ALA President’s Program to Focus on Access to Government Information

After the 9-11 attacks the federal government’s desire for secrecy grew dramatically. Tom Blanton, director of the National Security Archive at George Washington University, will discuss limits imposed on access to government information during the ALA President’s Program today from 3:30 – 5:30 pm at McCormick Place West, W184.

Blanton, an expert on transparency and secrecy in government, will recap the growth of secrecy and limits imposed on access to government information in recent years. Blanton will evaluate actions of the Obama administration, and will also provide recommendations for additional actions the federal government must take to provide access to government information.

“Access to information is a core value of the ALA,” said ALA President Jim Rettig. “Although the Obama administration has emphasized the importance of transparency in government and has modified the Freedom to Information Act, much work still needs to be done to ensure U.S. Citizens have appropriate access to government information. This is an especially timely and important topic in light of the White House’s Open Government Initiative announced May 21, 2009.”

Blanton is the series editor of the Archive’s Web, CD, DVD, print and microform Archive’s Web, CD, DVD, print and microform.

Needs of Seniors in Libraries Draw Increasing Attention

With at least eight programs relating to seniors and aging, this year’s ALA conference presented a wealth of entries on this significant topic. In “Designing Senior Spaces: The Library Place for Baby Boomers, Older Adults, and Their Families,” sponsored by the ALA Exhibits Round Table, 40-year library veteran and currently independent library consultant Allan M. Kleiman on Saturday, July 11 addressed the library as a community center that can be developed into an integrative space for both older adults and their families. The good news, Kleiman discovered from his own personal experience, is that most librarians can do the planning themselves, using many items already in their institutions or readily available from vendors, without hiring outside architects. Administrators can thus make necessary improvements on a budget to accommodate the largest cohort of library users, good news during these straightened economic times.

Kleiman jocularly referred to the “Silver Tsunami,” a world-wide rather than an American-centered phenomenon, whereby, at least according to much of the media, the retirement of baby boomers will cause havoc to social security and health care systems.

Kleiman suggested that retirement is a mid-century, rather than a time-tested
Saturday, July 11, 2009

Continuing the Conversation: A Further Exploration of the Brave New World of Metadata
10:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m., Chicago Hilton, Northwest 3
John Larson, Ex Libris
Barbara Tillet, Library of Congress

Authority control has historically been one of the chief strengths of library data. By consistently identifying people and concepts, such control has been indispensable in fulfilling the objectives of the catalog. But today’s catalog has grown in scope, and we’re faced with the challenge of providing that controlled data in a broader context. This panel will discuss the synergies between the concepts of authority control and linked data, and how they can be combined to enrich and expose library data.

Construction Ahead: Building the Next-Generation Library Services Framework
1:30–3:00 p.m., Chicago Hilton, Northwest 3
Kathryn Harnish, Ex Libris
Robert Gerrity, Boston College
Janet Lute, Princeton University

“Architecture starts when you carefully put two bricks together.” (Mies van der Rohe)

And so too does the process of building a next-generation library services platform. In this interactive session, Ex Libris and representatives from its Unified Resource Management (URM) development partners will explore the process of defining and building a framework to serve current and future library management needs. How do we put “bricks together” to build a strong foundation?

Sunday, July 12, 2009

bX: Users Who Looked At This Article Also Looked At…
10:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m., Chicago Hilton, Northwest 3
Oren Beit-Arie, Ex Libris
Robert Gerrity, Boston College

You’ve used it with Amazon, you’ve used it with Netflix — now there is a recommender service for scholarly articles. bX, the first of its kind service, builds on many years’ worth of aggregated usage data from SFX libraries. Bob Gerrity of Boston College, an early bX subscriber, joins us for this session.

Ex Libris Primo: Redefining What it Means to be “At the Library”
1:30–3:00 p.m., Chicago Hilton, Northwest 3
Gilad Gal, Ex Libris
Richard Madsen, College Center for Library Automation
Jørgen Madsen, Royal Library of Denmark

Serving today’s library users requires being where they are — from a course management system to Facebook® to a mobile device — customizing the experience for them, and offering them the ability to discover and access the content they want. Only Primo by Ex Libris offers you the capability to meet all these needs today. This seminar will show you how Primo goes beyond the standard OPAC to plug the search box into a variety of user portals and provide customized access for users.

Monday, July 13, 2009

Cook Up Some Code — and Have a Taste of the Library You Always Wanted
8:30–10:00 a.m., Hyatt Regency McCormick, Conf. Center 12A-C
Tamar Sadeh, Ex Libris
Mark Dehmlow, University of Notre Dame
Daniel Forsman, Jonkoping University, Sweden

Launched one year ago, the Ex Libris open-platform program provides a robust infrastructure enabling the customer community to easily customize, integrate, and extend Ex Libris products. This session shows the program’s practical side, its tools and ingredients. We will share code recipes with you and cook up an example together.

Refreshments will be served. Enter the drawing to win an Amazon Kindle 2™.

Visit us at booth #1015 to learn how Ex Libris can be your bridge to the future!
Collaboration is Key in Online Library Instruction

By Miranda Johnson University of Maryland, College Park

Distance learning is becoming a staple in the American education system. Librarians are realizing the importance of having a strong online presence and are beginning to focus a significant amount of resources toward developing or redesigning online library instruction courses. Because of this, more and more librarians are looking for best practices and tips and tricks from other universities. The Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) hosted the “The Not-So-Distant Librarian: Online Library Instruction to Engage Students and Faculty” on Friday afternoon. The presenters, all from the University of Maryland University College (UMUC), included Barb Mann, Megan Davis and Joe Rawson. They guided the participants in conversation about creating instructional content, selecting delivery methods and carrying out student assessments.

The session began with group discussions about barriers in online instruction. One attendee commented that “a lot of students feel as if they will have an easy time in an online course but find out that it is more difficult than a face-to-face class.” Another noted that “we assume because students are part of the technology generation, they will find the online classroom environment second nature. Actually, we find that many of these students struggle with the technology.” Other sentiments regarding challenges with online instruction included issues with how quickly online tutorials become outdated and poor retention rates.

Participants brainstormed possible content that might be presented in an online library instruction classroom. One idea consisted of a ‘choose your own adventure’ type research ‘game’ where students pick which research method would be the best for a given scenario. If they run into problems they have the option to go back and select a more appropriate search process. This interactive method may be one way to increase information retention in students.

Way to increase faculty buy-in, perform assessments and how to advertise were also discussed. According to Mann, UMUC “uses grassroots methods to advertise” their online library instruction services. They have used letters to provide professors with tips and tools on making the experience beneficial for the students and also have created assessment tools to help track learning outcomes. These statistics can be used to help “sell” future classes to more professors.

Cancellation of Perspectives on Islam Session

The following is a statement from ALA President Jim Rettig regarding the cancellation of “Perspectives on Islam: Beyond the Stereotyping,” which was slated to take place during this Annual Conference.

“This year, more than 100 member driven committees that represent a variety of backgrounds and viewpoints coordinated and planned 250 programs that focused on various issues including this program on Islam,” said ALA President Jim Rettig. “The withdrawal of three panelists resulted in the cancellation of a panel discussion entitled Perspectives on Islam: Beyond the Stereotyping, sponsored by the ALA’s Ethnic & Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table (EMIERT).

“The American Library Association opposes discrimination, racism and stereotyping. During the ALA conference our members will participate in more than 2,000 meetings, discussion groups, and programs on various topics affecting libraries, librarians and their users,” said Rettig.

Changes and Cancellations

Today
* ALA MEM PROGS Libraries Foster Civic Engagement 10:30 am-12:00 pm (Member Initiative Group) moved from Palm Montrose 1 to Palm Grant Park.
* ALSC The Fine Principles of Good Design: Promote & Present with Style 3:30-5:30 pm Moved from MCP W179 to MPS S105A.
* EMIERT Perspectives on Islam MCP W192 Cancelled.

Monday
* ACRL IS Advisory Council II 8:00-10:00 am SHER Parlor Cancelled.
* ACRL IS Executive II 10:30 am-1:30 pm SHER Parlor B Cancelled.
* ACRL IS Advisory Council II 10:30 am-1:30 pm SHER Parlor B Cancelled.
* ACRL IS Advisory Council II 10:30 am-1:30 pm SHER Parlor B Cancelled.

Text 66746!
Do you need help finding something (or someone)? ALA Ambassadors are standing by to help you — by text message. Text your question to “66746” and you’ll get your answer. Begin your message with “ALA” a space, then your question. This service is a partnership of ALA and Mosio’s Text a Librarian technology.
Many Voices, One Nation Plays Again in Chicago

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

ALA has long championed the celebration and expression of ethnic, cultural, and lifestyle diversity. So when you combine an ALA annual conference in Chicago with this focus you happily arrive at a program such as “Many Voices, One Nation,” which in fact debuted at ALA Annual in Chicago in 2005 as an initiative of former ALA President Carol Brey-Casiano. Sponsored by the ALA Diversity Office and supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, this program in the sumptuous State Ballroom at the Palmer House the evening of Friday, July 10 featured musicians from the Chicago Park District and writers from across the U.S. This fourth annual event opened with the rhythms of African djembe drumming inspired by the Malinke people of Guinea, West Africa. “Hooked on Drums,” a program in Chicago teaching young people discipline and self-confidence through the arts provided the ensemble.

Jose Aponte, Director of the San Diego County Library system, whose mother was also a library administrator, appeared not in his professional role, but instead as master of ceremonies. Introducing five poets and writers who showcased the riches of the oral tradition, Aponte stated that “the notion of a library just consisting of books is dead.” Nami Mun read selections from her book Miles From Nowhere, about a Korean runaway in a Bronx, New York shelter during the 1980s. Tellingly before a library audience, one of the characters in her story is named Knowledge. George Watsky, a twenty-two year old poet, actor, playwright, and musician from San Francisco had once opened for former President Bill Clinton in 2007. But Watsky declared that “my artistry is validated now in the eyes of my mother [a librarian]” by performing before a library audience, one of the characters in his award-winning book Real Karaoke People. The session concluded with Rachel Zucker, author and co-editor of Museum of Accidents from the Chicago Park District and a suggested contribution of $25.

This year’s reception will be held Monday, July 13th, 5:00 – 7:00 pm at the Hilton Chicago, North Imperial Suite, 720 S. Michigan.

Leroy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund Annual Reception

During every American Library Association Annual Conference, a reception and fundraiser is held to benefit the Leroy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund. This year’s event, sponsored by President Elect Camila Alire and the Intellectual Freedom Round Table, will be a wonderful chance to join other librarians who support intellectual freedom and fair employment.

The Merritt Fund provides direct financial assistance to librarians who are denied employment rights because of their defense of intellectual freedom or due to discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or place of national origin. All proceeds go directly to the Merritt Fund and help librarians in need. There is a suggested contribution of $25.

This year’s reception will be held Monday, July 13th, 5:00 – 7:00 pm at the Hilton Chicago, North Imperial Suite, 720 S. Michigan.

WELCOME TO THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CONFERENCE BOOTH, 2818

Saturday, July 11 to Tuesday, July 14, 2009

SUNDAY, JULY 12

9:00 - Journeys and Crossings: LC Staff talk about the Library’s exciting and historically significant materials (selections from www.loc.gov and www.youtube.com/loc)
10:00 - Promoting Reading Nationwide: News from the Center for the Book / John Y Cole & Guy Lumolino
10:00 - What’s New at American Folklife Center / Vaida Morris
11:00 - The Library of Congress New Media Pilots: Flickr and YouTube / Michelle Springer
11:00 - The Veterans History Project and Your Library / Gabrielle Sanchez
11:00 - Reference: How Can the Library of Congress Help? / Barbara Morland
11:30 - Inscriutable! No Way! Documenting the Asian American Experience / Mari Nakashima & Renee Grefalda
11:30 - Controlled Vocabularies as Linked Data on the Web / Rebecca Guenther
12:00 - Journeys and Crossings: LC Staff talk about the library’s exciting and historically significant materials (selections from www.loc.gov and www.youtube.com/loc)
12:30 - Local History and Genealogy / Ahmed Johnson & Reggie Downs
SwetsWise eSource Manager – Offers the largest collection of standard publisher license conditions through a pre-populated database.

ScholarlyStats – Collects, consolidates and provides access to usage data of online content through a single, intuitive interface.

SwetsWise Selection Support – Combines holdings information with usage statistics to help libraries make logical acquisition decisions.

eBooks & MyiLibrary – Simplify your library’s electronic resource needs—order serials and eBooks from a single source. Gain access to MyiLibrary’s package of nearly 180,000 eBook titles.

Presentation Schedule

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Harry Potter and the Fair Use War

By Brad Martin
ABC News

When publisher Roger Rapoport of RDR Books began working with author Steve Vander Ark on a reference work based on the Harry Potter Lexicon website he had no idea that he would soon be embarking on his own adventure that would ultimately result in successfully battling J. K. Rowling and Warner Brothers in federal court and creating Right to Write, a foundation that helps others in the same predicament.

Rapoport, speaking at an ALA Washington Office update session Saturday, said his story began as these things often do - with a letter asking him not to publish the book. When he did not respond, the heat was turned up. Rapoport has written that “every day is Halloween for some intellectual property attorneys, who frighten writers and artists with the hypothetical specter of complex litigation and ultimately bankruptcy.”

Rapoport noted that the principle of fair use predates the first amendment, but added that the Copyright Act passed in 1976 recognized for the first time the property right of copyright holders in any “derivative work.” Now, thanks to Internet search engines, he told how law firms “easily find possible copyright violators, and then launch an attack with cease-and-desist letters and emails. Sometimes these letters can even go teenagers who have created fanites or blogs. However, instead of giving up in the face of a demand from literary and corporate giants (the most common response) Rapoport sought help and, thanks to some fundraising and pro bono legal help, fought back. The judge found that with some additional editing the fair use claims were valid and The Lexicon was published. Ironically, the reference book that Rowling and Warner Brothers tried to stop immediately drew immediate praise from his former adversaries, and has even been used on the set of the latest Harry Potter movie as a fact-checking source.

However, just as in the Harry Potter series, sequels abound. In a decision two weeks ago in the fair use case involving author J. D. Salinger, U.S. District Court Judge Deborah Batts issued a permanent injunction against the U.S. publication of a book that purports to update the story of Holden Caulfield, the protagonist of Catcher in the Rye.

Kevin Smith, Scholarly Communications Officer at Duke University points out that the judge in a preliminary injunction is supposed to consider several factors, one of which is the public interest. “In this decision, Judge Batts did not do that, and because it’s a case where a book has been banned in the United States, I believe it is extremely important that the public interest be considered,” said Smith.

Rapoport pointed out that “we respect copyright, but also believe in the fair use doctrine, which is widely misunderstood and, thanks to ALA’s pioneering survey of the library community that is going to take place later this year we are going to be able to develop a program so that patrons all over the country can get legal advice and support on any copyright question to protect their free speech rights.”

For more information, visit www.righttowrite.org.

Moving Memorial for Judith F. Krug, Library Champion

By Stacy L. Voeller
Minnesota State University Moorhead

Judith F. Krug, long-time director of ALA’s Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF) and executive director of the Freedom to Read Foundation, was memorialized on Friday evening as a library champion, fierce defender of intellectual freedom, and for some more importantly, as a friend. Having served as OIF director since 1967, Krug died April 11, 2009.

Ken Oliver, past chair of the Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC), began by saying that at today’s meeting, work was done on a resolution in Krug’s name and words such as “passion, educate, ceaseless, and dedicated,” were used to describe this woman who worked tirelessly for intellectual freedom. Oliver said, “Judy was always pushing us on to what was next and creating a sense of urgency” that was contagious. Oliver also recognized Herb Krug, Judith’s husband and other family members in attendance.

After being appointed chair of the IFC, Krug visited with Oliver in Orlando explaining that she “owned him now.” Something Oliver said wasn’t very far from the truth. Other past chairs who got up to speak conveyed those same kinds of conversations.

June Pinnell-Stephens, former President of the Freedom to Read Foundation said of Krug, “there is no one in the last 50 years who has had such an impact on libraries. No one has done as much to promote the first amendment as Judith.” She continued by saying that Krug’s “spirit lives on in the work that she did and in the way she was with her family, which was a rock rising to the role of matriarch. She was a beautiful, beautiful person who advised many times on many matters. She was a match in so many ways with libraries.”

J. Douglas Archer, current chair of the IFC also spoke. He said, “Judy’s usual thing was going around and speaking to groups and fighting the good fight and firing up people for the defense of intellectual freedom. Judy had the same fire whether she was speaking with a small handful of people or with an audience of 300. Her speeches were always right there, eye-to-eye, person-to-person. Dealing with people, that was Judith.”

An audience member who eulogized Krug said, “Judy would have loved this, her own mass card. She was a woman of valor. I believe she would have changed the world no matter where she lived or when she had been born. It was our incredible good fortune that she came to work for libraries. She believed that when booksellers and authors and libraries united, they could send the book burners scurrying. The only way to truly receive and honor her legacy is to continue her work with as much strength as we can muster.”

For a long time, ALA’s slogan was Library’s Change Lives, the theme for this memorial was Judith Krug Changed Lives. She has had an impact on everyone in ALA, whether they knew it or not. Krug is being honored posthumously with The Freedom to Read Foundation’s Founders’ Award at its 40th Anniversary Gala on Sunday.
Join Ingram Library Services in our demo theater to learn more about iKids, our children's and young adult resource, and our latest advancements in digital product offerings. When you do, you'll not only discover how the company who offers the industry’s broadest title selection, best fill rate, quickest delivery, and highest discount on Playaway® digital audiobooks can provide your library with customized options and valuable solutions, but you’ll also get a free tote bag!

Stop by Booth #2446 to catch our demonstrations every hour on the hour. We hope you’ll take a few minutes and see for yourself why more and more librarians are choosing Ingram Library Services as their library company of choice.

For questions or more information, come by and visit an ILS rep in the Ingram booth (#2446).
Instructional Design: What, Why and How?

By Kathryn Shields, UNC-Greensboro

Approximately 55 librarians gathered on Friday, July 10 for an Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Preconference, “Design for Librarians: The What, Why and How of ID.” The workshop style-session was led by Lauren Pressley and Kaeley McMahan, both of Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC. Attendees grouped themselves at different tables according to the kind of instruction they did most often – one-shot/bibliographic instruction, course credit, or student training. The workshop was structured around the classic ADDIE model of instructional design. ADDIE breaks the process down into five steps: Analysis, Design, Development, Implementation, and Evaluation.

In the Analysis phase, the instructor collects the information that will help them understand the audience, content, situation, and goals of the instruction session. This includes taking learning styles and multiple intelligences into account – both those of the audience and your own. In terms of multiple intelligences, McMahan said, we should remember, “we all have all of them; we may be stronger in one or two of them, but...just because someone is not a visual person doesn’t mean they can’t learn something visually.”

In the Design phase, McMahan said, “It’s important to take a look at what goals you think are important – what you want them to walk away knowing.” Pressley used a whiteboard to demonstrate how she begins to design a class by sketching out the goals, different ways she can meet them, and how she will assess that they’ve accomplished that goal.

For the Development phase, which is when the instructor creates the content of the session, one of the biggest discussions centered on instructional technology tools, such as course management systems, blogs, wikis, social networking, and multimedia. The group discussed the pros and cons of these tools and shared the different ways they are using them to enhance instruction in and out of the classroom.

In implementation, which is “doing the teaching,” two important issues discussed were active learning and classroom management. McMahan stressed that active learning doesn’t necessarily mean doing something “physical” but simply getting the audience to do something to interact with the material. In terms of classroom management, the group debated the usage of software systems that allow the librarian to control all the users’ computers versus other methods of keeping students on track.

The entire session was practice-based, and aimed to help librarians improve their instruction sessions. The librarians were given time to do some “active learning” of their own and apply their individual situations in each step. Each table then had the opportunity to discuss with each other and share what they learned with the whole group. After the session, attendee Susie Skarl, University of Nevada Las Vegas, said, “I found the whole sharing of ideas and possible solutions and ideas and innovations extremely beneficial. It’s honestly made me excited to go back and try some things.” The session will continue to share by posting a compilation of the information from the session on a public wiki: http://idforlibraries.pbworks.com/.
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Kathy Mayo to Present Jean E. Coleman Library Outreach Lecture

The ALA Office for Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS) announced that Kathy Mayo was selected as the 2009 Dr. Jean E. Coleman Library Outreach Lecturer.

Mayo will present the Coleman Lecture on Monday, July 13 from 8:00 – 10:00 am in the Hyatt Regency Conference Center 10 C/D.

This year’s lecture, entitled “The Challenges and Opportunities of Serving America’s Elders,” will look at the American population as it ages and how libraries are responding to the reality of true lifelong learning.

Medicare for All? Single-payer System to be Addressed This Morning

This morning, Quentin Young, M.D. will discuss the intricacies of single-payer national health insurance. This is a system we all hear about, in which the delivery of care remains largely private. According to Dr. Young, the U.S. healthcare system is outrageously expensive, yet inadequate, spending more than twice as much as the rest of the industrialized nations and leaving 47 million completely uninsured. This program will introduce the philosophy of Physicians for a National Health Program, which defines, researches and supports single-payer health insurance. Dr. Young is an internist who recently retired from a decades-long practice in Chicago’s Hyde Park community, and is national coordinator of Physicians for a National Health Program and chairman of Health and Medicine Policy Research Group, Chicago. Join Dr. Young at 10:30 am – noon today in the Hyatt Regency McCormick Conference Center, Room 12D.

Dr. Young is clinical professor of preventive medicine and community health at the University of Illinois Medical Center. He graduated from Northwestern Medical School and did his residency at Cook County Hospital in Chicago. During the 1970s and early 1980s, he established the Department of Occupational Medicine at the acclaimed Chicago hospital. In addition to his distinguished career as a physician, Dr. Young has been a leader in public health policy and medical and social justice issues. In 1998, he had the distinction of serving as president of the American Public Health Association and in 1997 was inducted as a Master of the American College of Physicians.

Civil Rights Heroine Featured in ALSC’s Charlemae Rollins President’s Program

Fifty-two years ago, 15-year old Melba Pattillo Beals faced down furious segregationists, the Arkansas National Guard and the Governor of Arkansas to integrate Little Rock Central High School. Now a bestselling author, University professor and Congressional Gold Medal of Honor recipient, Beals will join the Association for Library Service to Children’s (ALSC) during Annual Conference on Monday, July 13 to discuss her fight for civil rights. This program will take place from 8:00 – 9:30 am in MCP W375.

The ALSC Charlemae Rollins Presidents Program featuring Beals is part of the ALA Auditorium Speaker Series. A Chicago children’s choir will perform songs from the civil rights movement to start the program.

“Little Rock Nine”

“The Little Rock Nine,” as Beals and the eight other students who integrated Little Rock Central are commonly called, rocked the nation and forever changed the path of civil rights on that day in 1957. Since then, Beals has written two best-selling books about her experiences, Warriors Don’t Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock Central High School and its sequel White is a State of Mind: Freedom is Yours to Choose.

“Melba Beals represents one of the opening chapters of the Civil Rights Movement. Though there is much work to be done before the final chapter is written, this historic presidential election is surely the climax. What a year to celebrate those American heroes who fought so bravely to obtain ‘freedom and equality’ for all races and cultures in our nation!” said ALSC President Pat Scales. "As a teenager in Little Rock, she dared to make a difference, and her story is a symbol of ‘hope’ for our youth. I’m thrilled that she is delivering the Rollins lecture.”

To learn more about ALSC, visit their Web site at www.ala.org/alsc.
GLBT Round Table Sponsors Two Distinctive Programs


“What Makes Tango So Scary” features a panel discussion about the background and history of challenged children’s books that feature LGBT characters and themes, as well as the value and importance of including and making use of these books in the library collection, facing challenges to these materials, and self-censorship among librarians in building such collections. This event is co-sponsored by IPTB, ALSC, and SRRT and will be held today, from 1:30 – 5:30 pm in McCormick Place West W194a. Panel speakers are Victor Schill, Branch Librarian at Fairbanks Branch Library, Houston, TX; Jamie LaRue, Director of Douglas County Libraries, CO; Nancy Silverrod, Librarian at the San Francisco Public Library; and Carolyn Caywood, Librarian at Bayside Special Services Library, Virginia Beach, VA.

And Tango Makes Three is a children’s book written by Peter Parnell and Justin Richardson. It is based on the true story about two male penguins in the Central Park Zoo, Roy and Silo, who are not committed partners, yet six years before they are able to care for an orphaned egg together. Tango has been repeatedly challenged at libraries, making it the most challenged book of 2008.

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These events are commemorations of the work that so many people have done and are continuing to do since the Stonewall Riots, which has become a symbol of the modern LGBT rights movement. Before the Stonewall Riots, many books with LGBT themes were blocked from publication, or were presented in “codes” that signaled to people that they had these themes. Papers or studies with LGBT themes could only be published in the name of “scientific research.” Today, we still find attempts at censorship, in particular to children’s books that address LGBT themes. Librarians must examine their own biases, whether in collection development or in addressing challenges from patrons at their libraries.

Chinese American Librarians Association Best Book Award

The 2008-2009 Chinese American Librarians Association Best Book Award Committee has chosen Steer Toward Rock by Faye Myenne Ng as the Best Adult Fiction Book, The Writer as Migrant by Ha Jin as the Best Non-Fiction Adult Book, Dragon Road by Laurence Yep as the Best Young Adult Book, and Mei Ling in China City by Icy Smith as the Best Children’s Book.

The prizes promote Chinese American culture and heritage and are awarded based on literary and artistic merit. The goal of the CALA Annual Best Book Award is to heighten awareness of the best books of Chinese topics or literature written by an author of Chinese descent. The Award is to honor English or Chinese language books originally published in North America in 2008. The award will be presented at the CALA 2009 Annual Award Banquet today from 6:30 – 10:00 pm, at the Phoenix Restaurant located at 2131 S Archer Ave #2 in Chicago.
Amp up Your Professional Power Tools with ALSC

The standout youth services librarian has to be a Jane of all trades. The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) knows that the job goes beyond storytimes and homework help and is offering numerous programs in Chicago for the multitasking library professional working in the demanding and multifaceted youth services environment. The ALSC programs below offer diverse insights, practical advice, and “how to” guidance on topics including media evaluation, youth activism, graphic design, summer reading, and public library/school partnerships. Plan to attend and get ready to enhance your skills, broaden your knowledge base, and expand your tool box!

“Evaluating Audiobooks: Selecting the Best for Children and Teens” will be held today 10:30 am – noon, in McCormick Place West, Room W470b. Presenters will discuss their process in developing expertise in evaluating the audiobook medium for young readers, as well as guidelines for reviewing, purchasing, and collection development of audio materials. The audience will have opportunities to listen to audio-book excerpts, analyzing quality based on set criteria.

Join ALSC for “Inspiring Young Citizens: The Library as a Forum for Engagement,” today from 10:30 am – noon, McCormick Place West, Room W190b. A panel of authors and middle school librarian, moderated by a children’s book advocate, will share books, strategies, and book-specific educational curriculum for engaging young people in age-appropriate social issues and actions. Applications will focus on historical figures and movements that inspire contemporary youth.

Want to become a branding and marketing “expert” in two hours or less and reach your community with promotional pieces that raise eyebrows and create buzz? “The Five Principles of Good Design: Promote & Present with Style” will be held on today, 9:30 – 5:30 pm in McCormick Place West, Room W170. Learn five design principles to help your youth service program promotions and presentations pop. You’ll leave the session ready to be more design-smart and effective in reaching multiple audiences.

And the Good News for Kids is….: “Preliminary Report on the NLG Research Study” is scheduled in McCormick Place West, Room W190b, on Monday, July 13, 1:30 – 3:00 pm. Learn about the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)-National Leadership Grant-funded research study based at Dominican University that is investigating how public library summer reading programs impact student achievement. The study focuses on students who were in third grade at the end of the 2007/08 school year. Project principals will report on the methodology, partnerships between the public libraries and school systems involved, and the preliminary results from this multi-year project.

What makes partnerships successful? Find out at “Growing Readers Together: Public Libraries and Schools Thrive in Partnership” on Monday, July 13, 3:30 – 5:30 pm, in McCormick Place West, Room W178b. Learn how to choose among organizations that want to collaborate with you, and about Multnomah County Library’s successful outreach partnerships with schools. These include work with parents to prepare kids starting school and with teen parenting programs, the Every Family Reads one-author program, all-district summer reading sign-ups and library card campaigns, and school-based services such as School Corps and booktalking services. Explore how to adapt ideas from large and small libraries.

Network Neutrality
Carrie Lowe, director of OITP’s Program on Networks, will join Gregory Jackson and Cliff Lynch for a discussion of network neutrality at 10:30 am today in McCormick Place West (MCP), Room W-184. This program is sponsored by LITA.
Latino Authors, Illustrators Honored for Outstanding Works in Children’s Literature

Hundreds will gather for an event that celebrates the most influential Latino authors and illustrators of children’s literature. The Pura Belpré Celebración will serve as a national backdrop for the presentation of the coveted Pura Belpré Medal, an award that recognizes Latino authors and illustrators of children’s literature. The event will take place from 1:30 – 3:30 pm today at the Hilton Chicago Hotel, Continental Ballroom A/B.

Given annually, the Pura Belpré Medal is awarded to a Latino writer and illustrator whose work best portrays, affirms, and celebrates the Latino cultural experience in an outstanding work of literature for children and youth. The award is known worldwide for the high quality it represents, and serves as a guideline for educators, parents and bookstores for the best of the best in Latino-themed children’s literature. The event will honor the following 2009 Belpre Medal winners and honorees:

- Lucia Gonzalez and Lulu Delacre, author and illustrator of The Storyteller’s Candle/ La Velita de los Cuentos, published by Children’s Book Press.
- Oralia Garza de Cortés, co-founder of Pura Belpre Medal Award.

### PBS “American Masters” Series Producers Join ALA for Gala Screening

The American Library Association Video Round Table (VRT) will host a special screening of films from the PBS American Masters series this evening, 6:30 – 9:30 pm, at the Gene Siskel Film Center, 164 N State Street. Commentators include American Masters series filmmakers who will discuss works on American Novelist Louisa May Alcott, Little Women and Helen Keller.

American Masters commentators will share their work and provide insight into the art of filmmaking as biography. Speakers include Nancy Porter, producer/director and Harriet Reisen, producer/writer of Louisa May Alcott: The Woman behind Little Women and Laurie Block, director/co-writer of Becoming Helen Keller.

Tickets are $25 for VRT members and students and $30 for non members. Admission includes light sandwiches, appetizers, desserts, a cash bar and door prizes. Seating is limited. For more information please visit http://tinyurl.com/vtr gala.

American Masters is an ongoing series of award-winning specials examining the lives, works and creative processes of our most outstanding cultural artists. The VRT provides leadership within the ALA on all issues related to video collections, programs and services in libraries. The VRT supports video advocacy within ALA, within the profession and within our nation’s libraries. The VRT is committed to forging strong alliances and relationships with the film and video production and distribution community to ensure the continuation of a diverse, high-quality universe of video programming.

To learn more about the ALA VRT please visit http://tinyurl.com/alavtr.

### MARCIVE’s Own Cataloging Blend

MARCIVE’s brewing up lots of ways to save your library time and money!

Visit BOOTH #4323 during one of our presentations to learn about our cost-effective cataloging solutions.

**SATURDAY**
- 10:00-10:10 am Authorities: Saving time and money with automated processing of bib and authorities records Joan Chapa
- 12:00-12:10 pm Cataloging: Easy way to get cost-effective MARC records, smart barcode labels, and spine labels Richard Smith
- 1:00-1:10 pm MARC Record Enrichment: TCE, Fiction/Biography, Summaries to aid retrieval and determine relevancy Janifer Meldrum
- 2:30-2:40 pm Managing Metadata: What administrators need to know about authority control Carol Love
- 3:30-3:40 pm ERIC: New ways to provide access to ERIC documents through your catalog Jim Noel

**SUNDAY**
- 10:00-10:10 am ERIC: Bring ERIC documents to light in your online catalog Joan Chapa
- 12:00-12:10 pm Authorities and Database Building: How to retrieve everything you already own Carol Love
- 1:00-1:10 pm Reading Counts, Lexile, and Accelerated Reader: Helping school and public library users find appropriate material Janifer Meldrum
- 3:30-3:40 pm Going More Electronic: Adjusting your MARCIVE GPO services to reflect fewer physical selections Jim Noel

**MONDAY**
- 10:00-10:10 am Authorities: Saving time and money with automated processing of bib and authorities records Joan Chapa
- 11:00-11:10 am WorldCat® Local: Is your database ready? How large is the library you prepare Janifer Meldrum
- 12:00-12:10 pm Reclassification: How one college moved from Dewey to LC call numbers cost-effectively Carol Love
- 1:00-1:10 pm Authorities: New series options Mary Mastraccio
- 3:30-3:40 pm ERIC: New ways to provide access to ERIC documents through your catalog Jim Noel

**TUESDAY**
- 10:00-10:10 am ERIC: Bring ERIC documents to light in your online catalog Joan Chapa
- 11:00-11:10 am Cataloging: Easy way to get cost-effective MARC records, smart barcode labels, and spine labels Carol Love

**Win a $50 Starbucks gift card!**

Tonight, 6:30 – 9:30 pm Gene Siskel Film Center 164 N State Street

For more information regarding the Pura Belpre Medal please visit http://tinyurl.com/Belprémedal.
Friends not only receive performance benefits but also have the opportunity to participate as members of the groups in the cities where Poundstone is performing. Paula Poundstone has been a great supporter of libraries through her partnership with ALTAFF, Friends of Libraries U.S.A., and the Association for Library Trustees and Advocates (ALTAFF). Through ALTAFF, Friends everywhere will become a real force in advocacy for libraries than those who use them, but also in helping the Friends spread the word about their own group and the public library.

ALTAFF will continue to build on the work and success of both ALTA and FOLUSA by helping Trustees and Friends work together at the local, state, and national levels to effectively promote and advocate for libraries, encouraging the development of library Foundations, and engaging corporate supporters to unite and strengthen voices in support of libraries.

The "Librarian Plus" packages includes ALTAFF membership for the librarian plus both ALA and ALTAFF membership for a Friend and a Trustee. Stop by the ALA Membership Pavilion today at 4:00 pm to learn more about ALTAFF and this unique membership opportunity.

Diversity Grant Recipients to be Announced Today

Continuing ALA’s commitment to diversity, the ALA Office for Diversity began sponsorship of a Diversity Research Grant program in 2002 to address critical gaps in the knowledge of diversity issues within library and information science. The grant consists of a one-time $2000 annual award for original research and a $800 travel grant to attend and present at ALA Annual Conference. Three grants are awarded each year.

The 2009 recipients will be announced during the “Charting Courses: Diversity Research Grants” program at 3:30 – 5:30 pm today in McCormick Place West W176b. This program will feature ground-breaking discussions of the 2008 grant recipient’s findings.

Sweet Desserts, Auction Items for All at ASCLA/COSLA Reception

The Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA) and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) invites you to a sweet ending to your Sunday evening at the ASCLA/COSLA dessert reception and silent auction, today from 9:00 – 11:30 pm in the Chicago D room at the Chicago Marriott, 540 N. Michigan Ave.

Reception guests can take advantage of desserts, coffee and a cash bar while participating in a silent auction to benefit the ASCLA Century Scholarship, an initiative of ASCLA, that library Service to Special Populations Section (LSSPS) and the Library Service to People with Visual or Physical Disabilities Forum. Items up for auction include:

- An autographed copy of Gwen Iilli’s The Breakthrough: Politics and Race in the Age of Obama; a series of three PBS Home Video DVDs about Barack Obama and the 2008 election; and The American President, a five DVD box set profiling the human drama of our nation’s highest office, all donated by PBS
- 30 books from ReadHowYouWant to be donated to winner’s employing library in format of choice, including seven print formats, Braille (BRF) files, DAISY, or MP3 file audio
- The complete United States Trips set from Lonely Planet USA: six total each featuring themed itineraries and local places to see in each region of the country, complete with a branded bag to hold your books and additional travel items
- A sampler set of six reusable bags from Reusablebags.com
- Handmade Bulgarian jewelry
- Gift baskets from the Illinois Library Association and Indiana Library Association

The ASCLA Century Scholarship was established in 2000 through the generosity of an anonymous donor and fulfills ALA’s mission to cultivate a field of library professionals that more accurately reflects the diversity of the communities and populations it serves. Proceeds from the auction directly benefit the scholarship fund and promote its long-term financial viability. Library and information science students with access needs—including veterans—are encouraged to apply for the scholarship, a one-time $2,500 award funding necessary services or accommodations to enable the winner to complete a Master’s or Doctoral program in the field. For complete information, visit www.ala.org/ascla.