

Guidelines and Application Form

RECEIPT DEADLINE: May 1, 2009

NOTIFICATION: May 29, 2009

The National Library of Medicine and the American Library Association

present

**Harry Potter's World: Renaissance Science,
Magic, and Medicine**

A Traveling Exhibit for Libraries



The American Library Association (ALA), in cooperation with the National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, Maryland, invites public, academic (university, college and community college) and medical libraries to apply for a one-year tour of “Harry Potter’s World: Renaissance Science, Magic, and Medicine” a small-format traveling exhibit (see photo above) which will travel to 12 libraries between early September 2009 and November 2010. Each library will have the exhibit for a four-week display period.

All libraries on the tour will be expected to pay for incoming shipping for the exhibit, which will range from \$250 to \$450 for Fedex two-day delivery, depending on the distance between sites. The exhibit consists of six full-color fabric panels mounted on self supporting stands and printed on one side. Each panel is 7 feet high x 3 feet wide x 15 inches deep. The exhibit travels in two plastic shipping tubes with wheels; each tube weighs 70 lbs. and measures 46” high x 19” wide. The exhibit can be set up using 30 linear feet of space, or 300-400 square feet.

Exhibition background

In 1997, British author J.K. Rowling introduced the world to Harry Potter and a literary phenomenon was born. Millions of readers have followed Harry to the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft where he discovers his heritage, encounters new plants and animals, and perfects his magical abilities. The magic in the *Harry Potter* books is partially based on

Renaissance traditions that played an important role in the development of Western science, including alchemy, astrology, and natural philosophy.

The National Library of Medicine has created a banner exhibition, using materials from the Library’s History of Medicine collections, to explore Harry Potter’s world, its roots in

Renaissance science, and the ethical questions that affected not only the wizards in J.K. Rowling's books, but also the historical thinkers featured in the series.

Exhibit panels feature the works of 15th and 16th century thinkers, such as naturalist Konrad Gesner, alchemist Nicolas Flamel, and occultist Heinrich Cornelius Agrippa von Nettesheim, and explore their understandings of natural philosophy, medicine, and magic. The panels also highlight illustrations from Renaissance texts of some of the fantastic creatures and plants featured in *Harry Potter*, including basilisks, dragons, merpeople, and mandrakes, and use them to explore the intersection between the novels and Renaissance thinkers, lore, and practices.

Support materials and activities

- **Brochure and poster**

Libraries selected for the tour will be able to download from the ALA Public Programs Office website an 11 x 17" brochure and an 11 x 17" poster for local publicity.

- **Site support information package**

Each library will receive an information package with instructions on exhibition installation, a bibliography, information sheet, survey, and other support materials.

- **Online support**

Libraries on the tour will take part in an online exhibition orientation session in mid-June 2009. Libraries will also have access to an online

discussion group dedicated to this exhibition for the duration of the tour.

Requirements for participation

Twelve libraries will be selected for the exhibition tour based upon the information submitted in the attached application, including:

- Innovative ideas for programs and local collaborations; libraries should present two programs at a minimum, and at least one program for an adult audience.
- Appropriate display space
- Ability to offer at least a minimum security environment for the exhibition. *Minimum security means that when the library is open to the public, the exhibition should be monitored by an authorized library staff member as frequently as is reasonable for the library, but at least every half-hour during peak use times, and hourly at less busy times.*

Libraries selected must agree to:

- Charge no fees to view the exhibition or to take part in programs
- Provide timely reports to sponsors and funders, including exhibition and program publicity, exhibition condition report, final report on programs, publicity, audience figures and other pertinent information (a form will be available)
- Commit a staff member to coordinate the exhibition and to take part in project orientation activities.

APPLICATION FORM FOLLOWS

“Harry Potter’s World: Renaissance Science, Magic, and Medicine”

Presented by the National Library of Medicine and the American Library Association

Library Name: _____
Library’s ALA Member Number (if applicable): _____
Library Address: _____
Library City, State, Zip: _____
Library Phone: _____ Library Fax: _____
Library E-mail: _____ Library Home Page: http://www. _____
Size of Service Population: _____
Coordinator Name: _____
Coordinator’s ALA Member Number (if applicable): _____
Coordinator Title: _____
Coordinator's Phone: _____ Coordinator’s Fax: _____
Coordinator’s E-mail: _____
If Coordinator is not Director, Director's Name (type or print): _____

Library Director Signature

Date

(If the Library Director is also the Coordinator, please include signature of director’s supervisor.)

Please send the original application and support materials and three copies of the application and all support materials to the address below. You must submit the original and three copies or your application will be ineligible. Please submit each copy stapled or clipped with the cover sheet on top. Do not put applications in folders or binders. Thank you!

Harry Potter’s World Applications
Public Programs Office
American Library Association
50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611

NOTE: Applications must be received in the ALA Public Programs Office by May 1, 2009. This is not a postmark date. Faxed applications and late or incomplete applications will not be accepted--no exceptions. To request this application in Word (.doc) format, please send an e-mail to publicprograms@ala.org or call (312) 280-5045.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Please respond to the following questions (use no more than three total pages). Number your responses to correspond to the questions or repeat the questions.

1. Why would your library like to display “Harry Potter’s World”? Please briefly describe local resources and interests related to the exhibition.
2. Describe your ideas for programs that will complement the exhibition (two programs are required—at least one for an adult audience). Tell us about the audience you will target, possible speakers, and other information that will be helpful to evaluators. (For previous exhibition tours, selected libraries have proposed more than the minimum number of programs.)
3. What local partners will help you to support the exhibition and what will their roles be? (support letters from partners strengthen your application).
4. Describe the space your institution has available for this exhibition.
5. In a few paragraphs, describe the scope of your current history and science programming for adults and for children.
6. Has your library participated in or is it scheduled to participate in any other ALA Public Programs Office sponsored programs? If so, please tell us which programs.
7. Are there any dates between September 2009 and December 2010 that your library would prefer to display the exhibition, or cannot display the exhibition? Selected sites will have the exhibition for four weeks. Date requests will be considered, but requested dates cannot be guaranteed.

THANK YOU!