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John Newbery Medal
Good Masters! Sweet Ladies!: Voices from a Medieval Village
Laura Amy Schlitz
Candlewick

Randolph Caldecott Medal
The Invention of Hugo Cabret: A Novel in Words and Pictures
Brian Selznick
Scholastic

Coretta Scott King
Author Award
Elijah of Buxton
Christopher Paul Curtis
Scholastic

Coretta Scott King
Illustrator Award
Let it Shine
Ashley Bryan
Simon & Schuster/Atheneum

Pura Belpré
Illustrator Award
Los Gatos Black on Halloween
Yuyi Morales
Marisa Montes, author Holt

Pura Belpré
Author Award
The Poet Slave of Cuba: A Biography of Juan Francisco Manzano
Margarita Engle
Holt

CSK/John Steptoe New Talent Award
Brendan Buchley’s Universe and Everything in It
Sundee T. Frazier
Delacorte

May Hill Arbuthnot
Honor Lecture Award
Walter Dean Myers

Margaret A. Edwards Award
Orson Scott Card
Ender’s Game and Enders’s Shadow

Odyssey Award
Live Oak Media
Jazz

Andrew Carnegie Medal
Kevin Lafferty and John Davis, producers
Jump In!
Disney Channel

Mildred L. Batchelder Award
VIZ Media
Brave Story
Miyuki Miyabe

Schneider Family Book Award — Picture Book
Kami and the Yaks
Andrea Stenn Stryer, author
Bert Dodson, illustrator
Bay Otter

Schneider Family Book Award — Middle School
Reaching for Sun
Tracie Vaughn Zimmer
Bloomsbury

Schneider Family Book Award — Teen
Hurt Go Happy
Ginny Rorby
Tom Doherty/Starscape

Robert F. Sibert
Informational Book Award
The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain
Peter Sis
Farrar/Frances Foster

Theodol Seuss
Geisel Award
There’s a Bird on Your Head
Mo Willems
Hyperion

Michael L. Printz Award
The White Darkness
Geraldine McCaughrean
HarperTempest

Alex Awards
Bad Monkeys
Matt Ruff
HarperCollins

Mister Pip
Lloyd Jones
Random/Dial

Genghis: Birth of an Empire
Conn Iggulden
Delacorte

A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier
Ismael Beah
Farrar/Sarah Crichton

Essex County Vol. 1: Tales from the Farm
Jeff Lemire
Top Shelf

The Night Birds
Thomas Maltman
Soho

The Name of the Wind
Patrick Rothfuss
DAW

American Shaolin: Flying Kicks, Buddhist Monks, and the Legend of Iron Crotch: An Odyssey in the New China
Matthew Polly
Penguin/Gotham

The Gods of Animals
Aryn Kyle
Scribner

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ALA President’s Program Keynoted by Dr. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

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

NBA all-time leading scorer Dr. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar was the keynote speaker for the President’s Program on Sunday, President Loriene Roy introduced him as someone who brings “his convictions to education, history, and, yes, to basketball.” He highlighted basketball’s importance to Native Americans in his book _A Season on the Reservation: My Sojourn with the White Mountain Apache_ which was informed by his volunteer work on an Indian reservation.

“I am not standing here as a basketball player but as an author, an historian, and a book lover, all because of a library and librarians like you,” he began. He asserted that he is an “old school” researcher who never works from the Internet. His father, a police officer and a jazz musician, was a voracious reader who bought books by the pound.

Born in Harlem, Jabbar’s family moved away physically from his cultural roots before he actually realized what they were. In 1964, the 17-year-old Jabbar joined the Harlem Youth Action Program which first introduced him to the historical riches of the Harlem Renaissance. After the searing experience of witnessing riots that summer in Harlem, Jabbar left school at UCLA in the fall of 1965. But he noted, “Harlem never left me.” That is one reason why he returned to studying it in his book _On the Shoulders of Giants: My Journey Through the Harlem Renaissance_.

Through his years of reading, research, and publishing primarily in the area of history, Jabbar learned many truths, “It is not just enough to read history, we must understand it and learn thereby to improve our lives.” He came to understand the value of educating himself both within and outside the classroom and emphasized that librarians and educators must develop a sense of curiosity and skepticism among young learners and promote financial literacy as well as reading literacy.

Jabbar imparted four principles: study your own people’s history to know what you are capable of; educate yourself to think critically; dedicate yourself to your community; and “sing, dance, laugh, and generally be joyful and steadfast.” He concluded his presentation with this summation: “passing along the weight of words...we are part of a larger community that extends beyond neighborhoods, beyond borders, and, thanks to librarians and libraries, beyond time.”

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Attendees Enjoy Storytelling and Yiddish at Sunrise Series

By Ericka Patillo
Radford University

Introduced as the “Yiddish Indiana Jones,” Aaron Lansky displayed his storytelling skills Sunday at the second Philadelphia Sunrise Speaker Series event. Lansky, a 1989 recipient of a genius grant from the MacArthur Foundation, is the founder of the National Yiddish Book Center, which has recovered almost 1.5 million volumes and has 30,000 members. The entire collection is digitized, with plans to make it accessible via the Open Content Alliance (OCA).

“Yiddish is the language in which Jews first encountered the modern world,” said Lansky, and it began to be widely used in original works for them, “a world,” said Lansky, and it began to be widely used in original works for them. Lansky was eager to rescue the “world that was sadly fading before our eyes.”

At age 23, with a rental truck and a one-day, mid-Atlantic itinerary, Lansky set out on what he thought would be a two-year hiatus from graduate school to collect Yiddish books from older Jews. The first stop was the small apartment of a man of meager means who had a wealth of 500 books. Lansky was compelled to hear the story of each one. Four hours later, he realized he would not make his one-day timeline, and that he was in a 12-story building full of older Jews with Yiddish books like the first gentleman.

“Everybody I was going to meet was going to have a story,” Lansky opined. Calling Jews “intensely bookish people,” he said that for them, books are “the portable homeland.” Through his collection travels, Lansky not only rescued the literature, he learned the stories of the owners and now he is sharing them as he did during his presentation as well as in his new book, Outwitting History.

Lansky talked about the future of the Yiddish Book Center, which will add a new building soon, with plans to establish the first Yiddish University. And, through participation with OCA, about 20,000 discrete titles will become “instantly available and searchable. From the brink of destruction, [Yiddish] will become the first universally accessible literature.”

What They Don’t Teach You in Library School

By Kay Ikuta
Inglewood Public Library

On Saturday morning Merinda Hensley, instruction librarian in reference at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, convened the ACRL New Member Discussion Group to address “What Do You Wish You Had Learned in Library School?” An overflow crowd of recent library school graduates and a few old-timers gathered to learn and to inform. Hensley said that there are a lot of gaps after finishing library school, e.g. there is little training in marketing and teaching.

Participants shared their market- ing ideas which included drop-in classes, workshops, personalized one-on-one networking, attendance at new student orientations, chat, formal liaison with faculty, sitting in classes, recreation of instructional materials, referrals from tutors, and statistical and anecdotal reports.

One of the greatest challenges to new librarians seems to be the lack of collection development training. Learning on colleagues or trial-and-error were the methods mentioned as being the “usual” way to learn.

The mentoring relationship is one of the most effective ways a new librarian learns. Examples given included: job shadowing; meeting experienced librarians at conferences; and signing up for a mentor through groups, such as ALA’s New Members Round Table.

Professional development is important to all librarians, especially recent graduates. There are many free opportunities available such as vendor workshops, joining committees of local or national library associations, online learning through Web 2.0, and various colloquia.

Hensley asked that suggestions for future discussion group topics be sent to her at mhensle1@uiuc.edu.
Youth Media Awards Honors

Newbery Honor Books
Elijah of Buxton
Christopher Paul Curtis
Scholastic

The Wednesday Wars
Gary D. Schmidt
Clarion

Feathers
Jacqueline Woodson
Putnam

Caldecott Honor Books
Henry’s Freedom Box
Kadir Nelson
Ellen Levine, author
Scholastic

First the Egg
Laura Vaccaro Seeger
Roaring Brook/Neal Porter

The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain
Peter Sis
Farrar/Frances Foster

Knuffle Bunny Too: A Case of Mistaken Identity
Mo Willems
Hyperion

King Author Honor Books
November Blues
Sharon M. Draper
Simon & Schuster/Atheneum

Twelve Rounds to Glory: The Story of Muhammad Ali
Charles R. Smith, Jr.
Candlewick

King Illustrator Honor Books
The Secret Olivia Told Me
Nancy Devard
N. Joy, author
Just Us Books

Jazz on a Saturday Night
Leo and Diane Dillon
Scholastic/Blue Sky

Belpré Author Honor Books
Martina the Beautiful Cockroach: A Cuban Folktales
Carmen Agüa Deedy
Peachtree

Frida: ¡Viva la Vida! Long Live Life!
Carmen T. Bernier-Grand
Marshall Cavendish

Los Gatos Black on Halloween
Marisa Montes
Holt

Belpré Illustrator Honor Books
My Name is Gabito: The Life of Gabriel Garcia Marquez
Raúl Colón
Luna Rising

My Colors, My World/Mis colores, mi mundo
Maya Christina Gonzalez
Children’s Press

Printz Honor Books
One Whole and Perfect Day
Judith Clark
Front Street

Your Own, Sylvia: A Verse Portrait of Sylvia Plath
Stephanie Hemphill
Knopf

Repossessed
A.M. Jenkins
HarperTeen

Dreamquake: Book Two of the Dreamhunter Duet
Elizabeth Knox
Farrar/Frances Foster

Sibert Honor Books
Nic Bishop Spiders
Nic Bishop
Scholastic

Lightship
Brian Floca
Simon & Schuster/Atheneum

Batchelder Honor Books
Milkweed Editions
The Cat: Or, How I Lost Eternity
Jutta Richter

Phaidon Press
Nicholas and the Gang
René Goscinny and Jean-Jacques Sempé

Geisel Honor Books
Hello, Bumblebee Bat
Darrin Lunde, author
Patricia J. Wynne, illustrator
Charlesbridge

Vulture View
April Pulley, author
Steve Jenkins, illustrator
Holt

First the Egg
Laura Vaccaro Seeger
Roaring Brook

Jazz Baby
Lisa Wheeler, author
R. Gregory Christie, illustrator
Harcourt

Odyssey Honor Awards
Weston Woods
Dooby Dooby Moo

Listening Library
Treasure Island

Listening Library
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows

Harpers Collins
St dulduggery Pleasent

Listen and Live
Bloody Jack

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Abraham Yu, University of California, Irvine, CA, poses with a likeness of Hillary Clinton for a souvenir photo at the Highsmith booth.

Young Emerging Leaders eager to get involved gather during a day-long session as part of an initiative begun by ALA Past-President Leslie Burger.

Oblivious to the hustle and bustle of the passing crowd, Stephanie Law, Brooklyn, N.Y., reads Dorothy Parker’s The Lovely Leave on the floor of the convention center.

Jackie Morris, left, signs The Snow Leopard for Coleen Salley, New Orleans, LA, during the Adult Literature Spotlight.


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MyLibrary for public libraries

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2:00 p.m. - 2:25 p.m.
MyLibrary for public libraries

Sunday, January 13
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12:00 noon - 12:25 p.m.
MyLibrary for public libraries

1:30 p.m. - 1:55 p.m.
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Monday, January 14
10:30 a.m. - 10:55 a.m.
MyLibrary for public libraries

Ingram Digital Group
Saturday, January 12
9:30 a.m. - 9:55 a.m.
MyLibrary

12:00 noon - 12:25 p.m.
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Monday, January 14
10:00 a.m. - 10:25 a.m.
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Coutts Information Services
Saturday, January 12
10:30 a.m. - 10:55 a.m.
MyLibrary for academic libraries

1:00 p.m. - 1:25 p.m.
OASIS™

2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
MyLibrary for academic libraries

Sunday, January 13
10:00 a.m. - 10:25 a.m.
OASIS

12:30 p.m. - 12:55 p.m.
MyLibrary for academic libraries

2:00 p.m. - 2:25 p.m.
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Monday, January 14
9:30 a.m. - 9:55 a.m.
MyLibrary for academic libraries

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2008 John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award Winners Announced

Five libraries are winners of the John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award, which recognizes and honors outstanding achievement in library public relations. The John Cotton Dana honor has been awarded continuously since 1946 and is sponsored by the H.W. Wilson Company, the H.W. Wilson Foundation, and the Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA), a division of the American Library Association (ALA).

“The John Cotton Dana Award is the most prestigious of all library awards in the public relations field and is important not only to the winning library, but also to the communities so positively impacted by these thoughtful and imaginative campaigns,” said award committee chair Sherrill Smith.

The 2008 awards will be presented to:

• Gail Borden Public Library, Elgin, Illinois, for “Space: Dare to Dream,” a dynamic interactive exhibit that was also an innovative approach to marketing traditional summer reading programs. Mounted in conjunction with the library’s Summer Reading program, and making exemplary use of partnerships, the library leveraged the exhibit to rocket its way to record numbers for summer reading participation, as well as library card registration, materials circulation and program attendance, culminating with a live chat with an astronaut aboard the International Space Station.

• Hamilton Public Library, Hamilton, Ontario, for “One Book, One City: Tecking Poverty Through the Arts.” This multi-faceted “one book” campaign, featuring the book Looking for X by Deborah Ellis, championed art as a common language and mobilized the community to raise public awareness about the issue of poverty. Nearly 8000 participants were reached through innovative use of partnerships to fund the campaign and engage the community.

• Metropolitan Library Service Agency of St. Paul, Minnesota, for its “Museum Adventure Pass” program presented by Macy’s. The Pass transforms the library card into up to four free tickets to any of the community’s participating cultural organizations. The well-planned campaign was implemented using a broad range of public relations tactics including stunning promotional materials, generating significant media exposure, community excitement and participation.

• Richmond Public Library in Richmond, British Columbia for creating a unique campaign that promoted the library to school age children from kindergarten go grade seven. The campaign brand was enhanced by the illustrations of local artist and illustrator Trevor Lai. The highlight of the promotion was Ralphy library card for kids, possibly the world’s first round library card.

• University of California Santa Barbara for UCSB Reads for Earth Day 2007. Reflecting the values of the Santa Barbara community, home of the original Earth Day, the UCSB library led a campus-wide initiative to read, discuss, and even recycle (for other readers) the book Field Notes from a Catastrophe. Held in collaboration with the Santa Barbara Public Library, Patagonia Company, and many campus partners, the program reached a wide range of community members beyond the university, from high school students to Patagonia employees to users of recordings for the blind and dyslexic.

Winning entries will be displayed at the John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award booth in the exhibit area during the 2008 ALA Annual Conference, June 27-July 2, in Anaheim, California. Conference participants may also view the winners Sunday, June 29, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the “Best of Show/Swap and Shop” program presented by the Public Relations and Marketing Section of LAMA.

Other members of the committee are: Denis Cunningham, Linda Hollander, Nancy Magnuson, Patricia Marvel, Amy Shaw, Mary Anne Tri-cario, Tim Wadham, Evelyn Walker and Marilyn Wilt.

John Cotton Dana Development Grant Raised to $5,000

The H.W. Wilson Company, sponsor of the John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award since 1946, has now increased the cash prize that comes with the award by $2000. Libraries that receive the award this year will enjoy a $5000 development grant.

The John Cotton Dana Award is one of the most coveted accolades among U.S. libraries, an honor that cuts across boundaries of library size and type. Named for librarian John Cotton Dana (1856-1929), the JCD award celebrates Dana’s vision of the library as a beacon for the building of community through the public affairs programs that strengthen bonds between libraries and the citizenry. For more on the JCD Award, visit www.hwilson.com/jcdawards.
Robert L. Oakley Memorial Scholarship Fund

In memory of Bob Oakley, Professor and Law Librarian, who died unexpectedly in late 2007, Mrs. Barbara Oakley, his wife, in collaboration with the ALA and the Library Copyright Alliance, are establishing a scholarship in his name. The scholarship will be designed to support research and advance study for librarians in their early-to mid-careers who are interested and/or active in the fields that Oakley was expert in—intellectual property, public policy, copyright and their impacts on libraries and the ways libraries serve their communities.

Over the last 25 years, Oakley had built the Georgetown Law Library into one of the best in the world. During Oakley’s tenure, the Georgetown Law Library was transformed from a collection housed on two floors of an academic building to one that fills the entire building. The Library of Congress and charged with updating the Copyright Act for the digital world. His other scholarly interests included information policy and law and wrote and lectured on the subject. He was a member of the Section 108 Study Group, a select committee of copyright experts convened by the Library of Congress and charged with updating the Copyright Act for the digital world. His other scholarly interests included information policy and preservation.

Donation checks can be made out to the Robert L. Oakley Memorial Scholarship Fund, and be sent to American Library Association, Development Office, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611.

Oakley, who joined the Law Center in 1982 as Law Librarian and Professor, was a national leader in his field. He served on the executive board of the American Association of Law Libraries and as its president in 2000-2001. He represented the Association’s interests in Washington for 18 years, providing testimony and expertise on Capitol Hill. Oakley was an expert on copyright law and wrote and lectured on the subject. He was a member of the Section 108 Study Group, a select committee of copyright experts convened by the Library of Congress and charged with updating the Copyright Act for the digital world. His other scholarly interests included information policy and expertise on Capitol Hill.

Over the last 25 years, Oakley had built the Georgetown Law Library into one of the best in the world. During Oakley’s tenure, the Georgetown Law Library was transformed from a collection housed on two floors of an academic building to one that fills the Edward Bennett Williams Law Library and the John W. Wolf International and Comparative Law Library.
Sharing Marketing Strategies in Virtual Reference

By Frederick J. Augustyn, Jr.  
The Library Congress

The Virtual Reference Discussion Group under the auspices of Reference and User Services Association/Machine-Assisted Reference Section (RUSA/MARS) convened on Saturday to address the questions of the current status of VR and methods of sharing working strategies. Samuel Stormont, Head Librarian at Penn State Abington, coordinated and introduced the format in which participants sat at tables with appointed facilitators, note takers, and spokespersons and discussed a list of twelve questions. Alex Hodges from American University (DC) started the discussion for all the tables by displaying techniques of the program AIM: AskAUlibrary (www.library.american.edu/ask). AU utilizes labels and flyers with visuals and user-friendly slogans such as “IM Reference—no shirt, no shoes, no problem.” In a similar way, Beth Kakowski of the New Jersey library system showcased a low budget video (made at the cost of $2,100) broadcast on MTV and YouTube titled “Now Your Library Is Open Late Night Too” (www.qandanj.org).

Among the topics addressed in the table groups were: pressing issues relating to the marketing (or advertising) of VR; whether your library has a VR publicity plan; how saving transcripts of VR queries can be used when addressing subsequent questions; meeting the needs of patrons with different learning styles; how marketing efforts can reach users with low written communication or English skills; and the appropriateness and effectiveness of promoting VR through social networking sites such as MySpace and Facebook. At some libraries, more traditional staffers may fear that there will be too many inquiries with increased awareness of VR, taking them away from other duties. There is also apprehension over additional costs regarding employees’ time. Many asserted that their institutions did in fact have marketing strategies for VR, which often employed glitzy commercials to attract those who ordinarily do not use libraries. With the saving of transcripts, as long as privacy is preserved, similar questions can be more quickly answered and frequent requesters’ needs can be tracked and assessed. Depending on the library’s policy, inquirers posing similar questions can be linked to in-house specialists as well as to others doing similar research.

Reference librarians often can be more effective by adapting to the question styles of their researchers, such as using abbreviations, especially in live chat. Some younger users do not like “canned” answers, that is, copied scripts, which they might deem robot-like. More visual marketing tools not only attract younger Web generation users, but also more easily reach those lacking college-level English language skills. While paid marketing of social networks does indeed get the word out, “reaching people where they are” (which also works on municipal an university home pages rather than just on cataloging websites), some academic institutions might feel these venues are not appropriate. The session concluded with a call for suggestions of possible topics on VR for Annual 2008 in Anaheim.

REFORMA Announces 3rd National Conference

REFORMA is pleased to announce its 3rd National Conference, taking place September 18-21, 2008 in El Paso, Texas. We are currently accepting submissions for presentations for the conference. Submission deadline is January 30th.

In our effort to fundraise for the conference, please join us for the REFORMA fundraiser, tonight from 8:30 – 10:30 p.m., Dr. Loriane Roy’s Presidential Suite, Philadelphia Marriot Hotel, Suite 2147.

Our conference theme, Bridging the Gaps: Juntos @ the Border, emphasizes the diversity of issues not only to illuminate the issues but also to propose solutions for the improvement of library services in the United States, Mexico and Latin America.

REFORMA is the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking. For more information visit www.Reforma.org.

Nathan Englander  
Recipient of the 2008 Sophie Brody Medal

Nathan Englander is the recipient of the 2008 Sophie Brody Medal. The award, which consists of a medal for the winner and citations for honor books, is funded by Arthur Brody and the Brodart Foundation, and is given to encourage, recognize and commend outstanding achievement in Jewish literature. The Brody Medal is administered by the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). Englander is receiving the award for his book The Ministry of Special Classes published by Knopf. “Set in Buenos Aires, during the Dirty War, Englander’s Kafkaesque novel uses dark humor to make a chilling statement about the elimination of cultures and peoples who do not conform to the new regime,” said Barbara Bibel, award committee.

Research Into Action: Leveraging Research Into Information Literacy Instruction

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

Have you ever wondered how to access, understand, and then incorporate social science action research, including that in the information sciences, into your Information Literacy instruction? On Sunday, the Association of College & Research Libraries' Research and Scholarship Committee's Instruction Committee hosted a panel presentation followed by small group discussions on how to do just that. The panel consisting of Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Scott Walter, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; and Michelle Zaffron, University of Buffalo recommended wider use by instructional librarians of published findings in the fields of marketing, training, and social psychology, as well as library science.

Zaffron contended that recurrent lack of time and money should not prevent one from adding the insights of others to professional judgment and anecdotal evidence. Librarians should also contribute to the professional community with published observations. To that end, a pamphlet published by Elsevier titled How to Get Published in LIS Journals was distributed to all of the session's attendees.

Scott pointed out that academic librarians should join a professional community on campus imbued with the importance of “active learning,” “critical thinking,” and “action-based research,” which can inform and improve teaching techniques. He further observed from personal experience that knowledge of such research helps administrators foster faculty development.

Hinchliffe suggested looking at various sources bearing variations of the titles Handbook of Educational Research, Handbook for Action Research, and education encyclopedias as well as Ernest Boyer's classic Scholarship Reconsidered. In particular, Boyer noted that teaching methods need to be customized for those with different learning styles. In addition to the lack of time at some libraries for professional reading there was a felt need for reading circles or other methods of mentoring support to librarians not fully accustomed to the “density” of some of the research outside of their areas. Experts on campus or members of other organizations more communally can compile summaries of research studies which would save librarians time and provide guidance. Matching librarians with scholars may result in a lesser fear of failure when experimenting with newer instructional techniques. Finally, “Dummies” style workshops can empower instructional librarians to read critically and comprehend, and evaluate some of the literature.

RUSA Announces the 2008 List of Outstanding Reference Sources

The 2008 list of Outstanding Reference Sources for small and medium-sized libraries has been announced by the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA), a division of the American Library Association. The titles, selected by RUSA's Reference Sources Committee, represent high-quality reference works that are suitable for small to medium-sized libraries.

The annotated list will appear in the May 2008 issue of American Libraries and also is available on RUSA's Web page at www.ala.org/rusa/bestref.html. The selected titles are:

APA Dictionary of Psychology, ed. by Gary R. VandenBos, published by American Psychological Association


Macmillan Dictionary of Social, Political, Cultural and Economic History, ed. by Stephen Elze and Roger Chartier, published in 22 vols. as a Rev. ed. by Gale

Prutherford Encyclopedia of Body Adornment, by Margo Demello, published by Greenwood

American Psychological Association, ed. by Gary R. VandenBos, published by American Psychological Association


Schirmer Encyclopedia of Film, ed. by Barry Keith Grant, published in 4 vols. by Gale


French New Words: the Oxford Dictionary of Science Fiction, ed. by Jeff Prucher, published by Oxford

Postwar America: An Encyclopedia of Social, Political, Cultural and Economic History, by James Ciment, published in 4 vols. by ME Sharpe

The Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA) has announced the winners of the 2008 BCALA Literary Awards. The awards recognize excellence in adult fiction and nonfiction by African American authors published in 2007, including the work of a first novelist and a citation for Outstanding Contribution to Publishing. The recipients will receive the awards during the 2008 Annual Conference of the American Library Association in Anaheim.

The winner in the fiction category is New England White, by Stephen L. Carter (Knopf). New England White is an intricately detailed literary thriller that sheds light on the lifestyles of the ultimate power couple. The author reveals all the rich complexities of their lives while giving readers an in-depth view of the social life, politics, power and traditions of these “old money” families, against a backdrop of murder and intrigue.

The fiction Honor Book winner is Cold Running Creek by Zelda Lockhart (LaVenson Press).

The winner in nonfiction is Ralph Ellison: A Biography, by Arnold Rampersad (Knopf). Ralph Ellison: A Biography must be characterized as the definitive biography of Ellison. It is both compelling and thought provoking as it provides different insights into the life of one of America’s most elusive yet acclaimed writers. Rampersad had free access to Ellison’s papers and his close acquaintances.

Two nonfiction Honor Books were also selected: Supreme Discomfort: The Divided Soul of Clarence Thomas, by Kevin Merida and Michael A. Fletcher (Doubleday) and Silent Gesture: The Autobiography of Tommie Smith, by Tommie Smith with David Steele (Temple University Press).

The recipient of the First Novelist Award is Chantal Ellen for The Rise: Where Neighbors Are Sometimes More (Lion’s Den Publishing). This debut novel skillfully portrays the lives of neighbors in a high rise apartment complex offering a spirited depiction of urban living and a dynamic portrait of Washington, D.C.

The Outstanding Contribution to Publishing Citation is presented to Deborah Willis for Let Your Motto Be Resistance: African American Portraits, (Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture). One hundred and fifty years of well-known African American lives are preserved through remarkable and stunning photographs that evoke a wide range of emotions. The photographs are accompanied by a scholarly text.

Bustin’ Loose from the Reference Desk

By Kay Ikuta
Inglewood Public Library

On Sunday morning the RUSA/RSS Reference Services in Small and Medium-Sized Libraries Discussion Group sponsored an informal discussion about reference librarians breaking away from the traditional reference desk. The organizers of the event were Dawn Lowe-Wincent of Florida State University, Tallahassee and Margaret Yuen of the University of Waterloo (Ontario, Canada).

To tackle this phenomenon called “roving” or “roaming” reference, 45 centsen of Florida State University, reference desk. The organizers of the event were Dawn Lowe-Wincent of Florida State University, Tallahassee and Margaret Yuen of the University of Waterloo (Ontario, Canada).

To tackle this phenomenon called “roving” or “roaming” reference, 45 minutes of boisterous brainstorming took place with a volunteer recorder at each table noting the experiences and ideas of the group.

Numerous examples were given as to what techniques are working such as new furniture including pods, podiums, kiosks, and rolling desks. Innovative equipment replaced the desk phone; some librarians used laptops, walkie talkies, or instant messaging.

The biggest challenge was getting staff to buy into the concept. To accomplish this, some libraries tried scheduling on a voluntary basis.

As a summary of the results and a related bibliography will be accessible in the near future on the RSS wiki.

Join the PLA Board as it Continues to Discuss Organizational Restructuring

Midwinter attendees are invited to join the Public Library Association (PLA) Board of Directors today at 1:30 in the Pennsylvania Convention Center, Room 201B, as they continue the conversation about creating a more nimble organizational structure.

In response to concerns about the availability of people to populate various committees, the PLA Board began to discuss how PLA might work differently in order to more effectively utilize its members as a volunteer workforce. Members have expressed interest in opportunities to become involved in ways that do not require them to attend in person meetings.

To make the organization’s structure more flexible to member needs, the PLA Board is considering the restructuring committees and creating Communities of Practice. Committees that conduct the business of the organization will remain. In addition, task forces will be created to accomplish specific projects and will disband upon completion of projects.

To hear more about the proposed changes, join the PLA Board of Directors today.
STEP ONE:
Step into MUSE booth #1942.

STEP TWO:
If you still haven’t learned anything about the world’s grooviest online scholarly journal collection in the humanities and social sciences, make sure you do. This is the last day of the Conference!

STEP THREE:
Enter to win a: Hardcover copy of The Political Philosophy of Benjamin Franklin* Brand-new release by Lorraine Smith Pangle Drawing takes place at 10:15 am!

STEP FOUR:
Enjoy the rest of your stay in Philadelphia and have a safe trip home.

Broad Street Combo Gift Pack from A Taste of Philadelphia*
Includes Philly cheesesteaks, hoagies, pretzels, Tastykakes, and many other classic Philly favorites worth $100
Drawing takes place at 12 noon!

*Would you like to win? We would love that.
AILA Announces American Indian Youth Literature Award

The American Indian Library Association (AILA), an affiliate of the American Library Association (ALA), is pleased to announce the recipients of its American Indian Youth Literature Award. This new literary award was created as a way to identify and honor the very best writing and illustrations by and about American Indians. Books selected to receive the award present Native Americans in the fullness of their humanity in the present and past contexts.

The award is presented in each of three categories—picture book, middle school, and young adult. Each winner receives $500 and a custom-made beaded medallion, which will be presented at a ticketed event during the AILA Annual Conference in Anaheim, CA.

Winner of the award in the Picture Book category is Crossing Bok Chitto: A Choctaw Tale of Friendship and Freedom by Tim Tingle, illustrated by Jeanne Rorex Bridge, and published by Cinco Puntos Press, 2006. This is a beautifully inspired story of a friendship between Martha Tom, a Choctaw girl and Li’ Mo, a slave boy and how their relationship brought wholeness and freedom to Mo’s family and also to many slaves. Bridge’s illustrations enhance the story by resonating the joy of friendship, the light of faith, and the leadership of children.

In the Middle School category, the award goes to Counting Coup: Becoming a Crow Chief on the Reservation and Beyond, by Joseph Medicine Crow, published by National Geographic, 2006. In this appealing autobiography, Dr. Joseph Medicine Crow (Absarokee) recounts his adventures and training as a traditional Crow warrior and his service as a decorated World War II veteran. In a text that is not preachy, but honest and real, Joseph Medicine Crow tells how he overcame many challenges to fulfill his role as Chief of the Crow Nation.

The winner in the Young Adult category was The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie, published by Little Brown Publishers, 2007. A realistic, bitter-sweet yet, humorous look at the life of Arnold, a Spokane Indian teenager making his way in life on the reservation while attending an all white high school. Part autobiography, Alexie’s Arnold reminds us of the complexities of coming of age, bigotry, bullies, loyalty to family and the meaning of love.

In the near future an American Indian Youth Literature Award free downloadable bookmark and brochure will be made available on the AILA Web site at www.nativeculturelinks.com/aila.html.

Members of the American Indian Youth Literature Award are: Naomi Caldwell, chair, GSLIS, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, R.I.; Carlene Engstrom, D’Arcy McNickle Library, Salish Kootenai College, Pablo, MT; and Gabriella Kaye, Mashantucket, Pequot Museum & Research Center, Mashantucket, CT; Lisa A. Mitten, Choice Magazine, Sarah Kostelecky, Institute of American Indian Art, Santa Fe, NM; Cindy Carrywater, Montana State Library Commission, and Jolena Tillequots, School Library Media Specialist, Yakima Nation.

Tickets for the 2008 Scholarship Bash are available at the Bash Booth, in the Grand Hall near Registration. Get yours now!

Meeting Cancellation

HarperCollins Seasonal Book Review, scheduled for today, 1:30-3:30 p.m., has been CANCELLED.
Avery, Doty Win 2008 Stonewall Book Awards

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Round Table (GLBT-TRT) of the American Library Association (ALA) is pleased to announce the winners of the 2008 Stonewall Book Awards. Ellis Avery, author of *The Tea House Fire*, published by The Penguin Group, is the winner of the Barbara Gittings Book Award in Literature, and Mark Doty, author of *Dog Years: A Memoir*, published by HarperCollins Publishers, is the winner of the Israel Fishman Book Award for Nonfiction. This year marks the 37th anniversary of the Stonewall Book Awards. The awards will be presented to the winners at the 2008 ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, CA on June 30.

Set against the background during the opening of Japan to the West, *The Tea House Fire* draws the reader into the world of Aurelia Bernard, an American orphan who finds refuge in the household of a Japanese tea master. Avery’s complex historical novel weaves the transformation of Japanese culture and tradition with Aurelia’s coming of age and emerging sexuality.

Dog Year’s *A Memoir* is, on its surface, the story of the day-to-day life of Doty, his partner and their two dogs. In spare and unsentimental prose, Doty reflects on love and loss and takes the reader through his process of grieving for his human and canine companions.

The 2008 Stonewall honor books in literature are:
- *Bow Grip* written by Ivan E. Coyote and published by Arsenal Pulp Press
- *Dark Reflections* written by Samuel R. Delany and published by Avon Publishing Group, Incorporated
- *The IHOP Papers* written by Ali Liebegott and published by Avalon Publishing Group, Inc.
- *The Italian Clerk*, a novel written by David Leavitt and published by Bloomsbury US

The 2008 Stonewall honor books in non-fiction are:
- *Grand Surprise: The Journals of Leo Lerman* written by Leo Lerman and Stephen Pascal and published by Knopf Publishing Group
- *Mississippi Sissy* written by Kevin Sessums and published by St. Martins Press
- *Transparent: Love, Family, and Living the T with Transgender Teenagers* written by Cris Beam and published by Harcourt
- *Two Lives: Gertrude and Alice* written by Janet Malcolm and published by Yale University Press

Members of the 2008 ALA Stonewall Book Award Committee are: Richard DiRusso (chair), Tucson-Pima Public Library, AZ; Robin Imhof (immediate past chair), Elizabeth Briggs (vice, chair, elect), East Carolina University, Greenville, NC; James Carmichael, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC; Beth Gallego, Los Angeles Public Library; James Simonis, librarian emeritus, LeMoyne College, Syracuse, NY; Arla Jones, Lawrence High School, Lawrence, KS; Eric Johnson, Southeastern Louisiana University; Dale McNeil, Queens Library, Queens, NY; and Andy Johnson, Palm Springs, CA.

The Stonewall Award, formerly called the ALA Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered (GLBT) Book Award, was established in 1971 and is the most enduring and oldest award of its kind. Each year the GLBT-TRT bestows two book awards: one for literature and one for non-fiction to English-language books of exceptional merit relating to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender experience.

For additional information on the Stonewall Book Awards, please visit: [http://www.alaa.org/ala/glbtrt/stonewall/stonewallbook.htm](http://www.alaa.org/ala/glbtrt/stonewall/stonewallbook.htm).

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**Advanced Leadership Institute for Senior Academic Librarians**
MARCH 26–29, 2008

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The institute enhances your strategic leadership skills, strengthens your capacity for effective teamwork, hones your ability to forge effective partnerships, and helps you position your library for future success.

**10th Annual**
**Leadership Institute for Academic Librarians**
AUGUST 3–8, 2008

This annual institute is designed for library deans and directors and those who report to them. The institute presents important foundational leadership concepts and applies them to the challenges of leading and managing within the contemporary academic library. The curriculum addresses planning, organizational strategy and change, and transformational learning.

The institute helps increase your leadership and management capacity. During the program, you explore two key questions: How well-positioned is my organization to meet current and future challenges? How effective is my own leadership?

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Ann Chambers Theis Awarded 2008 Louis Shores-Greenwood Publishing Group Award

The Louis Shores/Greenwood Publishing Group Award is presented annually to an individual reviewer, group, editor, review medium or organization to recognize excellence in reviewing books or other media for libraries. The award recipient is selected for significant achievement related to a reviewing process that helps librarians make selection decisions. The winner is chosen by a jury of librarians who are experts in the review process and understand the role reviews play in selecting materials for library collections. The award consists of a citation and a $3,000 cash prize.

This year the Louis Shores/Greenwood Publishing Group Award is presented to Ann Chambers Theis for the creation and ongoing development of her site Overbooked.org. Overbooked.org specializes in providing timely information about fiction and select nonfiction titles to readers and librarians. The site highlights well-reviewed titles, provides lists of forthcoming books, and offers original content related to collection development. Overbooked.org offers invaluable assistance to the profession, from new library school students, to solo librarians working with limited budgets, to large metropolitan collection development departments needing a quick way to double check an acquisition decision.

Oxford Encyclopedia of Maritime History Chosen for 2008 Dartmouth Medal

The Oxford Encyclopedia of Maritime History has been chosen as the 2008 Dartmouth Medal recipient. The medal, donated by Dartmouth College and presented by the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), is given for creating current reference works of outstanding quality and significance.

Of all the titles the Dartmouth Medal Committee considered for this year’s award, one left the others in its wake. The Oxford Encyclopedia of Maritime History is the first English-language scholarly reference log of its kind. Its four volumes hold a cargo of nearly one thousand signed entries and four hundred illustrations. It contains all the seafaring topics you may expect, and many you may not. Not only did the international crew of naval, academic, and independent authors admirably achieve their goal of creating an interdisciplinary resource, they also made it fun.
Defining Your Library Through Standards

By Stacy L. Voeller
Minnesota State
University Moorhead

The ACRL College Libraries Section (CLS) Medium-Sized Academic Libraries Discussion Group tackled the topic, “Standards, What to Do When the Accreditors Come?” The discussion centered around the following three questions: “How have standards been used in preparation for accreditation visits? How do the standards help assess the effectiveness of a library? And how are results explained to administrators?”

The discussion began as one participant related the experience of a successful accreditation process. It began with the library doing a self-study using questions from the suggested points of comparison found in the standards.

Another library also used the questions and presented the results to their administrators who were quite alarmed at the low scores. Several of the participants indicated that they used four or five peer institutions for comparison.

In benchmarking, which institutions are used for comparison can be a point of contention and it was suggested that using the director of institutional research or someone in a similar position on campus is important when choosing peer institutions. Questions to think about include: Are you choosing your peer group or your aspiration group? What do you do when you institution’s list differs from who you would compare your library to? Peer groups always seem to be difficult to find and can differentiate vastly from department to department on a single campus. Accreditation is focused more on outcomes and assessment.

According to Tim Richards, University of Michigan Dearborn, “peer comparison gets in the way of talking about how my library is doing. The standards encourage libraries to be careful about choosing peer groups.” He is not interested in what other libraries are doing, but rather wants his administration to focus on what their library is doing.

Richards was able to hire an outside consulting firm to develop surveys and focus groups specific to his library. They now “interview a lot of faculty to garner whether or not the library’s instruction program is having an impact. We have established our own benchmarks and have a sense internally of how we are doing.” Often, surveys reflect what users want their library to be. This kind of data does not seem to be useful in the accreditation process.

Bill Nelson, a member of the standards committee, emphasized that the standards “are guidelines and that every place is different. The sharing of ideas about everything that’s been done and how it has worked is essential.”

The standards help by providing guidelines for libraries to use about what information to gather when facing an accreditation visit. The questions can be used as an internal vehicle for starting conversation that will be used to prepare for the visit and can make the campus more knowledgeable about the vocabulary accreditors will use.

In 2009, the ACRL Standards for Libraries in Higher Education Accreditation Committee is set to review the current standards and is looking toward forming a task force to do this.
Exhibitor News

These listings are paid advertisements.

3M Library Systems (Booth 1104): Are all RFID tags the same? No! Learn how RFID tag quality and emerging standards for library RFID will impact libraries in the near future. Don’t miss our Technology Showcase at 11:20 a.m. today in the Liberty Theater.

CQ Press (Booth 1822): Visit CQ Press (Booth 1822) for giveaways, prizes and a free online demonstration of the CQ Press Political Reference Suite of Online Editions at 11:00 a.m. This is a digitized collection of many of our best-selling print titles.

Innovative Interfaces, Inc. (Booth 1110): Innovative Interfaces (www.iii.com) delivers Rock Solid library automation you can rely on. Stop by booth #514 and see the Encore discovery services platform, the Millennium ILS, Electronic Resource Management, Circa wireless inventory, Express Lane self-check and more.


Serials Solutions (Booth 716): Does your library have an electronic collection? Learn about Serials Solutions 360, the only complete and integrated e-resource access, management, and assessment solution. Serials Solutions 360 is comprised of six unique services that share the Serials Solutions KnowledgeWorks knowledgebase—ensuring your library receives accurate data whether you subscribe to one service or the entire solution.

Swets (Booth 404): Visit Swets at booth #404 to see the all-new License Bank in SwetsWise Subscriptions Library Edition in action. Learn how it provides an unparalleled data source to help you improve the management of your e-journal licenses and control your subscriptions investment.

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