarians* and Going Beyond Google Again: Strategies for Using and Teaching the Invisible Web (ALA Neal-Schuman); and *Finding Your Roots: Easy-to-Do Genealogy and Family History*, *Citizen Science Guide for Families*, and *Remarkable Books About Young People with Special Needs* (Huron Street Press). Several book events, featuring authors signing copies of their books and chatting with attendees, were held at the ALA Store at the 2013 ALA Annual Conference. For a full listing of titles including books, online workshops, and e-Courses, visit the ALA Store. www.alastore.ala.org

ALA TechSource and Editions Workshops, Online Education

ALA TechSource and ALA Editions continue to offer well-attended online education sessions. Popular workshops included *Rethinking Readers' Advisory* with Rebecca Howard and Laura Raphael; *Using Twitter for Marketing and Outreach* with Andy Burkhardt; *Dealing with Difficult Patrons* with Dr. Steve Albrecht; and *Improving Your Library's Mobile Services* with Bohyun Kim. Popular eCourses included *Planning E-Books: What Librarians Need to Know Now and for the Future* with Mirela Roncevic; *Planning and Preparing for RDA* with Magda El-Sherbini; and *Social Media Basics* with Paul Signorelli. ALA TechSource's partnership with *American Libraries* on AL Live continues, and the free streaming video broadcasts are consistently attracting audiences of around 2,000. A recent episode included a discussion of Discovery Services led by Marshall Breeding. http://www.alaeditions.org/

ALA Graphics

The ALA Graphics' new Fall Catalog was mailed mid-July and featured the cast of the CBS hit show The Big Bang Theory on a new READ poster and bookmark. Other new READ posters included *Survivor* host Jeff Probst, as well as Harrison Ford and Asa Butterfield for the forthcoming blockbuster, Ender's Game, based on the novel by Orson Scott Card. The catalog also included new posters and bookmarks featuring popular children's characters Amos McGee, Otis and Friends, Uglydoll, and Goose and Bear. Timeless favorite Snoopy made his return with a poster, bookmarks, and stickers , as did Jeff Kinney's Wimpy Kid, on a Wimpy Kid Returns poster. Tween and teen-oriented posters and bookmarks highlighted Cassandra Clare's "City of Lost Souls," Lemony Snicket warning to Read at Your Own Risk, and "Sea of Monsters" from Rick Riordan's Percy Jackson series. Rounding out the list was the 21st-Century Skills Wall & Window Graphics , supporting the AASL product line of the same name. http://www.alastore.ala.org/alagraphics/

Booklist Has a New Audio Editor

The library profession's well-known readers' and listeners' advisor, Joyce Saricks, joined *Booklist* as audio editor on September 3, taking over from Sue-Ellen Beauregard, who retired August 29. Saricks is familiar to *Booklist* readers from her popular "At Leisure with Joyce Saricks" column and from her work for the audio section as reviewer, interviewer of the annual Voice of Choice selection, and writer of numerous Listen-alikes features. Saricks previously ran the Readers' Advisory department at the Downers Grove (IL) Public Library and has served as an adjunct professor in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Dominican University. She has published two titles with ALA, "The Readers' Advisory Guide to Genre Fiction" *(*2009) and "Readers Advisory in the Public Library" (2005). Her predecessor, Sue-

Ellen Beauregard, worked for *Booklist* for more than 30 years in a variety of roles, and was responsible for initiating and building audio coverage in the magazine and more recently online, including serving as founding editor of the e-newsletter "Booklist Online Video Review." Beauregard will continue reviewing audiobooks for *Booklist* and will remain editor of "Video Review."

Booklandia, a Seventh Free e-Newsletter

In June, Booklist added Booklandia, a seventh, free e-newsletter, to its roster of popular, editor-curated offerings. Sub-titled "Where YA Books Live," this bimonthly newsletter will keep subscribers updated on trends in YA literature through a mix of original feature articles and selected *Booklist* reviews of notable YA titles, as well as offering informative, entertaining and often edgy commentary on the YA scene. With a hugely positive response to the first issue, there are high hopes for this newsletter sponsored by Amazon/Skyscape.

Booklist Events at the Annual Conference

In YA-related news, the *Booklist* Books for Youth Forum held Friday, June 28 at the ALA Annual Conference was wildly successful. Speaking to a crowd of over 400 attendees, the star-studded panel of Cory Doctorow, Lois Lowry, Patrick Ness, and Veronica Roth spoke about dystopian literature for teens. The event was moderated by Books for Youth associate editor Annie Kelley. The second-ever Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence award ceremony was held on Sunday, June 30, and is described in the Spotlight section of this report. The ALA Annual Conference was full of many other exciting programs and events from *Booklist* including in-booth author interviews with Printz and Odyssey winners and honorees; productive and valuable editorial board meetings; the *Booklist* reference program "Fantastic Voyage: Reference Service in an Ever-Shrinking Print Environment"; publisher meetings, and more. booklistonline.com

Booklist Webinars

Booklist's fall webinar program ramped up in September and October, covering romance, series nonfiction, new youth and YA titles, weeding, and more. The 3,000 maximum registrant cap was reached just two days after the e-blast invite went out for "What Not to Weed: Best Practices in Weeding Library Collections." An overflow page was created where people could sign up to receive the video archive, bringing the total number of sign-ups to over 5,000.

Book Links and the Common Core

Mary Napoli, Associate Professor of Reading and Children's Literature at Penn State Harrisburg, sent this comment on receiving the September 2013 *Book Links:* "The interviews with authors and the connections to the Common Core will certainly guide teachers and librarians on their journey to meet the standards, but more importantly to share the work of outstanding authors and illustrators with their readership. I know that I will be sending my students and fellow educators to this issue for inspiration."

ALA Digital Reference: RDA Toolkit

RDA Toolkit finished fiscal year 2013 on August 31 with approximately 110% increase in the number of subscribers over FY12. Renewal rates have consistently been above 80%, and the number of new accounts from consortia has seen rapid growth since June. Eblasts, webinars and online blog posts by editor James Hennelly continue to keep subscribers and others informed. On July 9, RDA Toolkit issued a new version of the Toolkit that included updates from the Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA. For full details on the July release and subsequent news, visit the RDA development blog.   www.rdatoolkit.org

ALA-APA

Certification Programs

The Library Support Staff Certification (LSSC) Program recently surpassed 60 graduates and currently has over 430 participants between active candidates and graduates. The LSSC Program also recently announced that it has reached an agreement of recognition with the Spokane Falls Community College (SFCC) Library and Information Services Program that will allow its graduates, who meet the established criteria, to receive the Certified Library Support Staff (CLSS) designation. The Re-certification processes and online forms for both the LSSC Program and the Certified Public Library Administrator (CPLA) Program were recently approved and distributed to the graduates of each program. The updated information and forms can be found in the Re-certification section of the LSSC website and the CPLA website.