

REPORTER

ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

JUNE 2014

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Take a Book
Return a Book

Little Free Library

CERTIFIED
2009

Take a Book

FREE BOOKS



www.littlefreelibrary.org

Return a Book

The Illinois Library Association Reporter

is a forum for those who are improving and reinventing Illinois libraries, with articles that seek to: explore new ideas and practices from all types of libraries and library systems; examine the challenges facing the profession; and inform the library community and its supporters with news and comment about important issues. The *ILA Reporter* is produced and circulated with the purpose of enhancing and supporting the value of libraries, which provide free and equal access to information. This access is essential for an open democratic society, an informed electorate, and the advancement of knowledge for all people.



The Illinois Library Association is the voice for Illinois libraries and the millions who depend on them. It provides leadership for the development, promotion, and improvement of library services in Illinois and for the library community in order to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all. It is the eighth oldest library association in the world and the third largest state association in the United States, with members in academic, public, school, government, and special libraries. Its 3,200 members are primarily librarians and library staff, but also trustees, publishers, and other supporters.

ON THE COVER

This Little Free Library built by Todd Bol in 2009 is the first of its kind and still stands in front of his home in Hudson, Wisconsin but will eventually make its way to the Wisconsin Historical Society. Since then, Little Free Libraries have been popping up all over, and not just as random acts of book sharing. The article that begins on page 4 visits four large-scale community engagement projects in El Paso, Syracuse, Minneapolis, and Cleveland that aim to build literacy in low-income communities working with public, school, and academic libraries.

The Illinois Library Association has four full-time staff members. It is governed by a sixteen-member executive board, made up of elected officers. The association employs the services of Kolkmeier Consulting for legislative advocacy. ILA is a 501(c)(3) charitable and educational organization.

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See ILA calendar for submission deadlines for the *ILA Reporter*. Copy should be submitted by e-mail to ila@ila.org. You are encouraged to include digital or film photos (black/white or color) and graphics (on disk or camera-ready) with your articles, which will be included on a space-available basis.

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Big Visions for Little Free Libraries: Literacy and Community Engagement

Little Free Libraries are everywhere. Whether you encounter one on your neighbor's front lawn or at the edge of a cornfield, it is likely that you have seen one of the nearly 16,000 Little Free Libraries that are in place worldwide. In 2009 creator Todd Bol, having recently lost his mother, set out in his van to work through his grief. When he came home to Hudson, Wisconsin, he decided to honor his mother—a former teacher who loved books—by making a box to house books to share with others. He mounted the birdhouse-like box on a post on his front lawn and the rest, as they say, is history.

From this small act, an international movement—engaging individuals, families, neighborhoods, and entire communities—was born. (www.littlefreelibrary.org). The premise is simple: take a book, leave a book. The box to house the books can be any shape, size, or design. A quick tour of online images, via Google or Pinterest, reveals the sheer breadth and depth of creativity that individuals bring to designing and installing Little Free Libraries. The libraries themselves are relatively small, usually holding thirty-five to forty books, but their impact is enormous. These little libraries not only make everyone smile, they get people excited about reading.

Little Free Libraries are no longer just personal, individual undertakings; they are now part of large-scale, planned projects that are effective tools for community engagement in cities and towns all across the country, with powerful stories of collaboration and success. These large undertakings address head-on the issues of low literacy, lack of access to reading materials, and neighborhood unity. They bring together public libraries, school districts, businesses, nonprofits, community government, health-care providers, individuals, and anyone else who wants to jump on board. And they are effective—change is happening in communities that are using this tool to bring

literacy materials to every block in town. This national movement showcases efforts of a single school librarian in El Paso, citywide collaborations in Minneapolis and Cleveland with school and public libraries, and an innovative project involving library school students in Syracuse.

EL PASO, TEXAS: TAKING OWNERSHIP

Lisa Lopez is a school librarian who knows that getting books into the hands of her students in the traditional way—through library checkout at school—is not enough. She knows that her high-poverty, low-literacy students need more. They need to become book owners, and in order for that to happen for her students, something needed to change in her community.

Lopez began in 2011—with a Little Free Library inside her school building, created with supplies from a crafts store and decorated by her students. In three short years, the project has grown to a whopping sixty LFLs, which have become a vibrant literacy network. In 2013 Lopez was awarded the *Library Journal* Movers & Shakers honor for her work with Little Free Libraries.

With help from Todd Bol and Rick Brooks, founders of Little Free Libraries and also named Movers & Shakers in 2013, Lopez was able to reach out to nonprofit groups in her community, including the El Paso Public Library Association, the Department of Public Health, the Parks and Recreation Department, and a local technical college. Together these groups have helped to build and place LFLs on neighborhood streets, in parks, and in fifteen public health clinics across the city of El Paso.

[continued on page 6]



According to Lopez, El Paso is one of the least literate cities in the nation, and this network of Little Free Libraries has given children in that community the experience of book ownership. Children in El Paso now have the freedom to take a book of their choice from a Little Free Library and, in turn, can leave a book for others. Little Free Libraries are a constant, sustaining behavior support for the extension of literacy from “something that only happens in school” to “something that is a way of everyday life in my neighborhood.”

SYRACUSE, NEW YORK: FROM PHONE BOOTH TO BOOK SOURCE

Recognizing that some residents of the Near Westside neighborhood of Syracuse did not have easy access to their local public library, the School of Information Studies at Syracuse University, in conjunction with the Near Westside Neighborhood Association and the School of Visual and Performing Arts, established a project in 2012 to design, build, and place LFLs in this community.

These LFLs are unique—a repurposing of old public telephone kiosks, designed and built by students in the School of Visual and Performing Arts. Collaboration and community involvement bring together donors of books, neighborhood residents, and stewards (LFL caretakers). From the beginning, the project was not in competition with the public library; rather, the public library was part of the “branding” of the project. Every book donated to the LFL through the university project bears a stamp or sticker directing the reader to the public library, and a specially designed bookmark is put inside each book.

The vision of the project from the start was that the Little Free Libraries would connect patrons to reading and lead them to the public library for more reading materials, according to Jill Hurst-Wahl, director of the Library and Information Science & School Media Programs at Syracuse.

While this is a relatively small collaborative project (five LFLs are planned and, to date, three have been built), it is a useful model and embodies a unique concept—a Collection Development Policy created by a Syracuse University iSchool summer intern, which is made available to stewards as a guide to help them stock the LFLs and manage the influx of books donated through numerous book drives (Syracuse Collection Development Policy and SYR-LFL Blog are located at: littlelibraries.syr.edu/).

According to Hurst-Wahl, the public response to the book drives was “amazing. . . we were overrun with books.” Volunteers and a summer intern helped to sort, stamp, and rebox the donations into small diverse collections that could be handed off to LFL stewards. While the university played an important role in setting the project in motion, it is the individual stewards that live in the community who keep the project alive. From the start the vision for this project was hyper-local—to provide a tool for the community that would make access to reading materials easy for residents and provide the opportunity for individuals in the community to watch over the structures and maintain the collections. This small network of LFLs in Syracuse is in constant use, and the project is an excellent example of the kind of positive, successful change that can happen when local institutions collaborate to put the tools of literacy within easy reach of everyone.



Mother Earth with Library Science students Darren Glenn and Erin Lee at the first LFL on Gifford Street, Syracuse, NY



Rick Brooks, one of the founders of Little Free Libraries, with Jill Hurst-Wahl, director of the Library and Information Science & School Media Programs at Syracuse.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA: A LIBRARY ON EVERY BLOCK

From the very beginning, the vision was grand: Little Free Libraries on every block, connecting parents back to schools in low-income areas. The vision took shape two years ago during a conversation over coffee between Melanie Sanco, director of Resource Development and Innovation for the Minneapolis Public Schools, and Todd Bol, co-founder of Little Free Libraries. The vision is becoming a reality called Books Around the Block.

With the help of volunteers from AmeriCorps VISTA, the Minneapolis Public Schools created a blueprint for designing a large-scale LFL project, sustainable over time. Working from the proposition that literacy is a community issue, this project engages everyone in the change process—from the local Rotary and Lions clubs to publishers, businesses, nonprofits, neighborhood associations, schools, parents, and individuals. The Little Free Libraries themselves are built through donations of time and money. Individuals who want to become stewards (caretakers) of an LFL can apply to the program. Individuals, community groups, publishers, and writers donate books to seed and sustain the LFLs.

According to Olivia Quintanilla, an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer for the project, LFL stewards in low-income neighborhoods receive extensive support. For the first year of a new LFL, an organized warehouse of books is available for stewards to “shop” for books to resupply their LFL. Some LFLs become completely self-sustaining before the end of that first year—the “take a book/leave a book” philosophy having become such an integral part of the community’s use of the LFL that stewards no longer need to rely on the warehouse for a constant supply of books.

To date the program has placed sixty-one LFLs in its target neighborhood, with hundreds more having been built by community groups and individuals in the Minneapolis area. The Books Around the Block website provides information about how the program works and is a great starting point for any group interested in creating a large-scale LFL program (rdi.mpls.k12.mn.us/littlefreelibrary). Books Around the Block has also created a complete Program Guide for creating a Little Free Libraries program in your community, complete with an appendix of fillable forms that can be customized. Both documents are available on the ILA website at www.ila.org/committees/best-practices-committee.

According to Millie Stulberg, another AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer, the purpose of the project was to change the culture of literacy in low-income neighborhoods and generate excitement about books. Parents are an essential part of the program; those who are stewards or caretakers are highlighted in the school newsletter and become neighborhood superstars. The project has been so successful, there is a waiting list of stewards ready for the next wave of Little Free Libraries.

One of the goals of the Minneapolis project was to “saturate” low-income neighborhoods with books—and they are well on their way to accomplishing this goal. Another goal was to be an emerging model for other urban centers to replicate.

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Karin Bernal, Media Specialist at Green Central Community School, Minneapolis, MN, installing an LFL.

A neighborhood installation in Minneapolis with Ann Luce, Breton Fine (son), Mindy Fine, (bottom left to right) Natalie Johnson, Ariah Fine, Adyra Fine (daughter)

CLEVELAND, OHIO: PUBLIC LIBRARY LEADERSHIP

The Cleveland project began in 2012, with a single Little Free Library built by the late Bob Cheshire, a community member and founder of the nonprofit Third World Books. This single library spawned a series of feature articles in the local press and a community-wide drive for donated books. When Cheshire passed away unexpectedly in 2013, local journalist Margaret Bernstein stepped in to fill his shoes as organizer of the project, and what began as a ground-floor, grassroots movement has become an enormous community undertaking to help the children of Cleveland succeed in school.

In 2011 the state of Ohio enacted legislation called the “Third Grade Reading Guarantee,” which requires that all third graders achieve a rating of “proficient” or better on a state reading exam in order to advance to the fourth grade. Recognizing that a high percentage of children in low-income areas would fail the test, individuals and groups in the city of Cleveland responded with a unique plan: engage the community in building a network of Little Free Libraries to support families and children who face the problems of low literacy and low student achievement.

Adapting the model of Minneapolis’ Books Around the Block program, Cleveland plans to create a citywide network of Little Free Libraries, placing one in close proximity to every K-8 school building. Each LFL will be supervised by a steward trained in parent engagement. Ideally each library will be “stewarded” by a parent from the local school.

Excitement to sustain the program is built into the plan: training for stewards, prizes for families that read the most books, grand opening ceremonies for new Little Free Libraries, and stipends for stewards who meet monthly targets for parent engagement (see the project’s Facebook page for videos, ideas, and inspiration for a large-scale project: www.facebook.com/littlefreelibrarycleveland).

According to Bernstein, seeing the children of Cleveland succeed in school has spawned an “all hands on deck” approach. Cleveland plans to utilize all of its resources—businesses, nonprofits, government, and any other entity willing to participate. The project is now called the Little Free Library Cleveland Movement, and central to this project is the Cleveland Public Library.

Felton Thomas, director of the Cleveland Public Library, says that the Little Free Library Cleveland Movement gives the public library the opportunity to be visible in every single part of the community. This opportunity will create more readers, and more readers mean more public library patrons. Thomas says the public library’s involvement is geared to do everything possible “to make it easier for parents and children to get a book and bring it home.”

The public library has installed three Little Free Libraries of its own—one directly in front of its Walz Branch, another inside a grocery store, and a third in a neighborhood. Little Free Libraries in Cleveland will be stocked with public library brochures and library card applications. There are even plans afoot to conduct public library summer reading programming (weather permitting) on-site at Little Free Libraries. Thomas sees the Little Free Libraries as a direct link to patron use of the public library.



Felton Thomas, director of the Cleveland Public Library, at the LFL in front of the Waltz Branch Library

The coalition of partners in the Cleveland Movement is a mix of individuals and institutions, all working together toward a common purpose under an infrastructure developed under Bernstein’s leadership. According to Thomas, the coalition has both structure and freedom for its members. One structured goal of the partnership is to create a resource for restocking the LFLs along the lines of Cleveland Kids in Need (a nonprofit that collects, organizes, and makes free school supplies available to Cleveland teachers: <http://clevelandkidsinneed.org/>), while at the same time the partnership wants individual coalition members to have the freedom to bring their own best resources and creativity (time, talents, community connections, and money) to the project for the benefit of all schoolchildren.

With a target of one hundred LFLs by 2015, there are twenty LFLs built and installed to date. Cleveland has only just begun the process of creating meaningful literacy support for low-income children in its neighborhoods.

LFLS IN ACTION: BETTER LIVES, BETTER COMMUNITIES

According to the National Center for Children in Poverty, nearly 22 percent of all children in the United States (more than 16 million children) live in families with incomes below the official federal poverty level, and a total of 45 percent of all children in this country live in low-income households.¹ The effects of poverty on literacy and learning are well documented; children who live in poverty often have slower language development (often due to poor nutrition), more childhood illnesses (resulting in higher absenteeism from school), and little access to books at home or in their communities.² Children in poverty consistently score well below their peers on standard measures of student achievement,³ and children who grow up in poverty will, as adults, complete fewer years of schooling, earn less money, work fewer hours, have more health problems, and need financial assistance from the government.⁴

Stephen Krashen, author and expert on literacy and language acquisition in children, says there are three important things communities can do to help bridge the achievement gap for children from low-income families: focus on food, health care, and books.⁵

School libraries would seem to be the obvious place for children in low-income neighborhoods to gain access to books, but the sad truth is that between 2007 and 2011, the number of school librarians in the United States fell steadily each school year because school library programs across the country have been cut and school library budgets decimated.⁶

Children living in high-income communities have more books in their homes, schools, and neighborhoods than children living in low-income communities.⁷ For children living in poverty, families often lack access to the basic transportation needed to get to the public library, and books are expensive—making them inaccessible for the people who may need them the most. This one simple tool—the book—makes all the difference in the world for all of us. Yet access to books for those in poverty is an elusive commodity.

Individuals, neighborhoods, and whole cities have found that powerful, sustainable change can happen in low-income communities when everyone comes together to make books easily accessible. Community engagement using Little Free Libraries is a reality that is making a difference, bringing what Felton Thomas calls a “peer-to-peer touch” to a literacy initiative that fosters neighborhood unity and responsibility for getting books into the hands of the people who live on each block. When a child can walk down the street to choose a book, take it home and read it, and return again for another, that child has been given one of the essential tools she needs in order to learn and grow. From the existing examples—in El Paso, Syracuse, Minneapolis, and Cleveland—it is clear that making books accessible with Little Free Libraries is a practical, pragmatic, and effective solution that can transform the lives of every child in every family in every community. ■

¹ “Child Poverty,” *National Center for Children in Poverty*, <http://www.nccp.org/topics/childpoverty.html>, accessed 4/20/2014.

² Anthony Cody, “Stephen Krashen: Children need food, health care, and books. Not new standards and tests,” *Education Week Teacher*, May 10, 2010, http://blogs.edweek.org/teachers/living-in-dialogue/2010/05/stephen_krashen_fix_poverty_an.html, accessed 4/20/2014.

³ Cody, *ibid.*

⁴ “Poverty FAQs: The Long Reach of Early Childhood Poverty: Pathways and Impacts,” *Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University*, available at www.developingchild.harvard.edu, February, 2010.

⁵ Cody, *ibid.*

⁶ “Public libraries weather storm; school librarians under siege,” *ALA State of America’s Libraries Report 2013*, www.ala.org/news/state-americas-libraries-report-2013/introduction, accessed 4/20/2014.

⁷ Cody, *ibid.*, and see articles under subheading, “Poverty and access to books.”

Otterly Irresistible: iREAD[®] on the River

DEAR ILLINOIS LIBRARIES,

When you think of paws, what is the first creature that comes to mind? Probably domesticated canines and cats, maybe bears and raccoons, and those cute-as-a-button guinea pigs, hamsters, and bunnies that seem to get all the attention. My cohorts are glory hounds when it comes to talking about paws, and this is a pet peeve of mine. But I—Pawly, the river otter—have paws too, which I use for holding my dinner of fresh fish or the occasional frog or mollusk when I can find one. In my humble opinion, I also am equally cute, if not more so.

While I do love to talk about myself, my intent in writing is to tell you all about the upcoming iREAD summer reading program, Paws to Read. While you have been busy as a beaver organizing programs, decorating, creating displays, printing reading logs, and selecting reading incentive prizes, I have been having a whale of a time traveling the state to learn about how libraries can bolster the theme while working with live animals to spread the love of reading in their communities this summer and beyond.

One of my first stops was to chat with Susan Borrowes, coordinator of Rainbow Animal Assisted Therapy, a not-for-profit, volunteer organization that works with trained registered therapy dogs to help people, especially children and those with special needs, to improve their health, activities of daily living, and quality of life. The oldest and largest organization of its type in the Chicagoland area, one of Rainbow's pet (pun intended) projects, is their Read to the Dog program. This important service is definitely one to go ape over.

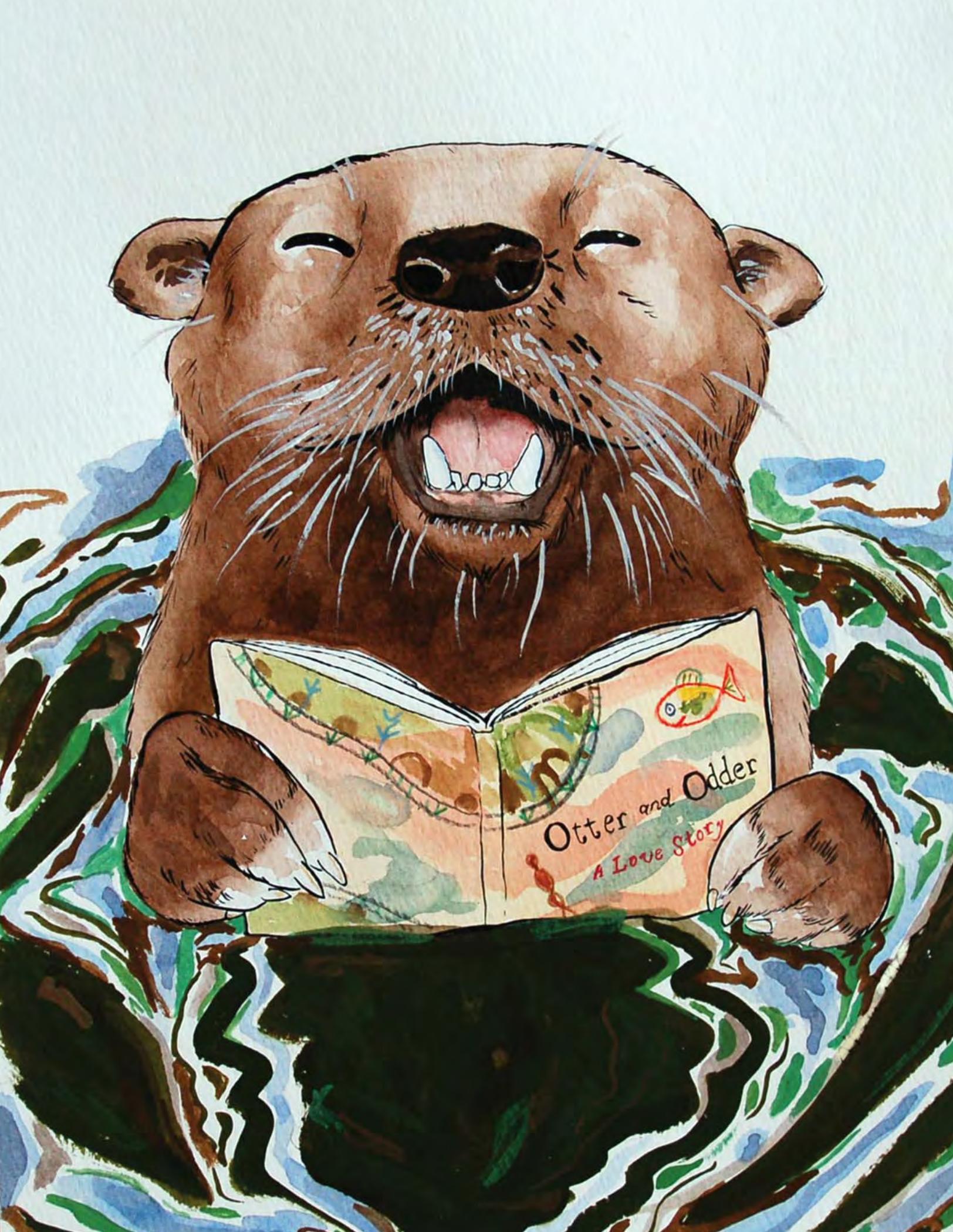
"The purpose of the program is to allow children to read in a relaxed, positive atmosphere," maintains Barb Balla, Rainbow's Read to the Dog program coordinator. "Dogs don't care about mistakes; their participation is to encourage reading. The presence of the therapy dogs helps to calm the children and make them feel less nervous or intimidated about reading aloud."

Think about coordinating with your local dog therapy groups to foster reading in your community this summer; after all every dog has its day.

Right off the mighty Mississippi, my next stop was a scenic southwesterly swim to the Wood River Public Library, where a little birdie told me about some of the upcoming programs, which are the cat's pajamas to say the least. To start the summer off on the right foot, or paw as it were, there will be a dog adoption and a food drive to support a local humane society.

Animal Tales, an organization that provides educational programs for schools and libraries, will introduce and explore the topic of animal classifications in the flesh, so to speak. Participants will meet and learn about animal types such as birds, reptiles, amphibians, and more. The audience will interact with the animals through hands-on volunteering, question and answer, and crowd participation activities.

[continued on page 12]



Otter and Odder
A Love Story

Needing a rest from my swim downstate (I've been working like a dog), I video chatted with my friends over at the Gail Borden Public Library in Elgin, where we discussed a fantastic event that partners with the Fox Valley Wildlife Center, a state and federally licensed facility that welcomes injured animals with the intent of releasing them back into their natural habitat. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about and actually meet three wildlife ambassadors: a Canadian goose, a bunny, and a red-tailed hawk.

Robin's Dog Stars will also perform on the library's lawn. Some of their amazing feats include jumping through hoops, climbing a ladder, and even getting a tissue when Robin, their trainer, sneezes! Catch a sneak peak of their performance here: youtu.be/3pRRsEB-Coc.

After a brief catnap, I discovered that at the Park Ridge Public Library, Noodles the Wonder Dog—a Rottweiler-mix rescue canine who is a national competition winner—will dazzle readers with unique doggy tricks and is certainly not a one-trick pony. Other events include a scent program demo with Rand Park Dog Obedience, a visit from a local greyhound rescue group, and a pet parade with patrons and community members.

Well, it looks like it is time for me to get back home to my den where I know my pups are waiting for dinner as hungry as bears; my youngest is an eager beaver for her nightly bedtime story and quality time is important before they fly the coop.

Don't forget to give a little love this summer to all my paw and non-paw bearing friends and thank you for grabbing the bull by the horns by participating in Paws to Read at your library!

Your friend in reading,

Pawly Otter

PS. If you want to invite an otter to your summer reading programs (and Pawly isn't available), consider James Howe's *Otter and Odder*, a 2012 picture book illustrated by Chris Rashcka. Rashcka will be the children's illustrator for iREAD 2016. **ILA**

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<http://www.ila.org/jobline>

Positions for Librarians and Support Staff

All employer job openings are listed on the ILA website (www.ila.org/jobline) for 30 days and the cost is \$100.



Idea Playground: Youth Services UnCon

Thursday, August 7, 2014 • Dominican University, Parmer Hall • 7900 W. Division St. • River Forest, IL 60305

Sponsored by the ILA Youth Services Forum, ILA Young Adult Services Forum, and Dominican University Graduate School of Library and Information Science



Innovation is not new to the library world. It's a concept that librarians have always embraced and welcomed. This August, Innovation in Youth Services will be examined and debated at ILA's first ever Youth Services Unconference.

Libraries are in a transformative period that is both invigorating and frightening. Many of us have instituted innovative solutions to better serve our customers' needs. The Youth Services Unconference is an opportunity for you to share and gather big ideas from your peers and perhaps develop a few solutions to problems. Come innovate with us!

Unconference Schedule

Registration	9:00 – 9:30 A.M.
Opening Remarks	9:30 – 9:40 A.M.
Monica Harris Keynote	9:40 – 10:25 A.M.
Session Selection	10:25 – 10:35 A.M.
Break	10:35 – 10:50 A.M.
1st session	10:50 – 11:20 A.M.
2nd session	11:25 – 11:55 A.M.
Lunch	Noon – 1:00 P.M.
3rd Session: Guerilla Storytime and Young Adult Smackdown	1:00 – 1:40 P.M.
4th Session	1:50 – 2:20 P.M.
Janice Del Negro Closing Remarks	2:30 – 3:00 P.M.



Keynote presented by Monica Harris, Deputy Director at the Schaumburg Township District Library and adjunct instructor for the School of Library and Information Science at San Jose State University.



Closing remarks by Janice Del Negro, Associate Professor at Dominican University, published author, and storyteller.

Guest Moderators, attending via Skype:



Linda Braun is a YALSA Past President and the Youth Services Manager at the Seattle Public Library



Gretchen Casseroti is Director at Meridian Library District, Idaho

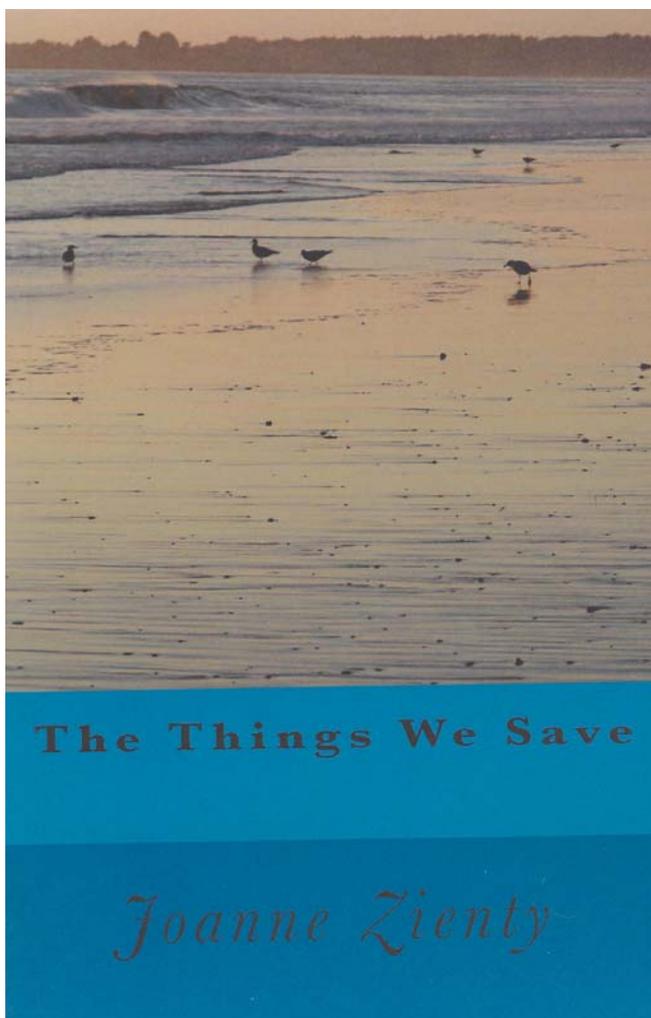


Marge Loch-Wouters is the Youth Services Coordinator at La Crosse Public Library, an adjunct instructor for UW-Madison SLIS and a storyteller

For more information and to register for this event, please visit www.ila.org/YSUnCon

Illinois' First Soon to Be Famous™ Author

Joanne Zienty was chosen from a field of more than one hundred entries in the first Illinois Soon to Be Famous Author project for her self-published novel, The Things We Save. She made the following remarks in accepting the award at an event on April 16, 2014.



Christopher Lasch, the American historian, wrote that the family is a “haven in a heartless world.” I believe that quote applies to libraries as well. Growing up on the south side of Chicago, I spent hours at a branch of the public library, wandering the aisles, running my fingers over the spines of books, closing my eyes and stopping at random to pull one off the shelf, crack it open, and slip away to a new world. I found many a wonderful read with such serendipity. But other times I needed guidance, times when I was looking for something that would transport me through time and space, although I didn’t yet know the title or the author or even necessarily the subject matter. I just knew I wanted a book that would take me somewhere. And I would turn to a librarian to help me find it.

Michael Gorman wrote eloquently about the mission of libraries in his book, *Our Enduring Values*. He noted that libraries are “the focal point of a community, . . . the place remembered fondly by children when grown, the solace of the lonely and the lost, the place in which all are welcome, and a source of power through knowledge.” I would add that libraries are about possibilities, about changing lives.

Let’s face it. Publishers think in dollar signs. Librarians think differently. They live the laws of S. R. Ranganathan: every reader his book and every book its reader. That’s what makes this Soon to Be Famous project so very special. It embodies both the enduring values of libraries and sets a course for the future, as the world of publishing continues to evolve.

Most writers aren't in it for the money. We write because we are compelled to—because we have to get these characters out of our heads and onto a page, whether they spring full-blown like Athena from the forehead of Zeus or whether they are dragged forth, with much pain and sweat, like the typical birth process. The day I decided to self-publish was the day I learned that Snooki, from the reality show *The Jersey Shore*, had a publishing deal, and, presumably, a ghostwriter. That killed any remaining illusions I had about the publishing industry. Paraphrasing Stuart Smalley, I thought, “It’s good enough, it’s smart enough, and doggone it, people like it.” And like Bluto says in *Animal House*: “Don’t cost nothin’.”

Holding my book in my hands was a thrill. A bigger thrill came when *Kirkus Indie Reviews* described it as “lyrical.” But an even bigger thrill came about two months later. Wallowing in self-absorption, I googled my book. To my astonishment, I discovered my novel had been added to the collection of the public library in Bangor, Maine. I don’t know a single soul in Bangor. But somehow, some way, some librarian deemed my book shelf-worthy. I checked World Cat. Other libraries soon followed. Amazing! And now, to be standing here today participating in this author-search project and making it to the final three, is possibly the biggest thrill of all.

Traditional publishing must recognize the power and influence of libraries and librarians in the reading lives of their patrons. It also needs to stop thinking of itself as the gatekeeper, guarding the reading public from the swill of lesser writers. Because, as they search for the next *Hunger Games* or *Divergent* trilogy, they may be overlooking any number of gems out there for the polishing.

Think of the authors and their treasures that we may not have read if they were attempting to publish today, writers of difficult books that require a great investment of time and concentration in this instant gratification world. Melville comes to mind. And Tolstoy, whose query e-mail would have been immediately deleted from an agent’s inbox because nobody reads a pitch for novel with a word count over 100,000, much less 600,000 (give or take a few, depending on the translation). And Hawthorne. For goodness sake, he wrote a book about adultery without the sex parts! I mean, in this *Fifty Shades of Grey* world, would *The Scarlet Letter* see the light of day?

Full many a flower may be born to blush unseen, but I think libraries’ next mission may be to find those blossoms that deserve to join the bouquet.

For more information on the Soon to Be Famous Illinois Author project, see www.soontobefamous.info/



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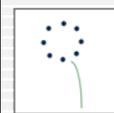
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Dear Elsie,

For many years, when cataloging a book that contains both the original text and a translation (often children's nonfiction in English and Spanish), I've followed the AACR2 rule and included both languages in the uniform title, language of translation first (e.g., 240 10 \$a Are you my mother? \$1 Spanish & English). I've noticed some new records that don't follow that pattern. There's no field 240 at all (for works of single personal authorship), and there are author-uniform title added entries for both the original language and the translation. Is this some new RDA thing?

Mystified in Mattoon

Dear Mystified,

It is indeed an RDA thing, and its origin lies in RDA's use of the FRBR entities *manifestation* and *expression*.

The RDA instruction applying to situations like this is 6.27.3, Authorized Access Point Representing an Expression:

Construct an access point representing a particular expression of a work or a part or parts of a work by combining (in this order):

- a) the authorized access point representing the work ...
or the part of parts of a work ...
- b) one or more terms from the following list...
- iii) the language of the expression ...

Several examples, including some for translations, follow this instruction. There is also a corresponding LC-PCC PS (Library of Congress-Program for Cooperative Cataloging Policy Statement; LC issues these for some RDA instructions as they used to issue LC Rule Interpretations for AACR2 rules), with a passage that addresses our situation more specifically: "When the original expression and one translation are in a compilation, give an analytical authorized access point for each expression. If a compilation contains the original expression and more than one translation, give analytical authorized access points for the original expression and at least one translation."

Those analytical authorized access points are the author-title added entries you've noticed.

LOST IN TRANSLATION

To illustrate what we're talking about, let's look at the Library of Congress RDA record for Dump trucks = Los camiones de volteo, by Dan Osier, a children's nonfiction book in Spanish and English (LCCN 2013022465, ISBN 9781477732922). In MARC format, the authorized access point (100) and title and statement of responsibility (245) are:

```
100 1_ |a Osier, Dan, |e author.
```

```
245 10 |a Dump trucks = |b Los camiones de volteo / |c by Dan Osier ; translated by Eida de la Vega.
```

As you've noticed in other RDA records of this type, there's no 240, but further down in the record we find:

```
700 12 |a Osier, Dan. |t Dump trucks.
```

```
700 12 |a Osier, Dan. |t Dump trucks. |l Spanish.
```

The second indicator 2 in each of these access points identifies them as analytic.

At this point it might be well to review what an analytical access point is. The RDA glossary does not give this exact term, but defines Analytical Description as: "A description that describes a part of a larger resource (e.g., a single volume of a three-volume biography, a single map forming part of a map series)." So an analytical access point is an access point for a part of the resource represented by the bibliographic record. In this case, the resource contains the text in the original language (represented by the first 700) and the text in Spanish translation (represented by the second 700).

MANIFESTATION AND EXPRESSION

Why not just continue to use one uniform title naming both languages, as we did with AACR2? This is where those FRBR concepts I mentioned at the beginning come in. The resource we're cataloging is a *manifestation* (the physical embodiment of an expression of a work, as RDA defines the term). But this particular manifestation embodies not one, but two *expressions* (the "intellectual or artistic realization of a work in the form of alpha-numeric ... notation"). (Remember that FRBR and RDA consider texts in the original language and a translation to be two different expressions.) To construct a single uniform title designating both would be to mash two different entities into a single access point, which we avoided long before RDA (that's why, for example, when cataloging a work of multiple authorship we construct a different access point for each author, rather than one access point naming them all). So conceptually, for situations like this, just remember that:

- the bibliographic record represents the *manifestation*;
- one of the analytic access points represents the *expression* of the work in English; and
- one of the analytic access points represents the *expression* of the work in Spanish.

This illustrates why it is a good idea to learn the basic FRBR concepts as part of learning RDA. We will all get more comfortable with the concepts and how they are applied in the RDA instructions as we continue using them.

Meanwhile, at this writing it is officially spring (soon to be summer). It really came after all! Hope you are enjoying it.

Bibliographically yours,
Elsie
IA



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ILA CANDIDATES FOR 2014

The ILA Nominating Committee has announced the candidates for election in the spring of 2014.

For vice president/president-elect (three-year term beginning July 1, 2014 — June 30, 2017):

PRESIDENT-ELECT CANDIDATES:



459 Betsy Adamowski,
Wheaton Public Library

339 Tina Hubert, Six Mile Regional Library
District, Granite City

Board of Directors (three-year term beginning July 1, 2014 — June 30, 2017). A candidate from each pairing will be elected in accordance with the ILA bylaws as amended at the 1998 ILA Annual Conference; a total of four directors will be elected to serve three-year terms on the ILA Executive Board.

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE:



387 Rob Morrison,
National Louis University, Wheeling

376 Susan Prokopeak,
Joliet Junior College

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE:



459 Anne Hughes,
Glen Carbon Centennial Library

316 Beth Duttlinger, Lillie M. Evans Public
Library District, Princeville

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE:



487 Jeremy Dunn,
Chicago Public Library

291 Brock Peoples,
Dunlap Public Library District

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE:



410 Veronica DeFazio,
Plainfield Public Library District

368 Roxane E. Bennett, Fox River Valley
Public Library District, Dundee

This was the tenth year that ILA offered electronic voting.

In 2014, with 2,777 personal members eligible to vote 813 voted (**29 percent**). This breaks down as: 774 electronic (2,503 eligible electronic voters or 30 percent) and 39 paper (274 eligible paper voters or 13 percent).

In 2013, with 2,548 personal members eligible to vote 911 voted (**36 percent**). This breaks down as: 857 electronic (2,229 eligible electronic voters or 38 percent) and 54 paper (319 eligible paper voters or 17 percent).

In 2012, with 2,749 personal members eligible to vote 874 voted (**32 percent**). This breaks down as: 817 electronic (2,398 eligible electronic voters or 34 percent) and 57 paper (351 eligible paper voters or 16 percent).

In 2011, with 3,054 personal members eligible to vote, 852 voted (**28 percent**). This breaks down as: 769 electronic (2,508 eligible electronic voters or 31 percent) and 83 paper (546 eligible paper voters or 15 percent).

In 2010, with 3,059 personal members eligible to vote, 840 voted (**27 percent**). This breaks down as: 776 electronic (2,639 eligible electronic voters or 29 percent) and 64 paper (420 eligible paper voters or 15 percent).

In 2009, with 2,477 personal members eligible to vote, 834 voted (**34 percent**). This breaks down as: 762 electronic (2,004 eligible electronic voters or 38 percent) and 74 paper (473 eligible paper voters or 16 percent).

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION ELECTION STATISTICS

As a point of comparison,

In the 2014 American Library Association (ALA) election, with 52,049 eligible to vote: 9,940 voted (19 percent).

In the 2013 American Library Association (ALA) election, with 51,811 eligible to vote: 11,083 voted (21 percent).

In the 2012 American Library Association (ALA) election, with 52,866 eligible to vote: 11,248 voted (21 percent).

In the 2011 American Library Association (ALA) election, with 52,901 eligible to vote: 9,613 voted (18 percent).

In the 2010 ALA election, with 55,330 eligible to vote: 11,069 voted (20 percent).

In the 2009 ALA election, with 56,069 eligible to vote: 13,125 voted (23.41 percent), breaking down to: 12,610 electronic (26 percent) and 500 paper (6.62 percent).

In the 2008 ALA election, with 59,141 eligible to vote: 17,089 voted (28.90 percent), breaking down to: 15,655 electronic (32.52 percent) and 1,434 paper (13.04 percent).

ILA ELECTION RESULTS

Year	Ballots returned	Total personal members	Percent of membership
2014	813	2,777 personal members	29 percent
2013	911	2,548 personal members	36 percent
2012	874	2,749 personal members	32 percent
2011	851	3,054 personal members	28 percent
2010	840	3,059 personal members	27 percent
2009	834	2,477 personal members	34 percent
2008	839	2,459 personal members	34 percent
2007	613	2,457 personal members	25 percent
2006	648	2,453 personal members	26 percent
2005	472	2,462 personal members	19 percent
2004	727	2,330 personal members	31 percent
2003	742	2,403 personal members	31 percent
2002	787	2,481 personal members	32 percent
2001	817	2,456 personal members	33 percent
2000	914	2,532 personal members	36 percent
1999	982	2,471 personal members	40 percent
1998	1,110	2,489 personal members	45 percent
1997	886	2,262 personal members	39 percent

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2014 NATIONAL LIBRARY LEGISLATIVE DAY

Registration Numbers for National Library Legislative Days

Year	Illinois Delegation	Total Attendance
2014	28	423
2013	40	387
2012	27	361
2011	25	361
2010	81	2,000, held in conjunction with ALA Annual Conference
2009	53	410
2008	52	405
2007	76	422
2006	68	525
2005	62	480
2004	58	500
2003	49	450
2002	68	450
2001	81	441
2000	76	500
1999	90	600
1998	78	450
1997	73	500
1996	62	500
1995	58	450
1994	60	500
1993	59	No Data
1992	46	550
1991	50	550
1990	50	550

Attendance by the ten most populous states: California 25; Texas 3; New York 18; Florida 3; Illinois 28; Pennsylvania 13; Ohio 10; Georgia 7 Michigan 14; and North Carolina 6. **Total attendance 423.**

The Illinois delegation requested our elected officials to support the following issues:

- Fund the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) at \$180.9 million for FY 2015;
- Fund the Innovative Approaches to Literacy program at \$25 million for FY 2015;
- Support the USA FREEDOM Act (S. 1599 and H.R. 3361) and Other Reform Proposals.
- Support Electronic Communications Privacy Act (S. 607 and H.R. 1852)
- Support Workforce Investment through Local Libraries; and
- Support the E-rate Telecommunications Discounts in the FCC's Universal Service Program.



Tweet and follow the conference at #ILAKick

2014 Illinois Library Association Annual Conference

KICKSTARTING

October 14–16

• Prairie Capital Convention Center, Springfield

Connections
Creativity
Community

For full conference information and to register online, visit ila.org/2014

The 2014 ILA Annual Conference returns to Springfield. This year's conference theme, **Kickstarting Connections, Creativity, Community**, focuses on how libraries align ideas, passion, and commitment to cultivate connections and create imaginative approaches, methods, and/or library services across Illinois communities. Become catalysts for the larger world and kickstart strategies to connect and create Illinois library services for communities large and small. We look forward to seeing you in Springfield!

Kickstart your savings by registering by the August 25 Early Bird deadline. Not an ILA Member? Join when you register and save throughout the year.

Ready to save even more? All full conference registrations include four free meals: the Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, October 14, the Exhibits Buffet Luncheons on Wednesday, October 15, and Thursday, October 16, and the Exhibits Continental Breakfast on October 16.

Connections. Creativity. Community.

This year's conference speakers will help you make the connections you need to kickstart your creativity and strengthen your library's community.



Josh Linkner

Opening Keynote, Tuesday, October 14, 9:00 – 10:30 A.M.

Josh Linkner — five-time successful tech entrepreneur; CEO Managing Partner, Detroit Venture Partners; and bestselling author of *Disciplined Dreaming: A Proven System to Drive Breakthrough Creativity* — will open the 2014 ILA Annual Conference.

Josh Linkner is on a mission to help the world unleash its creative mojo. He delivers a clear call to action — it's better to disrupt your organization before your competition does. The riskiest move companies can make today is hugging the status quo — believing the future will be like the past is the fast road to obsolescence.



Pamela Meyer

Wednesday Keynote, Wednesday, October 15, 3:15 – 4:15 P.M.

Pamela Meyer, Ph.D., draws on more than fifteen years of organizational development experience and the latest research to work with clients who want to be more agile and innovative and need new competencies and capacities for strategic success. She works with organizations worldwide using the strategies she learned in her years building creative teams in the professional theater. Today she combines innovative strategies from artistic collaboration with cutting-edge management research and practice to help her clients work at the top of their capacity.

In addition to her work with organizations, Meyer teaches courses in business creativity, organizational change, and adult learning at DePaul University, where she is director of the Center to Advance Education for Adults and a Faculty Fellow at the Center for Creativity and Innovation, part of the Driehaus College of Business and the Kellstadt Graduate School of Business.



Peter Heller

Closing Keynote, Thursday, October 16, 3:15 – 4:15 P.M.

Peter Heller is a longtime contributor to National Public Radio and a contributing editor at *Outside Magazine*, *Men's Journal*, and *National Geographic Adventure*. He is an award-winning adventure writer and the author of four books of literary non-fiction.

Heller's debut novel, *The Dog Stars*, was published in 2012 and was the Apple iBooks Novel of the Year, Hudson Booksellers top fiction pick of the year, and an *Atlantic Monthly* and *San Francisco Examiner* Best Book of the Year. It was a critically celebrated breakout bestseller, which has been published in eighteen languages. Heller's most recent novel, *The Painter*, was published in May, earning a coveted boxed and starred review from *Publishers Weekly* and was named a Top 20 Big Spring Book by Amazon.com.



Don Tate

Youth Services Author Breakfast, Wednesday, October 15, 8:30 – 10:00 A.M.

2015 iREAD artist Don Tate is the illustrator of numerous critically acclaimed books for children. His bold and dynamic art has been noted for its versatility of style.

It Jes' Happened: When Bill Traylor Started to Draw, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie, marks Tate's debut as an author. *It Jes' Happened* is a Lee & Low New Voices Honor winner, and an Ezra Jack Keats New Writer Honor winner, 2012. It received starred reviews from *Kirkus*, *Booklist*, and *School Library Journal*, as well as being selected as a *Kirkus* Best Children's Books List Selection, a *Booklist* Editors' Choice, 2012, and a New York Public Library Top 100 Titles for Reading and Sharing.

Pre-registration is required for this event.



Peter Pearson

Fundraising Luncheon, Wednesday, October 15, 12:30 – 1:45 P.M.
Sponsored by the ILA Fundraising Committee, Library Trustee Forum, and Public Library Forum

Peter Pearson is a lead consultant with Library Strategies Consulting Group and has been president of The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library for more than 20 years. Pearson is recognized as a national expert on all aspects of fundraising for libraries, advocacy, and Friends and foundations. Pearson was elected to the American Library Association's Advocacy Honor Roll in 2005.

Pre-registration is required for this event. Registration for the luncheon is included in Trustee Day registration. All other attendees must register for the luncheon in addition to their conference registration.



Wesley G. McNeese, M.D.

DiversiTEA, Wednesday, October 15, 4:15 – 5:30 P.M.
Cultural Awareness in Libraries

Join the ILA Cultural and Racial Diversity Committee for tea! Over delectable refreshments, Wesley McNeese, M.D., author and the executive assistant dean for diversity at SIU School of Medicine, will discuss his novel, *South End Sunday Dawning: Come Rain, or Come Shine*. The book takes its readers to East St. Louis, Illinois, during pre-civil rights days. Join us for a discussion on how libraries can kickstart creativity and connections in cultural and ethnic communities.

Pre-registration is required for this event.

Conference Special Events (in chronological order)

Welcome Reception and Battledecks Competition

Monday, October 13, 8:00 – 10:00 P.M.

All conference attendees are invited to attend this event, hosted by the Public Library Forum. The event will feature Battledecks – a competition where speakers present a deck of 10 slides in 4 minutes. The catch? They've never seen the slides before!

Awards Luncheon

Tuesday, October 14, NOON – 1:30 P.M.

Celebrate your colleagues' achievements at the Awards Luncheon! Attendance at the luncheon is included in your registration.

Stories & Spirits

Tuesday, October 14, 5:30 – 6:30 P.M.

The ILA Youth Services Forum invites all youth librarians to enjoy light snacks and drinks while networking. This event does not require pre-registration – just stop by!

Illinois State Library Dessert Reception

Tuesday, October 14, 6:00 – 8:00 P.M.

The Illinois State Library is graciously opening its doors to all conference attendees for a dessert reception. Visit your state library! This event does not require pre-registration.

Lincoln's Ghost Walk: Legends & Lore

Tuesday, October 14, 8:00 – 9:30 P.M.

This ten-block, ninety-minute walking tour uses the Lincoln sites as the backdrop for the bizarre and strange stories surrounding Lincoln's life and death. Lincoln had prophetic visions and dreams; Mary had séances in the White House; and no other Presidential family endured so much so that this nation might survive. This tour is loaded with factual history and the ghostly lore of Lincoln and is suitable for all ages; bizarre history, not scary. Library horror expert, Becky Spratford, will be there to answer questions and give you reading suggestions just in time for Halloween.

Pre-registration is required for this event. The tour will begin at the Old State Capitol.

Trustee Day

Wednesday, October 15, 8:00 A.M. – 5:15 P.M.

A full day of conference programming for library trustees will be held on Wednesday, October 15. The day begins with a continental breakfast and includes attendance at the Fundraising luncheon, and time in the exhibits.

Membership Meeting

Wednesday, October 15, 11:30 A.M. – 12:15 P.M.

Wondering what's going on with your association and around the state? Whether you're an ILA member or not, you won't want to miss this update from ILA's member leaders. The Membership Meeting will also feature an update from ILA's ever-popular and always-entertaining legislative consultant, Kip Kolkmeier.

Illinois Author Showcase

Wednesday, October 15 and Thursday, October 16, 12:15 – 2:00 P.M.

Held in the Exhibit Hall, the Illinois Authors Showcase is a perfect opportunity to connect with local authors. Authors may be nominated by a library or nominate themselves. For more details and to submit a nomination, visit ila.org/2014.

iREAD Showcase

Wednesday, October 15, 4:15 – 5:15 P.M.

The annual iREAD Summer Reading Showcase hits the Exhibit Hall this year. Held during the Exhibits Celebration, the Showcase will get you ready to Read to the Rhythm!

Fourth Annual ILA Pub Stroll

Wednesday, October 15, 6:00 – 10:00 P.M.

Don't miss ILA's most popular networking event. Each stop on the Pub Stroll serves food and will offer drink specials. Plan to have dinner and drinks with old friends or new colleagues. No registration is required. Attendees set their own schedule and are responsible for their own food and beverage purchases. A full list of venues and a map will be available prior to the conference.

Library Maker Showcase

Thursday, October 16, NOON – 2:00 P.M.

Don't miss the second annual Library Maker Showcase. Explore the world of making through numerous hands-on activities. From crafting to robotics, there will be something for everyone. Meet makers, librarians, and experts from local institutions, who house a maker space or offer maker programs.

Check out the Exhibit Hall

Find new products, ideas, and solutions for your library in the ILA Exhibit Hall. Be sure to make time to visit the exhibits on Wednesday, October 15, and Thursday, October 16. **Exhibits are not open on Tuesday, October 14.**

Exhibit Hours

Wednesday, October 15	12:15 – 5:15 P.M.
Thursday, October 16	9:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

The following free events will be held in the Exhibit Hall:

Wednesday, October 15	
12:15 – 1:45 P.M.	Exhibits Opening Lunch Reception
4:15 – 5:15 P.M.	Exhibits Celebration
Thursday, October 16	
9:00 – 10:00 A.M.	Exhibits Continental Breakfast
12:15 – 1:45 P.M.	Exhibits Closing Lunch Reception

Exhibits-Only passes are available for \$15. Wednesday pass holders are invited to attend the ILA Membership Meeting at 11:30 A.M. on Wednesday, October 15. Badges can be purchased prior to conference and onsite at the Prairie Capital Convention Center.

Conference Hotels

President Abraham Lincoln Springfield

A DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
701 E. Adams St.
Springfield, IL 62701
217-544-8800
Single/Double Rate: \$99
Group Code: ILA
Register Online: <http://bit.ly/1fIT6e1>

Hilton Springfield

700 E. Adams St.
Springfield, IL 62701
217-789-1530
Single/Double Rate: \$104
Group Code: ILA
Register Online: <http://bit.ly/QD6STe>

Schedule at a Glance

Monday, October 13

8:00 – 10:00 P.M.	Welcome Reception featuring Battledecks Competition
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Tuesday, October 14

9:00 – 10:30 A.M.	Opening General Session: Josh Linkner
10:45 – 11:45 A.M.	Program Sessions
12:00 – 1:30 P.M.	Awards Luncheon
1:45 – 2:45 P.M.	Program Sessions
3:00 – 4:00 P.M.	Program Sessions
4:15 – 5:15 P.M.	Program Sessions
5:30 – 6:30 P.M.	Stories & Spirits
6:00 – 8:00 P.M.	Illinois State Library Dessert Reception
8:00 – 9:30 P.M.	Lincoln's Ghost Walk*

Wednesday, October 15

8:30 – 10:00 A.M.	Youth Services Author Breakfast: Don Tate*
9:00 – 10:00 A.M.	Program Sessions
10:15 – 11:15 A.M.	Program Sessions
11:30 A.M. – 12:15 P.M.	ILA Membership Meeting: Kip Kolkmeier
12:15 – 5:15 P.M.	Exhibits Open
12:15 – 1:45 P.M.	Exhibits Opening Free Lunch Reception
12:30 – 1:45 P.M.	Fundraising Luncheon: Peter Pearson*
2:00 – 3:00 P.M.	Program Sessions
3:15 – 4:15 P.M.	General Session: Pamela Meyer
4:15 – 5:15 P.M.	Exhibits Celebration
	iREAD Showcase
4:15 – 5:30 P.M.	DiversiTEA*
6:00 – 10:00 P.M.	Fourth Annual ILA Pub Stroll

Thursday, October 16

9:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.	Exhibits Open
9:00 – 10:00 A.M.	Exhibits Free Continental Breakfast
10:00 – 11:00 A.M.	Program Sessions
11:15 A.M. – 12:15 P.M.	Program Sessions
12:00 – 2:00 P.M.	Library Maker Showcase
12:15 – 1:45 P.M.	Exhibits Opening Free Lunch Reception
2:00 – 3:00 P.M.	Program Sessions
3:15 – 4:15 P.M.	Closing General Session: Peter Heller

*Pre-Registration Required

ILA Registration Form

Register online at www.ila.org/2014

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
 Institution: _____
 Mailing Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Fax: _____
 E-mail: _____

Check here if registering as a non-member at the member rate, using an institutional member credit.

Conference Registration Fees (Please circle fee)

Full Conference*	Early Bird (by 8/25)	Advance (by 9/15)	On-site (after 9/15)
ILA Member	\$200	\$225	\$250
Non-Member	\$250	\$275	\$300
ILA Full-Time Student/Retired/Unemployed Member	\$100	\$125	\$150

*Full Conference Registration includes admission to the Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, October 14, and the Exhibits Buffet Luncheons on Wednesday, October 15, and Thursday, October 16, and Exhibits Continental Breakfast on Thursday, October 16.

Trustee Registration**	Early Bird (by 8/25)	Advance (by 9/15)	On-site (after 9/15)
ILA Member Trustee Day (Wednesday, October 15)	\$150	\$175	\$200
Non-Member Trustee Day (Wednesday, October 15)	\$175	\$200	\$225
ILA Member Trustee Day + full conference	\$200	\$225	\$250
Non-Member Trustee Day + full conference	\$250	\$275	\$300

**Trustee Day Registration includes a continental breakfast and the Peter Pearson luncheon. Full Conference Trustee Registration includes admission to the Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, October 14, the Peter Pearson luncheon on October 15, Exhibits Continental Breakfast on Thursday, October 16, and the Exhibits Buffet Luncheon on Thursday, October 16.

Single Day***	Early Bird (by 8/25)	Advance (by 9/15)	On-site (after 9/15)
ILA Member	\$100	\$125	\$150
Non-Member	\$150	\$175	\$200
ILA Full-Time Student/Retired/Unemployed Member	\$50	\$75	\$100

Check day attending: Tuesday 10/14 Wednesday 10/15 Thursday 10/16

***Single-Day Conference Registration includes admission on day of registration to the Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, October 14, and the Exhibits Buffet Luncheons on Wednesday, October 15, and Thursday, October 16, and Exhibits Continental Breakfast on Thursday, October 16. **Please note: exhibits are not open on Tuesday, October 14.**

Exhibits Only****	Early Bird (by 8/25)	Advance (by 9/15)	On-site (after 9/15)
Access to Exhibit floor only	\$15	\$15	\$15

Check day attending: Wednesday 10/15 Thursday 10/16

****Exhibits-Only attendees are invited to attend the ILA Membership Meeting at 11:30 A.M. on Wednesday, October 15. Exhibits passes include access to all events held in the Exhibit Hall.

Special Events	Early Bird (by 8/25)	Advance (by 9/15)	On-site (after 9/15)
Tuesday, October 14			
Springfield Ghost Tour	\$8	\$8	N/A
Wednesday, October 15			
Youth Services Author Breakfast	\$35	\$45	N/A
Fundraising Luncheon*	\$35	\$45	N/A
DiversiTEA	\$25	\$35	N/A

*The Fundraising Luncheon is co-sponsored by the Public Library Forum, Library Trustee Forum, and ILA Fundraising Committee. **Registration for the luncheon is included in Trustee Day registration.** All other attendees must register for the luncheon.

Please indicate if you require a special meal:
 vegetarian vegan gluten-free
 other, please explain: _____

Registration Recap (Please Complete)

Conference Registration Fee \$ _____
 Meals and Special Events Fee \$ _____
Total \$ _____

Payment

Check or money order enclosed (payable to ILA)
 P. O. #: _____
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◀ MY TURN ▶

| Lauren Collen, Machesney Elementary School |

How Do Readers Grow?

Let's face it: if you are reading this, you are most likely a self-described book person, and probably a librarian. You are a reader all grown up, adept in the skills that make reading pleasurable, and you are comfortable with the process of acquiring reading materials. But growing readers like us doesn't happen without support. Growing readers like us happens in homes, families, and communities where the time to read is valued, where reading materials are plentiful, and where reading is a way of life.

In many ways we are completely unfamiliar with what life would be like without books to read. We are librarians, in part, because we love reading so much we want to share that love with others. We want to collect, organize, and make accessible to others those things—books and information—that we are passionate about. And for most of us there is a blur between work and home—we are as involved with reading in our time away from work as we are when we are on the job. We read constantly.

Yet we often struggle in our efforts to reach the patrons who need us most: those in low-income communities and those with low-literacy skills. Children and adults living in low-income communities have fewer books at their disposal. Even if there is a public library, families may not have the money for gas to get there, and it may be just too far to walk. Even if there is a school library, there may be rules and procedures that limit the number of books a child can take home. Even in affluent communities there are few bookstores left, but bookstores aren't a viable option for those living in poverty because books are expensive.

Low-income neighborhoods could become places where books are plentiful and reading becomes a way of life if the key elements for growing readers were readily available, if the people involved in the process lived in the community, and if the greater community worked together to foster supports for literacy that bring the joy of books to everyone. That's the premise of the Little Free Library movement. Todd Bol likens Little Free Libraries to "presents, all wrapped up in a box with a bow," and suggests that part of the massive success of LFLs around the world is that very experience of joy when "opening the box."

The joy of books is something that we readers experience on a daily basis—in fact it may be one of the things that makes book buying and book reading an obsession. It is a totally positive, uplifting, and engaging experience. While the mechanics of learning to read are important, what really grows a reader is excitement—the tingle of anticipation to “open the box” of a new book, the power of choice when there's a plenitude of books on the shelf, and the sheer joy in losing yourself to a good story.

So the idea is simple (and again, it comes from Todd Bol): just as we have “adopt-a-highway” programs that help keep our roads clean and “drug-free neighborhood” programs that help keep our communities safe, we could have “literacy friendly neighborhood” programs that help grow readers. One of the essential elements of a Literacy Friendly Neighborhood could be a profusion of Little Free Libraries. Literacy Friendly Neighborhoods might have community tutors for anything from math and English to computers, parent support groups for helping children learn to read, and book discussion groups on any number of topics. Literacy Friendly Neighborhoods might even display a LFN sign—advertising to the world that this place is one where reading is valued.

You might be thinking—but we do all of this in our libraries! That's true, we do it in our libraries. But if the people who need us most never walk through our doors, might we not think outside of our own box to find a way to reach them? Might we not find ways to partner with other groups to bring literacy support to every block in town? Might we not grow more patrons if we could help to grow more readers in Literacy Friendly Neighborhoods?

I think we might combine Todd Bol's two inspired ideas, Little Free Libraries and Literacy Friendly Neighborhoods, to grow readers, sustain healthy communities, and create more library patrons. ■

Growing Readers in Illinois

BRUSHWOOD CENTER AT RYERSON WOODS NATURE PRESERVE, GREENBELT FOREST PRESERVE, LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE, WAUKEGAN PUBLIC LIBRARY, VERNON AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY

This collaboration brings together a diverse group—public libraries, two forest preserves, and a nature center—to create Little Free Libraries as a part of a “story trail” in each of the forest preserves. This project envisions that families who walk along the story trail will stop to read the pages of a bilingual book (English and Spanish) mounted on panels installed along the trail, and at the end of the trail families will find a Little Free Library stocked with books. Sophie Twichell, executive director of the Brushwood Center at Ryerson Woods, says this project brings together “unconventional partners” to create a unique experience for families who will be able to spend time in nature and connect to books. The project is currently in development, with the hope that it will be installed in 2014.

HARLEM SCHOOL DISTRICT 122: LOVES PARK & MACHESNEY PARK

Three Little Free Libraries have been placed in the district’s high school and ninth-grade campuses, and more throughout the district are planned. The initial idea for an LFL in the high school grew out of a discussion during a Literacy Committee meeting, and excitement for the idea grew from there. A local church group built the three libraries, which will be stewarded by librarians and members of the Literacy Committee in a focused attempt to get more books in the hands of students. Housed both inside and outside the school building, these LFLs provide community access to books even when school is not in session.

MCHENRY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, MCHENRY COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, FRIENDS OF THE ALGONQUIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Located on the grounds of McHenry County Community College, this LFL is the collaboration brainchild of librarian Alexa Newman. Newman, a master gardener, looked for ways to combine her two passions—books and gardening—and found the perfect home for this Little Free Library in the midst of the college’s demonstration garden.

BAKER DEMONSTRATION SCHOOL, WILMETTE

The idea for this Little Free Library grew out of a series of lessons about libraries around the world, developed for students by school librarian Karrie Fisher. Fisher created the project with her students as collaborators—it was a hands-on learning experience. Students were involved in every aspect of the process, from designing and building the LFL, to painting, and even blogging about it. Designed with student-stewards in mind, fifth-graders at Baker Demonstration School will be the caretakers of this LFL.

[continued on page 30]



Baker Demonstration School's Little Free Library



Heartland Technical Academy students building the Little Free Libraries. Pictured are Tanner Woodruff, Parker Kendrick, and Gabe Buchanan.

BARCLAY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT, WARRENSBURG AND HEARTLAND TECHNICAL ACADEMY, DECATUR

Looking for ways to make library materials more readily accessible to its users, the Barclay Public Library District (BPLD) collaborated with Heartland Technical Academy to build four Little Free Libraries. The library district provides service to the communities of Warrensburg, Latham, the northwest edge of Decatur, and also has an intergovernmental agreement with the Harristown Public Library District to serve its residents. According to Lacey Wright, BPLD director, the LFLs are a great way to bring her widespread district together, and to put “a visible library presence in the communities they serve.” Students at the Heartland Technical Academy were vitally important to the success of this project.

PALOS HEIGHTS PUBLIC LIBRARY

In honor of its 70th anniversary, the Palos Heights Public Library will build two Little Free Libraries in its community. One LFL is expected to be placed in the Anniversary Garden at the Lake Katherine Nature Center and the other will be in the Art Garden of Palos Heights. According to Karen Skocik, circulation manager for the Palos Heights Public Library, the library is excited to give back to the community in a permanent way to promote literacy and hopes that the LFLs will “encourage readers and also be a place to build new friendships.”

WARREN-NEWPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY AND THE GURNEE PARK DISTRICT

Located in neighborhood parks, sponsored by the park district and local residents, these two libraries are a great community partnership. According to Janice Marsh, head of communications at the Warren-Newport Public Library, the public library helped to get them started with weeded and donated books and would love to see more of them in the community.



One of the Little Free Libraries created through the Warren-Newport Public Library/Gurnee Park District collaboration.

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