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Coordinator's Column

"The times they are a-changin' ". Bob Dylan's classic says it all. Yes, times are indeed changing. Benjamin Disraeli, nineteenth century British prime minister, said that "change is constant." So, if change has always been with us, and is a constant part of our lives, what is different about the transformations that are happening now?

Plenty. This time the changes are coming at us in layers so difficult to forecast that preparation takes a backseat to developing another skill: adaptability. It is the flexible library administrator and library staff who will make the successful entrée into the library environment of the future – and who will stick it out the longest. You can prepare all you want, but

if you offer your services and programs and find that your patrons are looking for something else entirely, you've got to be able to adapt.

In recent months, there has been much discussion regarding the "confluence of significant events" currently facing the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. These events include the Sunset review of the agency, the 2007 legislative session, the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Five-Year evaluation, a new agency LSTA Five-Year Plan, and the recent release of the final "Report on the Implementation of the Public Library Development Study" prepared by the Joint TSLAC/TLA Task Force. The State Librarian's article on TSLAC's progress toward achieving many of the recommendations was recently printed in the Winter 2005 issue of *Texas Library Journal*.

TSLAC Commission Chairman, Sandra J. Pickett recently posted a letter and Frequently Asked Questions document on the TSLAC Web site, addressing the questions and concerns that had been raised in the past several months regarding the changes to Systems and the Loan Star Libraries program. TSLAC believes the best chance of increasing support for public libraries is through the Loan Star Libraries program, and proposes moving \$2 million in General Revenue funds, currently allocated by the Systems for collection development, into the Loan Star Libraries program. The proposed changes would take effect in the 2008-2009 Biennium, which begins Sept. 1, 2007.

TSLAC believes that Systems have played, and will continue to play, an important role in the development of Texas public libraries and in the improvement of public library services for all. TSLAC also believes that the principal purposes of the Systems are to provide robust continuing education and consulting services to the libraries in each region, to bring libraries together to share information and expertise, and to encourage and nurture collaboration to strengthen library services for all Texans. I wholeheartedly agree with both of those statements. I believe there will be a unique role for each of us in the future environment of TSLAC and the Texas Library Systems.



In these times of dwindling library funding, it will be advantageous for each of us to do a little self-reflecting and find our own unique niche; to concentrate our efforts and maximize our dollars on those services we do really well and make them even better. In order to expect the maximum funding from our legislators and local officials, we must deliver the best of services and resources to our patrons. Give 'em what they want and make them want what we've got!

The "glory days" of library funding are a distant memory and each of us can benefit from local and regional partnerships. We cannot be all things to all Texans in a vacuum. We must share our ideas and plans with other local and regional libraries of all types, as well as corporate and non-

profit organizations near and far.

The Northeast Texas Library System will not disintegrate in the ashes of funding formula or strategy changes. We may look different in the next few years: leaner, sleeker, more cost-efficient, but who amongst us hasn't had that ideal as a New Year's resolution?! Our goal remains to serve you so you may better serve your patrons.

As Yogi Berra once said, "it's tough to make predictions, especially about the future." That's the funny part about change: You can't forecast it. It's a thrilling vision, but it could be smoke and mirrors. The key to dealing with rapid change isn't anticipating it, but adapting to it once it happens.

CONTINUING EDUCATION



Upcoming NETLS Workshops

Developing a Long Range Plan that Meets New Library Standards

Presented by Michele Otstott, NETLS

Wed., Mar. 22 – **QUITMAN PUBLIC**

Wed., Apr. 12 – **MARSHALL PUBLIC**

Writing to Win! Grant Writing

Presented by the Office of the Governor (Texas)

Tues.-Wed., July 25-26 – **LINDALE LIBRARY**

Authority Control

Presented by Scott Piepenburg

Tues., May 16 – **MINEOLA MEMORIAL**

Wed., May 17 – **WM. T. COZBY PUBLIC** (Coppell)

Planning Your Library's New Building or Expansion

Presented by Lynn Metz and Elizabeth Holser, F&S Partners

Fri., May 26 – **MCKINNEY MEMORIAL PUBLIC**

Fri., June 2 – **VAN ZANDT COUNTY LIBRARY (Canton)**

True Colors Seminar

Presented by Carolyn Davidson, North Texas Regional Library System

Mon., Aug. 21 – **RICHARDSON PUBLIC**

Wed., Aug. 23 – **TYLER PUBLIC**

New Titles in the NETLS Library Science Collection

Here is a list of titles that have been recently added to the NETLS Library Science Collection.

Unshelved

What Would Dewey Do

Library Mascot Cage March

(Three collections of the online library comic strip, *Unshelved*)

Barnes, Bill and Gene Ambaum

The Accidental Library Manager

Gordon, Rachel Singer

Technology for the Rest of Us: A Primer on Computer Technologies for the Low-Tech Librarian

Courtney, Nancy, editor

Extreme Teens: Library Services to Nontraditional Young Adults

Anderson, Shelia B.

Beyond Generation X: A Practical Guide for Managers

Raines, Claire

Digitizing Collections: Strategic Issues for the Information Manager

Hughes, Lorna M.

Teen Genre Collections: From Booktalking to Booklearning

Schall, Lucyl

Public Speaking Handbook for Librarians and Information Professionals

Statz, Sarah R.

The Branch Librarians' Handbook

Rivers, Vickie

Revolting Librarians Redux: Radical Librarians Speak Out

Roberto, Katia Roberto and Jessamyn West, editors.

To access the NETLS Library Science Collection catalog, please visit <<http://www.netls.org>>, and click on the link under "Other Resources" on the left side. After you identify an item or items you would like to borrow, note the item call number, then contact Robin Hayles at the NETLS office at <rhayles@netls.org> or 972.205.2566 to arrange the loan.

Introduction to Distance Learning Online Course

The Texas State Library is pleased to announce the availability of the following online course: *Introduction to Distance Learning*.

This course is intended to provide library staff members with a basic understanding of distance learning so that they are better able to identify, utilize and benefit from continuing and higher education opportunities that are available to them via distance. Those who intend to take advantage of future distance learning opportunities are highly encouraged to take this course.

Format:

This course is an online, self-paced course. Participants may complete the course at their own pace but all coursework *must* be completed within 30 days of enrollment. This course will be available online until **May 31**.

Grading / CE Credit:

Participants who make a grade of 70 per cent or higher in this course are eligible to receive eight hours of continuing education credit.

For more information and to register, please visit:

<<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/workshops/online/ld101>>.

Additional questions may be directed to Distance Learning Consultant Naomi DiTullio; Library Development Div., TSLAC; POB 12927; Austin, 78711-2927; 800.252.9386 (Texas only) or 512.936.2586; fax 512.463.8800; <naomi.ditullio@tsl.state.tx.us>.

Every Child Ready to Read @ Your Library Workshop

The Texas State Library and Archives Commissions has announced an upcoming workshop series which will introduce the joint American Library Assn. (ALA)/Public Library Assn. (PLA) early literacy initiative, *Every Child Ready to Read @ Your Library*.

Staff in public and school libraries who work with youth are invited to attend the all-day workshop. Participants will learn about research on early literacy, presenting *Every Child Ready to Read* workshops for parents and caregivers, and will explore ways to incorporate the six early literacy skills into library programs for young children. (For more information about *Every Child Ready to Read @ Your Library*, please visit the ALA website at <<http://www.ala.org/ala/pla/plaissues/earlylit/earlyliteracy.htm>>.)

The presenters for the workshops are Denise Trabucco, Cresencia Huff, and Deirdre Murphy, who work with the Little Read Wagon emergent literacy program at the San Antonio Public Library.

Workshops will held this spring in five Texas Library Systems.

- Mar. 31 - Jourdanton Library and Community Center, Jourdanton
- Apr. 7 - North Garland Branch Library, NICHOLSON MEMORIAL (Garland)
- May 5 - Kimble County Library, Junction
- May 8 - Round Rock Public Library, Round Rock
- Aug. 11 - Richard Burgess Regional Branch Library, El Paso

Workshops will be scheduled in additional Texas Library Systems next fall and/or spring.

Attendees will receive 6 hours of continuing education credit for attending this workshop series, depending on the location. The continuing education credit is SBEC eligible for school librarians (Texas State Library Identification #500799.)

For more information and to register, please visit the TSLAC web site at <<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/workshops/crtr/index.html>>, or contact Youth Services Consultant Christine McNew; Library Development Div.; TSLAC; POB 12927; Austin, 78711-2927; 800.252.9386 (Texas only) or 512.463.6623; fax 512.463.8800; <christine.mcnew@tsl.state.tx.us>.



MEDIA

Book NETLS Media for Reading Club Programming

The theme for the 2006 State Library reading club is *Reading: The Sport of Champions!* The NETLS Media Collection has videos, DVDs, and die cutting blocks that can assist library staff members in planning and programming in the summer months ahead.

Die cutting blocks reflecting sports themes were added to the collection last year and more new blocks have just recently been added.

Because the NETLS Die Cutting Collection Catalog is undergoing a complete revision, the images for the newest of these dies are not yet available, but here are the booking numbers and a brief description of the dies.

DC06101 -- Karate #2 (little boy demonstrating a karate kick)

DC06102 -- Runner (profile of a male runner)

DC06103 -- Snowboarder #2 (profile of snowboarder in full safety gear making a jump)

DC06104 – Soccer player – (boy kicking ball; matches female soccer player die already in the collection)

Authorized library staff members may book

die cutting blocks, videos and DVDs through the NETLS online catalog and booking system, WebBOOK at <<http://www.av.netls.org>>.

For more information about the NETLS Media Collection, contact Barbara Rhodes, 972.205.2573, <brhodes@netls.org>; or Lori Mullins, 972.205.2574, <lmullins@netls.org>.

Missing Shipping Cases

Library staff members who use the NETLS Die Block Collection are familiar with the gray or brown fiber boxes that are used by Media Services to ship the die blocks to our libraries. Recently, our box inventory has come up short. Several of the shipping boxes have not been returned to the NETLS office.



We are asking all libraries that make use of the NETLS Die Block Collection to check their

shipping areas for our missing cases. If any are found, please return them to NETLS Media Services; 625 Austin St.; Garland 75040.

2006 Carnegie Medal Winner

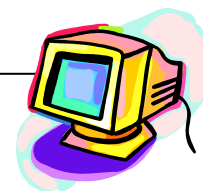
The 2006 Andrew Carnegie Medal winner for the best in children's video is *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers* (NETLS VC1347) produced by Paul R. Gagne and Melissa Reilly for Weston Woods Studios. The program is based on the book by Mordicai Gerstein.

On August 7, 1974, a young Frenchman amazed the city of New York and the world by walking on a high wire strung between the two

towers of the World Trade Center. He spent almost an hour dancing, running, and kneeling on the wire, ignoring the pleas of police. Gerstein's book celebrates the daring accomplishment while paying a bittersweet tribute to the memory of the Trade Center.

The Carnegie Medal was established with the support of the Carnegie Corporation of New York to honor an outstanding American video production for children released during the previous year. It is administered by the Assn. for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Assn. (ALA).

TECHNOLOGY



Free Web Site Hosting from TSLAC

Many public libraries provide access to their catalog of holdings, as well as other resources through their library's Web site. Assuming the library budget includes funding for the equipment, software, development and maintenance, a library Web site is a great way to inform the general public about library programs and activities.

Unfortunately, many small libraries do not have a Web site due to the lack of funding for development and maintenance. That situation may change soon, according to Len Borowski, Web Administrator for the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC).

Recently, in a meeting with System Coordinators, state library staff announced a plan for TSLAC to host Web sites for public libraries. State Library would provide the equipment, server software, maintenance and space on their server. Librarians participating in the program would maintain the Web site by using a simple-to-use, free, open source software called Plinkit (Public Library Interface Kit). Plinkit may be a

more robust solution than Microsoft™ FrontPage. To learn more about Plinkit, go to <http://www.plinkit.org>.

Templates will be available so participants could create a Web page without having to learn how to write html code. System staff may be trained in the use of Plinkit to assist librarians that want to participate in the TSLAC hosting program.

In addition to hosting Web sites for libraries, TSLAC may also assist participants by providing a link to the Library of Texas from each library's Web page.

Although TSLAC Web hosting project is not yet available and no timeline has been established, more information will be forthcoming. Member libraries should look forward to additional announcements in the future.

If you have any questions regarding this or any other technology, please contact NETLS Technology Consultant Jerry McCulley at 972.205.2569 or email jmcculley@netls.org.

NOTEWORTHY



Names in the News

Marsha Barker, formerly Assistant Coordinator at NETLS, is now Coordinator of the Texas Panhandle Library System (TPLS) in Amarillo.

Lee Brawner, former executive director of Oklahoma City's Metropolitan Library, passed away in February. He was well known in the state of Texas, where he worked at libraries in both Dallas and Waco, and did much consulting.

Vicki Chiavetta, formerly with Flower Mound Library, has recently joined the staff of NICHOLSON MEMORIAL (Garland) as Manager of the North Branch.

Roland Commons, director of HOWE COMMUNITY LIBRARY, has retired.

Congratulations to **Vickey Cooper**, director of LEE PUBLIC (Gladewater). She got married in December and changed her name to **Vickey Green**.

Congratulations to **Nancy Dunlap**, director of PITTSBURG/CAMP COUNTY, as well. She was also married recently. She is now **Nancy Murillo**.

Jane Dillon has retired from CARROLLTON PUBLIC.

Cheri Gross, formerly Manager of the W. O. Haggard, Jr. Library in the PLANO PUBLIC System, is now director of CARROLLTON PUBLIC.

Cheryl Hollingsworth has joined the staff of NICHOLSON MEMORIAL (Garland) as a part-time temporary librarian.

In December, after 11 years of service, **Mary Ann Johnston** retired as Circulation Supervisor at NICHOLSON MEMORIAL (Garland).

Betty Landon has joined the staff of NICHOLSON MEMORIAL (Garland) as Adult Collection Development Specialist.

Jeannette Larson, formerly Youth Services Manager at Austin Public, has retired in order to spend more time focusing on writing books and articles on youth services as well as conducting workshops on library work with children and young adults.

Jennifer Lee of NICHOLSON MEMORIAL (Garland) has been promoted to the position of Children's Collection Development Specialist.

Deborah Lilley, a full-time school librarian, has joined the staff of NICHOLSON MEMORIAL (Garland) as a part time temporary librarian.

Isariya Locke has joined the staff of NICHOLSON MEMORIAL (Garland) as a part-time librarian.

Christina Ostroff has joined the staff of NICHOLSON MEMORIAL (Garland) as a part-time temporary librarian. Christina is a recent graduate of the Univ. of North Texas.

Joyce Parks is the Interim Director of HOWE COMMUNITY LIBRARY.

Paula Perkins has resigned as director of RED OAK PUBLIC.

Kortney Porter, a recent graduate of Texas Woman's Univ., has joined the staff of NICHOLSON MEMORIAL (Garland) as Children's Librarian at the South Garland Branch.

Sharon Ricketson is serving as Interim Director at SULPHUR SPRINGS PUBLIC.

Kathryn St. Claire has resigned as director of SULPHUR SPRINGS PUBLIC to take a position at Weatherford Public.

Mary Jo Venetis has left her position as Manager of the Interlibrary Loan Division at DALLAS PUBLIC to accept a position in the Acquisitions Dept. at the Univ. of Texas, Dallas.

Terry Wimpee, formerly with W. WALWORTH HARRISON PUBLIC (Greenville), has joined the staff of NICHOLSON MEMORIAL (Garland) as part-time librarian.

Read Across McKinney

The staff of MCKINNEY MEMORIAL PUBLIC has been planning for over a year for a One Book/One Community program, Read Across McKinney. With the assistance of City officials and the support of local companies and merchants, the program is taking place in March and April. The chosen book for the event is *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee.

The program has been coordinated to coincide with the opening of the McKinney Performing Arts Center at the Historic Collin County Courthouse and many of the library's events will take place there, free of charge. The featured speaker is Charles J. Shields, author of the upcoming Harper Lee biography, *Mockingbird*.

Additionally, the McKinney Repertory Theatre is presenting their production of *To Kill a Mockingbird* in the courtroom theater. A screening of the 1962 Oscar-winning film version of the book is also scheduled.

For more information on the program, and a schedule of events, visit www.ReadAcrossMcKinney.org.

2006 Texas Reading Club Materials Order

Library staff members who have not yet placed their orders for 2006 Texas Reading Club materials should do so very soon. When ordering at the Texas State Library & Archives Commission (TSLAC) Web site, <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2006/index.html>, please enter the library's contact information along with the quantities of posters, manuals, bookmarks, certificates, and reading logs that are needed. The 2006 Texas Reading Club clip art by Frank Remkiewicz is also located on that Web page. Libraries that have already ordered their materials should confirm that their orders are correct by checking the spreadsheet at the same Web address.

Texas Reading Club manuals will be mailed by Jan. 31. The manual will also be available online. The posters, certificates, bookmarks, and reading logs will be mailed to libraries throughout the state by Mar. 31.

Libraries that participated in last year's club are asked to complete an Evaluation Form for the 2005 Texas Reading Club at <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/forms/eval.html> if they have not already done so.

To request additional information, contact Youth Services Consultant Christine McNew; Texas State Library and Archives Commission; 1201 Brazos; Austin, 78701; 512.463.6623.



Texas Library Assn. Annual Conference 2006

The theme for the 2006 TLA Annual Conference is *Libraries: Igniting the Passion*. The Conference will be held in Houston, Apr. 25-28.

By now, library staff members who pre-registered to attend TLA should have received the printed conference program by mail.

Remember to save this copy of the program. TLA will no longer print an onsite conference program. Instead, attendees will receive a



convenient mini-pocket guide that will have program titles, times, room numbers, and a list of exhibiting companies and booth numbers. The pocket guide is designed to fit into badge holders to

help minimize the amount of material that conference goers need to carry from session to session.

Julie Andrews, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Ralph Russell, Marlee Matlin, Rhea Perlman, Maria Hinojosa, Anthony Reese, Arnold Garcia, Stephen Harrigan, the second Conference on School Libraries, Lawyers for Libraries, and Kinky Friedman are just the tip of the proverbial TLA conference iceberg.

Conference planners have raised the bar for conference as never before. Featuring content-rich programs for every time slot at TLA, the 2006 conference combines the best of TLA's tradition of excellence along with innovative programming designed to address today's most pressing issues.

For more information on TLA 2006 Conference events or to register online, visit the TLA Web site at <<http://www.tsla.org/conference/conf.html>>.

ALA Offers Free Conference Registration

As part of the ongoing support for member library staff impacted by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the American Library Assn. is offering complimentary registration to the Annual Conference, June 22-28, in New Orleans to ALA and ALA Chapter members from the severely impacted Gulf Coast counties and parishes.

Current ALA members or members of the ALA Chapters (which includes the AASL affiliates) in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and

Texas, who worked or resided in the following counties or parishes, are eligible for complimentary registration:

- Louisiana – Calcasieu, Cameron, Iberia, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Lafourche, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Terrebonne, Vermilion, and Washington
- Mississippi – Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Pearl River, Stone and George;
- Alabama – Mobile
- Texas – Hardin, Jefferson, Newton, and Orange

This complimentary registration is for full access to regular Annual Conference 2006 events. Additional events that require separate registration or fees are listed on the Special Registration Events page at <<http://www.ala.org/annual>> and are not covered in this complimentary registration.

Because "Libraries Build Communities," the decision to hold the first citywide convention in post-Katrina New Orleans carries a special responsibility for ALA members.

Annual Conference 2006 will feature an expanded career placement center, premier continuing education offerings, and extensive peer networking to help library workers connect with new opportunities for professional growth.

ALA encourages members to join with their colleagues from New Orleans and across the Gulf Coast to rebuild libraries and to reinvigorate the profession through participation at Annual Conference in 2006.

Information and eligibility criteria are available at <<http://www.ala.org/katrina>>.

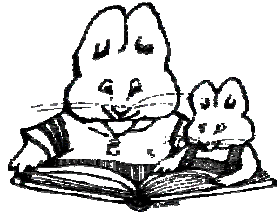
To obtain an application for complimentary registration, please contact the ALA Chapter Relations Office at <cro@ala.org> or 800.545.2433 ext. 2429.

What Is an Adopt a Bunny Program?

Adopt a Bunny is a read-aloud program initiated by well-known children's author and illustrator Rosemary Wells. Emphasizing the pleasures of reading with a buddy, it is designed

for children ages pre-school through upper elementary. The intent of the program is to expose children to a variety of literature, offer an inviting atmosphere for children through interaction with younger or older buddies (Junior and Senior Bunnies), and promote reading as fun and entertaining.

Making the decision to start an *Adopt a Bunny* program means you will be helping to create better readers and instill a love of reading in the children who participate. As



children read aloud to each other - older to younger and younger to older - they begin to form a reading habit and gain confidence from the encouragement of their buddies.

Providing children with opportunities to read together helps:

- Develop listening skills that transfer to other areas, including class work.
- Enhance vocabulary and spelling skills.
- Create more self-reliant thinkers, readers, and learners.
- Introduce the symbolic use of language.
- Develop skills in dialogue and cooperative interpersonal behavior.
- Explore the traditions that characterize the cultural heritages of others which whom we share the world.
- Stimulate the qualities of visualization, imagination, and creativity.

Above all, reading with a friend or a buddy is a delightful social exchange that provides children with a sense of responsibility, accomplishment, and pride in their own abilities.

Additional information on the *Adopt a Bunny* program, along with downloadable clip art and a manual, is available at <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/pubs/adoptbunny/index.html>.

10th Anniversary of *El día de los niños*

April 30th 2006, will mark the 10th anniversary of *El día de los niños/El día de los libros*. Libraries

throughout the United States will host bilingual story hours, have book giveaways, and present literacy events.

The effort to promote public awareness of the event is funded through a grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. The Assn. for Library Service to Children (ALSC), in collaboration with the National Assn. to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking (REFORMA) has developed free brochures and other information to encourage and promote library activities.

El día de los niños/El día de los libros celebrates the importance of literacy in the lives of families. Its goal is to bring together children from all cultures, encouraging reading and literacy in the country's changing populations.

For more information and a full text PDF version of the *Día* brochure, visit the ALSC Web site at <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/alscresources/eladiadelosnios/eladiadelosnios.htm>.

2008 Texas Reading Club Manual: Request for Bids

Theme: "Texas Reading Club Jubilee: 1958-2008"

Reference: Purchase Order #306-07-8001

In 2008, the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Texas Reading Club! Do you have ideas for programs and celebrations of libraries, books, and reading, including the history and future of children's literature and libraries, time capsules, scrapbooks, and fashions, traditions, and trends, and best children's books and authors since 1958? Would you like to share them with librarians throughout the Lone Star State?

TSLAC invites library staff members to submit a bid to write program chapters, puppet shows, reader's theater scripts, stories, create craft illustrations, and/or edit the 2008 Texas Reading Club Manual. Each chapter will include suggestions for age-appropriate books, songs and fingerplays, crafts, games and activities, videos and/or CDs, Web sites, etc., an annotated bibliography, and rough drafts or sketches of craft

illustrations and patterns.

Interested library staff members are invited to bid upon one, two, or all of the following Manual components:

- Reader's Theater Scripts (2)
- Stories for Telling or Flannel Board Stories (2)
- Theme Songs (One "piggyback" theme song and one original theme song)
- Puppet Play Scripts (2)
- Toddler Programs Chapter
- Pre-school Programs Chapter
- Elementary Programs Chapter
- Young Adult Programs Chapter
- Kick-off and End-of-Summer Celebrations Chapter
- Bilingual Programs Chapter
- Editing Component: Compiling, Editing, and Formatting of all Chapters, Components, and Bibliography, and preparation of preface and introductory sections of Manual

Proposed Timeline for Submission of Work:

Due dates may be changed by mutual agreement of the Author and the TSLAC.

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| Nov. 3, 2006 | Detailed outlines of scripts and chapters due |
| Dec. 17, 2006 | First drafts of scripts and chapters due |
| Feb. 9, 2007 | Second drafts of scripts and chapters due |
| Apr. 6, 2007 | Final drafts of scripts and chapters due |
| May 11, 2007 | Editor receives manual |
| July 27, 2007 | Final editing and formatting due |

Library staff members who would like to send a proposal should contact Christine McNew; TSLAC; 1201 Brazos; Austin, 78701; 512.463.6623; fax 512.463.8800; <cmcnew@tsl.state.tx.us>, no later than **May 31, 2006** to request detailed project specifications, timeline, and a bid submission form.

Newbery, Caldecott, King Medal Winners

At the American Library Assn. Midwinter Meeting in January, the winners of the major book awards were announced.

The 2006 Newbery Medal winner is *Criss Cross* written by Lynne Rae Perkins, Greenwillow Books, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers.

The 2006 Caldecott Medal winner is *The Hello, Goodbye Window* illustrated by Chris Raschka and written by Norton Juster (Michael di Capua Books, an imprint of Hyperion Books for Children).

The Coretta Scott King Award for 2006 was given to author Julius Lester for *Day of Tears: A Novel in Dialogue* and illustrator Bryan Collier for *Rosa* (author: Nikki Giovanni).

The Theodor Seuss Geisel Award was given for the first time in 2006. It will be given annually to the author(s) and illustrator(s) of the most distinguished contribution to the body of American children's literature known as beginning reader books published in the United States during the preceding year.

The award is to recognize the author(s) and illustrator(s) of a beginning reader book who demonstrate great creativity and imagination in his/her/their literary and artistic achievements to engage children in reading.

The first book to receive the Geisel Award is *Henry and Mudge and the Great Grandpas*, written by Cynthia Rylant and illustrated by Suçie Stevenson (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers).

Information on the awards, lists of past winners, and honor books is available online at the American Library Assn. Web site, <www.ala.org>. Reproducible masters of brochures that list those award winners, along with the 2006 Bluebonnet, TAYSHAS and Lone Star Reading lists, are available on the NETLS Web site <www.netls.org>.

The First Lady's Family Literacy Initiative for Texas

The First Lady's Family Literacy Initiative for Texas, a program of The Barbara Bush Texas Fund for Family Literacy, announces their 2006 grant competition. Laura Bush, who founded this Initiative when she was first lady of Texas, continues to serve as Honorary Chair. The Texas Center for Adult Literacy and Learning at Texas A&M University provides technical assistance to the family literacy programs funded each year.

As of July, 2005, the Initiative had awarded over \$2 million to 100 programs in 59 cities across the state. 2006 will mark the 11th annual competition.

The grants of up to \$25,000 each are given to help create family literacy programs by building on existing literacy programs that work with only one generation, i.e. children or adults, so that complete family literacy programs can be created. The grant program also funds innovative projects within existing family literacy programs, as well as replication of successful family literacy programs with new populations or in new locations. Partnerships with other community groups are strongly encouraged.

Successful family literacy programs provide reading instruction for parents or primary caregivers, reading or pre-reading activities for their children, and parent/child reading time and interactions. A successful grant application includes clearly stated objectives, along with a solid assessment plan to measure whether or not those objectives have been achieved.

The 2006 grant application and guidelines are available online at www-tcall.tamu.edu (note the hyphen after www instead of a period), or email requests to ppeebler@mcnairgrp.com.

For more information about the grants, please contact Pat Peebler at ppeebler@mcnairgrp.com or phone 713.336.7889.

Deadline for applications is **Mar. 31**.

For more information about the work of the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy and the Barbara Bush Texas Fund, visit the Foundation's website at www.barbarabushfoundation.com.

ALA Black Caucus Smiley Student Fund

The Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA) has announced the Smiley Student Fund. The fund will provide two applicants with funds to attend the Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC) in Dallas on Oct. 11-15, 2006.

Two students will receive \$500 stipends to attend JCLC, the first-ever national conference to be held and sponsored by the ALA's five caucuses of color.

Applicants must be an active student member of BCALA and a full-time graduate student in an accredited Library School graduate program.

For additional application requirements and guidelines, visit the <http://www.bcala.org/awards/smiley.htm>.

Deadline for applications is **Mar. 31**.

SirsiDynix Building Better Communities Awards

SirsiDynix has announced the Building Better Communities Awards to recognize libraries using new technologies to become indispensable to their communities and build new relationships.

This is the chance to tell the world about the outstanding work that libraries do, and five library organizations will each receive \$10,000 as a reward. An independent panel of library leaders from Canada and the U.S. will select the award recipients. Applicants must be North American SirsiDynix library whose technology leadership has distinguished it in service to its user communities.

An online application is available on the award Web site http://sirsidynix.com/Company/bbc_awards.php. Questions regarding nominations may be sent to awards@sirsidynix.com.

Awards will be announced at the ALA Annual Conference in June 2006.

Deadline for nominations is **Apr. 14**.



Libri Foundation Grants Available

The Libri Foundation is a nationwide non-profit organization which donates new, quality, hardcover children's books to small, rural public libraries through its *BOOKS FOR CHILDREN* program. The Foundation is currently accepting applications for its 2006 grants.

The Foundation works with Friends of the Library groups or other local organizations. Local sponsors can contribute from \$50 to \$350, which is then matched by the Foundation on a 2 to 1 ratio. Thus, a library can receive up to \$1,050 worth of hardcover children's books through the program. After a library receives a grant, local sponsors have four months or longer, if necessary, to raise matching funds.

Libraries are qualified on an individual basis. In general, county libraries should serve populations of under 16,000 and town libraries should serve a population under 10,000. Additionally the libraries should be in a rural area (at least 30 miles from a city with a population over 40,000), have very limited budgets and maintain active children's departments.

Applications are accepted from independent libraries as well as libraries that are part of a county, regional, or cooperative library system. A library system may also apply if all the libraries in the system meet the requirements. School libraries may apply only if they also serve as the area public library.

SPECIAL GRANTS #1: This year the Foundation is offering a number of special non-matching grants to rural libraries affected by Hurricanes Katrina & Rita. For more information, please contact the Foundation's office.

To request an application packet, contact the Libri Foundation at <libri@librifoundation.org> or go to <<http://www.librifoundation.org/LibriForm1.html>> to print out an application form.

Deadline for applications is **Apr. 15**.

Texas Reads Grants

The FY2007 Texas Reads Grant Guidelines are now available on the Texas State Library Web site, <<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/funding/index.html#txReads>>. Public libraries and local public library systems, through their governing authority (city, county, corporation, or district) are eligible to apply.

The Texas Reads Grant funds public library programs to promote reading and literacy within local communities. This



program is administered by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) and funded by proceeds of the sale of Texas Reads specialty license plates available through the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

TSLAC staff members are available to assist library staff throughout the application process. Contact Myra Arredondo at 800.252.9386 or 512.463.5527 or by e-mail at <myra.arredondo@tsl.state.tx.us> for assistance. Drafts must be received by April 7 to ensure staff review.

Application deadline is **Apr. 21** for the FY2007 funding cycle.

For general questions about the Texas Reads program, please contact Wendy Clark, Loan Star and Texas Reads Grant Coordinator, at <wendy.clark@tsl.state.tx.us>, 800.252.9386, or 512.463.5475.

For more information about the Texas Reads specialty license plate, visit <<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/agency/txreads.html>>.

New Woman's Day Editorial Initiative

Woman's Day magazine wants to learn how the library has changed lives.

The magazine announced the editorial initiative in its March 7 issue, which reached subscribers last week. In the issue, the magazine declares that libraries are magical places and asks readers to submit their stories in 700 words or less.

Stories can be sent to <womansday@ala.org> from now until **May 10**, when the promotion closes. Four of the submissions will be featured in an upcoming issue of *Woman's Day*.



Library staff members can promote the initiative in their libraries by downloading free promotional tools from the ALA @ your library® Web site, <<http://www.ala.org/ala/piol/campaign/sponsorship/wdchangelives.htm>>. Tools include a sample press release, downloadable logos, sample newsletter copy and flyer.

Previous Year's Initiative

In the same issue, *Woman's Day* highlights the two winners from last year's editorial initiative, which asked people why they would want to research their family trees at the library.

The four-page article features librarians Howard Grueneberg from the Urbana (Ill.) Free Library and Shellie Cocking from the San Francisco Public Library guiding the winners through library resources to help them discover new parts of their family history. It also includes a sidebar with tips on plotting family history from ALA member Stephen C. Young of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. Young is chair of the genealogy committee for the Reference and User Services Associations (RUSA) history section.

Longstanding partnership with ALA

The American Library Assn. (ALA) partnership with *Woman's Day* began in 2002 with a series of workshops for aspiring writers led by writers from the magazine. It has developed into a multi-program partnership that has resulted in approximately \$4 million in library-related editorial coverage in five issues of the magazine, donated ad space and an online book club featuring ALA members.

2006 Writing Workshop & Online Book Club

The writing workshops will kick off again this year during National Library Week at 10 community college and public libraries

throughout the country.

Currently, the *Woman's Day* online book club features book recommendations for young adults from YALSA members, and beginning this summer, the book club will highlight RUSA members. The book club is available by visiting <www.womansday.com/community>.

Woman's Day is a Founding Partner of *The Campaign for Americas Libraries*, ALA's multi-year public awareness and advocacy campaign to promote the value of libraries and librarians in the 21st century.

{Adapted from Mark Gould, Director, Public Information Office @ your library}

Electronic Records Projects Grant

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), a division of the National Archives and Records Administration, seeks ways to ensure that records created today will be usable with tomorrow's technology. As society moves recordkeeping from paper to electronic records, it is essential that electronic records retain their authenticity and are preserved. The NHPRC supports efforts by archivists and other records managers to meet the challenges of a proliferation of electronic records.

The NHPRC especially welcomes projects that build institutional capacity, promote professional development and education in the field, and help create and support consortia and other cooperative programs.

Eligible Activities Include:

- Projects to establish sustainable electronic records programs within archival institutions.
- Projects to establish and expand electronic records programs by cooperative efforts.
- Electronic records-related professional education.
- Conferences, consultancies, and similar efforts.
- Research, development, and analysis projects.

- Projects that attempt to establish policies, best practices, and tools for long-term preservation of, and access to, electronic records.

Grants for Electronic Records Projects cannot be used to digitize records originally produced in analog media, including paper, microfilm, sound recordings, or motion pictures.

Information on how to plan and prepare a grant application and other details are available on the NHPRC Web site, <<http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/electronic.html>>

Deadline for the Draft Project Description is **Apr. 1.**

Grant application deadline is **June 1.**

Book Replacement Grants

Humanities Texas (Texas Council for the Humanities) is pleased to announce a book replacement grant program for Texas libraries that suffered significant damages from Hurricane Rita.

Public and school (K-12) libraries may request as much as \$1,000 to support collection development in such humanities fields as literature, history, and the study of other languages and cultures. Purchases may include books, media resources, and other educational materials. The grant Web site is <<http://www.publihumanities.org/grants/bookreplacement.htm>>.

Libraries may request an additional \$500 to support the purchase of collection materials that strengthen the teaching, study, and understanding of U.S. history and culture. These additional funds are made possible by the National Endowment for the Humanities We the People <<http://www.wethepeople.gov/>> initiative.

To apply:

No forms are necessary. Please send an application letter to Humanities Texas that includes:

- library name and address
- name and contact information for the library's authorizing official
- name and contact information for the

person who will oversee the project

- library's U.S. congressional district
- a brief (one or two paragraph) description of the damage suffered as a result of the hurricane
- an overview of the materials to be purchased, their subject areas, and cost (ex: 50 classic novels by U.S. writers, \$250, which support the study of American literature)
- an estimated project timeline

The application letter must be signed by the library's authorizing official.

Application deadline and mailing address:

Applications will be accepted at any time until **July 1, 2006**, or until grant funds have been exhausted. Please send applications to Book Replacement Grant Program; Humanities Texas; 3809A South 2nd St.; Austin, 78704

Decision timeline:

Applicants will be notified within four weeks of their application's arrival in the Humanities Texas office.

Questions:

Please contact Eric Lupfer, Director of Grants and Education, at 512.440.1991 or <grants@humanitiestexas.org>.

Starbucks Foundation Grants Available

Starbucks Foundation Grants fund programs that integrate literacy with personal and civic action in the communities where they live.

Maximum Award: \$5,000. Eligibility: 501(c)3 organizations or public entities (libraries) that work with underserved youth ages 6-18 in the fields of literacy (reading, writing and creative/media arts) and environmental literacy.

For additional information and grant guidelines, visit the grant Web site at <<http://www.starbucks.com/aboutus/grantinfo.asp>>.

The next period for acceptance of Letters of Inquiry will be **Aug. 1 – Sept. 1.**

Wikis for Librarians

According to *Wikipedia's* own definition, listed in the site's "wiktionary", a wiki is "an open-content encyclopedia collaboratively developed over the Internet, sponsored by the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., and started in English on January 15, 2001."

Two wikis geared toward library and information science are available on the Web. They are *Library Success: A Best Practices Wiki* <<http://libsucccess.org>> and *Library and Information Science Wiki, LISWiki.com* <<http://liswiki.com>>.

The introductory information at the *Library Success* home page states, "This wiki was created

to be a one-stop-shop for great ideas and information for all types of librarians."

The About page for *LISWiki* states "LISWiki was established to give the library community a chance to explore the usefulness of Wikis. It is not intended to replace or detract from the *Wikipedia library and information science* articles (or those in the printed LIS encyclopedias for that matter), but exist as a niche encyclopedia covering library-related issues."

Both wikis are open to contributions from anyone working in the field of librarianship.

(Adapted from an article by Naomi DeTullio, Distance Learning Consultant, TSLAC)



Texas Reading Club artwork © Frank Remkiewicz

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