Despite the language on the ballot, money from Bond Issue C will go to public school libraries ($6,156,000), academic libraries ($3,888,000), the State Library and the Angelico Chavez History Library ($324,000) as well as to public libraries ($5,832,000). These amounts will be distributed through formulas administered by the Public Education Department, the Commission on Higher Education and the New Mexico State Library.

Large increase in the number of voters casting ballots, this outcome indicates strong and stable support for library bond proposals in most of the state’s communities. Three counties increased their level of support by more than 3% over 2002; Cibola, 4.4%; Sierra, 3.8% and Taos, 3.2%. Taos County had the highest percentage of yes votes for C in the entire state, at 68.4%. Eight counties showed declines in support greater than 5% below 2002. For the most part, these were the least-populated counties in the state; De Baca, Harding, Hidalgo, Mora and Union. Otero County’s yes vote percentage dropped by 9.4% to 48.5%, while McKinley County dropped by 6.3% to 66.1%. The greatest drop was in Harding County, the smallest county in the state, with a 15.4% drop. San Juan County dropped by 7.4%, to 52.8%. (This was a reversal from the first reported figures, a posting error showed C getting a 14,000 vote majority in San Juan; the current lead is 2,125.) A letter to the editor of the Gallup Independent and the Albuquerque Journal may have had an impact on the level of support in McKinley County. Stephen Buggie’s letter was critical of using capital funding for library collections, claiming that the books would wear out before they had been paid for. He also erroneously claimed that the bonding period was 30 years, and that the interest would cost more than three times the original cost of the books. The actual bonding period is ten years. The Albuquerque Journal printed David Giltrow’s reply on behalf of the library community.

Most county votes on C fluctuated within a range between 3% higher and 5% lower than their performance in 2002. Given the large increase in the number of voters casting ballots, this outcome indicates strong and stable support for library bond proposals in most of the state’s communities. Three counties increased their level of support by more than 3% over 2002; Cibola, 4.4%; Sierra, 3.8% and Taos, 3.2%. Taos County had the highest percentage of yes votes for C in the entire state, at 68.4%. Eight counties showed declines in support greater than 5% below 2002. For the most part, these were the least-populated counties in the state; De Baca, Harding, Hidalgo, Mora and Union. Otero County’s yes vote percentage dropped by 9.4% to 48.5%, while McKinley County dropped by 6.3% to 66.1%. The greatest drop was in Harding County, the smallest county in the state, with a 15.4% drop. San Juan County dropped by 7.4%, to 52.8%. (This was a reversal from the first reported figures, a posting error showed C getting a 14,000 vote majority in San Juan; the current lead is 2,125.) A letter to the editor of the Gallup Independent and the Albuquerque Journal may have had an impact on the level of support in McKinley County. Stephen Buggie’s letter was critical of using capital funding for library collections, claiming that the books would wear out before they had been paid for. He also erroneously claimed that the bonding period was 30 years, and that the interest would cost more than three times the original cost of the books. The actual bonding period is ten years. The Albuquerque Journal printed David Giltrow’s reply on behalf of the library community.

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Phone: 898-5822  
Fax: 897-7788

Attention Amigos Members!  
Research and Professional Development funding is available to Make Your Dream Project A Reality!

The Amigos Fellowship Program awards up to $7,500 to library and information professionals employed by Amigos member libraries to fund research, demonstration, or educational projects.

Applicants can now request preliminary reviews of their proposals. Proposals may be submitted for review up to January 14, 2005. Comments will be returned within 2 weeks of receipt.

The deadline for receipt of applications is March 4, 2005, 5:00 p.m. Central Time.

Detailed program guidelines and PDF application forms are available on the Amigos web site, http://www.amigos.org/fellowship/

For additional information, please contact Laura Kimberly, kimberly@amigos.org or 1-800-843-8482 (972-851-8000 in the Dallas area), ext. 2864.

Amigos Library Services

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www.amigos.org

new mexico library association newsletter
President’s Message

For the second time in two years, New Mexico’s librarians came through a statewide bond issue with flying colors! The 2004 library bond issue was successfully passed with a comfortable margin and our school, academic, and public libraries will benefit from $16.315 million. The State Library and the Frey Angelico History Library will share $162,000. Combined with funding from the 2002 successful library bond of $16.1 million, New Mexico libraries are nearly $32 and a half million ahead of where they were just two years ago. This is a remarkable achievement for us, as librarians, and we should all be proud that so many New Mexicans showed their support for libraries. Every one of us who works for academic, school, public, and this year the State Library, owes grateful thanks to the Bonds Steering Committees chaired both times by Albuquerque / Bernalillo County’s Eileen Longsworth and to the Book Bonds Political Action Committee, chaired both times by Governor David Cargo and so ably managed by David Giltrow of the New Mexico Library Foundation. For more information and a county breakdown of voting results, see www.nmbookbonds.org. It should be noted, however, that over $76 million had originally been requested in these two funding endeavors and that as wonderful as these actual results are, the work to improve library collections and services in the state is not finished, even when the election is. While we are grateful to all supporters, we still need their help in years to come to continue the road to excellence for our state’s libraries.

On another topic, I would like the membership to know that your NMLA Executive Board is busy making progress for continued improvement of the association. At the recent October board meeting in Roswell, the Board finished its two days of work on the 2004-2007 Strategic Plan, making a number of important changes. The most significant changes have to do with focusing the work of NMLA outward toward libraries and less toward the Association. It’s an important philosophical difference that we hope will make NMLA the forward looking, dynamic organization needed now. Finishing touches are being applied to the plan and it should be ready for publication soon after the New Year.

Let me take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy, healthy and joyous holiday season and an outstanding 2005!

Heather Gallegos-Rex, President

NMLA Board Proposes Bylaws Changes

These changes are being recommended by the New Mexico Library Association Board. The proposed changes will appear on the February ballot for your vote. Two-thirds of the members responding to the mail ballot must approve these changes for them to go into effect.

The first change allows the President of NMLA to be a voting member of the New Mexico Library Foundation Board of Trustees:

Article VI, Section 1. President

The President shall serve for one year. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Board, and to sign all contracts ordered by the Board. The President shall appoint such committee members as shall be necessary and shall serve as an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominations and Elections Committee. Before each business meeting, the President shall appoint as parliamentarian the chair of the Bylaws and Procedures Committee or a designated alternate. The President shall serve as a member of the New Mexico Library Foundation Board of Trustees.

This change updates the bylaws to reflect the current practice of submitting committee reports:

XVII. Section 2. The chair of each committee shall report on committee activities at each Executive Board meeting. Recommendations for Board action shall be submitted in writing. Each committee chair shall submit a written annual report electronically to the secretary and to the newsletter editor to be published in the post-conference issue of the Association’s official periodical.

NMLA 2005 Candidates for Election Announced

Eileen B. Longsworth, Chair, Nominations and Elections

The Nominations and Elections Committee proposes the following slate of candidates for election in 2005. For Vice-president, President-elect

Anne Lefkofsky, Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System
Louise Bolton, San Juan College

For Treasurer

Leo McCormick, Tse Yi Gai High School
Joe Becker, New Mexico State University Library
Cassandra Osterloh, University of New Mexico Library

Member at Large (two vacancies):
Lois Ruby, author (retired)
Julie Miller, Western New Mexico University
Barbara Van Dongen, Albuquerque Public Schools
Leanne Hathcock, Aztec Public Library

Nominations may also be made by the membership, provided the candidate has agreed and one or more petitions for that candidate signed by a total of at least 20 current members of the Association have been submitted. Such petitions must be received by the Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee postmarked no later than January 1st. Petition forms and instructions are available from the Committee Chair.
Pre-Conference Program Preview

by Cassandra Osterloh

The pre-conference programs have been selected! All pre-conference programs will be held the afternoon of Wednesday, March 30, 2005, at the University of New Mexico Student Union Building (space sponsored by the UNM University Libraries). Hopefully the program descriptions below will get you psyched for the upcoming conference.

Registration for the conference will begin in January (look for the preliminary program and registration form in the January NMLA Newsletter as well as the conference website). In the meantime, check out the conference website for more, including featured speakers, events, and hotel information. <http://www.unm.edu/~osterloh/nmla_conference/home.htm>

Creating Program or Departmental Specific Teaching Portfolios

Teaching portfolios can be used in various ways and are usually associated with individual work. This session will focus on the use of the teaching portfolio in a program or department for such things as training, statistics, and history.

Dia de los Niños / Dia de los Libros: Creating an effective coalition of support to promote library services, literacy and family

“El Dia de Los Niños” is a nationwide, special day for libraries to celebrate Hispanic and other children and to promote reading and bilingual literacy. This pre-conference provides inspiration and how-tos to create your own “El Día” program from the pros that have already done it.

Leading from Any Position: Creating Learning Libraries

Libraries that respond quickly to the changing expectations of their customers must create environments where each individual’s experiences become shared knowledge. Managers and staff working together make decisions based on initiative from all levels. You will gain skills to provide leadership within your organization and to position your library as a vital entity within the community.

The Skinny on Grants: Learn to Bulk up Your Library Programs and Services

Learn how to plan, write and research grants that will allow you to fund more programs and services for your library community. Find out about the multitude of resources and services available to you from the New Mexico State Library.

Info Fair and Wall of Fame at NMLA Conference

by Anne Lefkofsky, NMLA Local Arrangements Committee Chair

The Local Arrangements Committee seeks your assistance and input on two new and innovative displays planned for launch at the 2005 Annual NMLA Conference.

As a clearinghouse or exchange, The Info Fair will provide space where groups and organizations that support (or are allied with) the library community can offer contact and descriptive information for conference goers. The panel display will feature handouts, flyers, posters and other appropriate or relevant materials. LAC would like your help in identifying Info Fair participants. Please tell us about nonprofits such as literacy groups, library education programs, professional organizations, Friends groups, and community organizations that you think would be valuable inclusions in the display.

The Wall of Fame will honor NMLA colleagues and friends who are celebrating professional milestones, acknowledge recent accomplishments of NM librarians, and recognize vendors and organizations that consistently support NMLA activities and conferences. Please alert us to names and events that would make great features in this display. We’re especially interested in recording passages like: retirements, lengthy terms of service, promotions, educational attainment, awards and service recognition, key library Friends and supporters in the community, legislators and elected officials, and vendors who have supported and partnered with NM and libraries statewide.

Job Fair at NMLA

by Mary Lou Sullenberger

The Job Fair at NMLA will be held the morning of March 31. This will provide opportunities for employers to advertise current openings either in person or by submitting printed materials to be displayed. Individuals interested in employment may submit resumes that will be made available for review by prospective employers; or they may choose to meet with employers at the time of the job fair. Mary Lou Sullenberger will be coordinating this event, and is the person to contact if you wish to submit either employment opportunities or resumes for review. Mary Lou is the Human Resources/Circulation Coordinator for the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System. She can be reached at 505-768-4960 or via e-mail at msullenberger@cabq.gov.
SIG News

New Mexico Battle of the Books
Deadline is March 11
by Sarah Geiger

This year, in an effort to streamline the registration process, the statewide Battle of the Books has just one deadline - March 11, 2005. That will be the (very firm) deadline for team registration, registration fees, and the names of individual participants. For more information about this exciting reading initiative, go to www.nmbattleofthebooks.org or contact Sarah Geiger, geiger@aps.org or Jan Pfaff, pfaff@aps.org.

Welcome, New NMLA Members!

Judith C. Alfred, Miller Library, Western NM University
Sherolyn Bostwick, Marshall Junior High, Clovis
Donna Curtis, Hobbs Freshman Library
Steve Kiley, Tularosa Middle School
Suzanne LeSar, Supreme Court Law Library
Eva M. Lopez, Hondo Valley Public Schools
Ann Moore, New Mexico State Library
Loren Omoth, Turpen Elementary School, Gallup
Ana Pacheco, Arroyos Del Norte Elementary, Taos
Linda Pierce, Yucca Junior High, Clovis
Marilyn Russell, Institute of American Indian Arts
Sandra S. Smith, Tularosa High School

NMLA Mini-Conference Photos

Submitted by Charlene Greenwood
Belen Public Library Chooses Linux for Public Computing

by Beverly McFarland, Director, Belen Public Library

It is not unusual for 500 people a day use the public computers at the Belen Public Library. Meeting the expectations of this clientele is the most difficult aspect of our work. It seems despite our efforts to increase the number of computers for our community, we are always behind the curve.

By the summer of 2003 we were down to 4 of our original Gates PCs. We had 2002 Bond funding to replace the Gates PCs but it was taking us a full day to add each new workstation to the network. We receive e-rate funding and had to comply with the CIPA ruling so in addition to installing Centurion Guards to protect our drives, Cybrarian and Oracle to provide time management and patron authentication, we added NetNanny to comply with CIPA. We were rapidly running out of ports, out of plugs, and out of time. Keeping up with vandalism, wear and tear, licenses, and changes in technology was becoming next to impossible.

Discover Station at Belen Public Library

The two essential pieces of the original Gates project for small, rural libraries was that it was plug and play and had a 1-800 number for hardware and software technical support. I read everything I could get my hands on seeking a return to that model. I finally ran across an article in Computers in Libraries on a company called Userful. Using the Linux operating system it was providing the kind of hardware and software support that our small library so desperately needed.

In August we implemented a pilot Discover Station from Userful. The move to Linux for PAC computing was seamless. While costs vary depending on the setup, they were far less than our current costs. With ILS authentication, filters, multiple desktop profiles, 38 languages, and bigprint, the Discover Station provides an excellent alternative to the personal computer running Microsoft software.

Linux is open source software so we no longer worry about licenses. Userful replaces the machines after three years so we no longer have to worry about updating our machines. The box runs 10 workstations off of one network cable so we no longer need more power or network connections. The systems are less vulnerable to hacking than Windows PCs, and less vulnerable to physical vandalism because publicly accessible parts are on tables where staff can see them and the USB mice, floppy drive, and headphones are glued to the keyboard.

Through it all the customer-vendor relationship held up well. We found Userful’s responsiveness refreshing and are in process to purchase another six-station Discover Station.

Holiday Learning Tree at San Juan College Library

by Cindy Williams, Library Assistant II, Acquisitions, SJCL

Our annual library project, The Holiday Learning Tree, began last year. We have decorated a Christmas tree in the library each year, but it seemed to be missing something; it needed a purpose, I thought. After viewing the Angel Trees at the mall, I found my inspiration. I thought that the same concept could be used for our Library Christmas tree. It would provide disadvantaged children with books to encourage literacy and family interaction. I still remember the first book that was given to me. I read this same book to my cousins and my daughter when she was very small. I was thrilled to find an exact copy of this book at a flea market a few years ago. I would like to think that my daughter’s love for books was inspired by me reading to her when she was very young.

Since I had desktop publishing experience, I created the “Holiday Learning Tree” bookmarks complete with a Holiday Learning Tree logo of my design. The back of the bookmark included instructions and deadlines for the project, a child’s name, age, and gender as well as the subjects, authors or titles of books that child was interested in.

I presented the idea of my bookmark to Louise Bolton, the Library Director. She was very excited and wanted me to get the project going for the holiday season. I asked Amy Mullin, our Reference Librarian to help me. We met with Sandra Smith of the San Juan College Child and Family Development Center and Larry Palmer of the Volunteer Center. They were thrilled with the idea and agreed on the name of the tree, The Holiday Learning Tree. Larry Palmer provided the funding to print the bookmarks and Sandy provided the children’s names through various agencies. Amy contacted Linda Baker in our Public Relations Department and a press release was created for the project. The press release was printed in our staff newsletter Staff Notes, the Campus newsletter The Communicator, and the local newspaper The Farmington Daily Times. The college was in full support of The Holiday Learning Tree.

The Holiday Learning Tree was off to a fast start. I created a poster and flyers for the project to be posted throughout the
I also sent a campus-wide email to all the staff and faculty. Then the Tree was put up in the library, and the bookmarks were placed on it. It was astonishing how quickly patrons of the library, faculty, and staff were eager to participate. In fact, there were more books donated than there were bookmarks. We were able to provide 277 books – 77 more than what we had projected! After patrons “picked” a bookmark from the Holiday Learning Tree, they then returned it to the San Juan College Library with bags full of new books. It was very exciting to see the books pile high under the tree. The books were then gathered and delivered to the Family Development Center for distribution.

This is our second year for The Holiday Learning Tree Project. We are looking forward to seeing the books “grow” under the Holiday Learning Tree this holiday season for the children. My greatest endeavor would be to expand this Project by promoting it in other libraries within the state and possibly the nation. I would be happy to pass on the copy for the fliers, bookmarks and posters to other libraries who might be interested in doing the same in their library. This would be a worthwhile project promoting literacy and parent interaction with their children while providing them with a book of their very own.

Mesa Public Library Film Series:
First Run, Award Winning Independent Films

By Carol Meine, Administration, Mesa Public Library

"I went to the movie at Mesa Public Library last night. It was great! Really nice set up with a large screen, great sound and very professionally run. I will definitely make it a regular on my schedule!" Don Reeck, Los Alamos

It’s fun and it’s free! Join Don and the other folks who regularly attend the film series at Mesa Public Library. The third series began in November with brand new, first run independent films from Film Movement, including films from the top film festivals world-wide-Sundance, Cannes and Toronto. The films are curated by leading voices in film such as Christian Gaines of the American Film Institute, Nicloe Guillemet, original programmer of the Sundance Film Festival, and Nate Kohn of Roger Ebert’s Overlooked Film Festival.

The library will show each film one time only on the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM; however, if you miss the film on the big screen, all the films which are on DVD, are added to the circulating collection after the public screening so patrons can enjoy them at home.

Thad Hahn, the Library Board chair, conceived the notion in 2003 of having a film series to address the need in Los Alamos for more “grown up” programming. The Library Board has formed a subcommittee to recruit volunteers to run the film series and to develop new volunteer-run programs. The series is made possible by the combined efforts of the Library Board, Library staff, and volunteers from the community, with financial contributions from the Friends of Mesa Public Library to purchase some of the movies and popcorn.

Aside from the entertainment value, the film series also highlights all the media related resources of library. The library has an impressive collection of vintage and current DVDs and videos and it is expanding all the time. The AV Collection Team at the library, headed by Circulation staff member Mary Skarra, undertook a major addition of foreign films in 2002-2003. Skarra solicited the opinions of thirty seven plus patrons on which foreign language films they would like the library to include. As a result of that input, the collection now contains films in French, German, Mandarin, Cantonese, Hindi, Spanish, Polish, and other languages.

Skarra noted, “The library had received several requests for harder to find festival films, such as those from Sundance and the community really responded in a big way to requests for suggestions for foreign films. When I attended the Public Library Association meeting in Seattle earlier this year, Recorded Books, parent company of Film Movement, gave a presentation about the Independent Film Series. It seemed to be such a perfect complement to the direction the collections were going that Charlie Kalogeros-Chattan, Library Manager, gave the go ahead right away. We are so pleased that the library is now able to offer such great newly released films to our patrons!”

News from Taos

Annette Montoya is the new Children’s Librarian. She replaces Carmen Medina, who retired for 3 months and then returned as a part-time cataloguer. (Just couldn’t stay away!) Ron Reinikainen has replaced cataloguer Marilyn Hoff, who also retired. And Jim Tourney has been promoted to the Adult Supervisor position. Congratulations to everyone!

new mexico library association newsletter
Sunland Park Celebrates Four Years
by Valerie Nye, Public Library Consultant, Library Development Services Bureau, New Mexico State Library

The Sunland Park Community Library celebrated its four year anniversary with a celebration and a meeting on November 17th. Library Director, Dexter Katzman, hosted the evening’s events that included a keynote address by ALA President and Sunland Park Library Founder, Carol Brey-Casiano and Sunland Park Mayor, Ruben Segura. Door prizes were awarded to community children and library supporters were recognized with certificates.

For the last four years the Sunland Park library has been a joint partnership between the city of Sunland Park, the Thomas Branigan Library in Las Cruces, and the Doña Ana Branch Community College. The Sunland Park Library houses a collection of public library books for community and materials that support the curriculum offered at the Sunland Park campus of the Doña Ana Community College. Thomas Branigan Library supports the community library by donating books from their community, and cataloging and processing all of the public library titles added to the collection.

The Sunland Park Community Library is booming. In a typical month over 2000 patrons visit the library. The library circulates nearly 1000 books, videos, and tapes and issues over 80 new library cards on a monthly basis. The library houses 10 public access computers and has over 300 people using the technology every month. The library is currently open 48 hours a week with an all bilingual staff of a full-time director and two half-time clerks.

The November celebration concluded with a lively community meeting to discuss the future of the Sunland Park Community Library. For the last 4 years the library has been funded primarily by a federal grant that will end on September 30, 2005. Within the next year this rapidly growing community will need to decide how to continue the high level of library services the community has come to use and appreciate.

"Sense-Abilities" Fair at MPL
by Melissa Mackey, Youth Services Program, Mesa Public Library

On November 17, Mesa Public Library hosted a "Sense-Abilities" Fair. With the help of local volunteers, children and adults learned a few things about what it is like to live as a sight-impaired person. The event was organized by Karen Edwards, a long time Los Alamos resident, mother of three and LANL employee, who is also blind. At least 80 community members, mostly children under age 12, participated in the intriguing fair in the Youth Services area of the library.

Children learned how much they take seeing well for granted, how challenging it is to live sight-impaired, and how valuable other senses are when one is impaired. Five different activities were offered:

- There was a story session, with a sight-impaired reader sharing children’s books in Braille.
- An activity called Sound Hound had a blindfolded person looking for a ticking timer.
- Blindfolded children used their noses to identify various smells and their hands to identify shapes.
- A lesson in using a cane was followed by the opportunity to try moving around the library blindfolded.

Mrs. Edwards demonstrated her Braille writing machine and the Braille alphabet. Kids tried reading a Braille sentence and then translating it into written letters.

The event was such a resounding success, with parents and children very engaged in the activities offered, that Mrs. Edwards has agreed to return next year with another program.

Government Documents Available at NMSU Library
by Jeanette Smith, NMSU Library

Researchers and members of the public who have questions about federal government information and maps can now receive assistance at a new Government Documents Unit on the second floor of New Mexico State University’s Branson Library.

The NMSU Library is one of more than one thousand academic, public and special libraries that participate in the Federal Depository Library Program, a program established by Congress in the early 1800s to allow the public free access to government publications. The NMSU Library, which became a federal depository in 1907, primarily serves residents of the Second Congressional District in southern New Mexico. It selects 62% of items available from the Government Printing Office.
The map and atlas collection of the NMSU Library is also housed on the second floor of Branson Library. The majority of maps have been acquired from government agencies such as the U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Forest Service as part of the depository collection. The atlas collection includes historical, contemporary and specialized titles. Staff members are available to provide instruction sessions to classes and groups.

NMSU Library Reference service for U.S. government documents and maps in the unit during NMSU’s Fall Semester is available from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Assistance is also available at (505) 646-5791 and webref@lib.nmsu.edu. For more information, please contact Kirsten Clark, Reference & Research Services/Government Documents Librarian, at (505) 646-4385 or email kclark@lib.nmsu.edu.

Center for the Book’s First Broadsides Is For Sale

by Jeff Bantly, Coordinator: Volunteer Services, Gifts, and Center for the Book, Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System

The Center for the Book is pleased to announce the first in a series of fine-art broadsides designed and produced in collaboration with local artists. Jane Hellesoe-Henon, an Albuquerque artist and Friends Pricing and Sorting volunteer, has created an original linoleum cut which the Center is printing on artist’s quality mould-made Italian paper in an edition of 75 copies. Jane has asked that all proceeds from the sale of this work go to the Friends for the Public Library to underwrite expenses for further broadside projects.

The broadside measures 11 x 17 inches and will be produced in two states: the fine art piece described above priced at $35.00 and an edition of 250 printed on commercial paper priced at $5.00. Both editions will be ready for sale by the end of October in time for holiday purchase. The piece is striking in itself as a piece of art as well as an example of fine printing AND it is a great opportunity to support the Friends and the Center. For more information, please call Jeff Bantly at (505) 768-5115 or email: jbantly@cabq.gov.

Amigos provides New Mexico libraries easy access to the wide variety of programs and services offered by OCLC, including:

- Connexion (cataloging)
- CatExpress
- Resource Sharing (ILL)
- FirstSearch
- QuestionPoint
- ILLiad
- CONTENTdm

...and much more

For more information on OCLC services available through Amigos, contact Ramona McKeown, 1-800-843-8482, ext. 2818, or mckeown@amigos.org.

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Sherry York Publishes Fourth Book

Sherry York, retired librarian, writer, reviewer, and occasional presenter at NMLA conferences has become a “winter Texan.” She and her husband Donnie, another retired librarian, have moved to a condo on South Padre Island. They will be returning to their cozy cabin in Ruidoso in the spring but are currently enjoying the warmth of the South Texas beaches.

Sherry is pleased to announce that her fourth book from Linworth Publishing, Inc. will be published in the spring of 2005. Like her previous three books, Picture Books by Latino Writers, Children’s and Young Adult Literature by Latino Writers, and Children’s and Young Adult Literature by Native Americans, this book will be useful to librarians and teachers. Her forthcoming book will be a directory of ethnic book awards for young readers.

For more information about Sherry’s book, or just to say hello, e-mail her at sherryy@senecacom.net. To learn more about her earlier titles, check out Linworth’s Web site at www.linworthpublishing.com or read the reviews on Amazon.com.

Grants and Awards

Three NM Tribes Receive Library Enhancement Grants

by Alison Freese, Senior Program Officer, Native American/ Native Hawaiian Library Services, Institute of Museum and Library Services

In September the Institute of Museum and Library Services announced fourteen Native American Enhancement grant awards for the Native American Library Services Program 2004 grant cycle. New Mexico recipients included the Pueblo of Jemez, Pueblo of Santa Clara and Pueblo of Zuni. Native American Enhancement Grants advance library operations to new levels of service by supporting activities specifically identified in the Library Services and Technology Act. These competitive grants are intended to encourage the implementation of both mainstream and innovative library practices.

The goals of the Jemez Pueblo Community Library grant are to strengthen the Jemez Library Consortium that the community library maintains with five local schools, to enhance reading skills of community, and to increase computer literacy and access to information for the entire community. Santa Clara Pueblo Community Library will use its grant to increase its technological capabilities, enhance literacy programs of both its school-aged and elderly populations through elder/grandchild reading programs, and digitize documents from the tribal language program. The Zuni Public Library will provide a bookmobile operator and a children’s program coordinator as well as collection development for the bookmobile and main library children’s and adult collections.

In addition to the competitive Enhancement Grant program, noncompetitive Basic Grants are available to federally recognized Tribes and Alaska Native Villages to support existing library operations and to maintain core library services. The Basic Grant will be increased from $4,000 to $5,000 in 2005. Also new in 2005 is an Education/Assessment Option of $1,000 that will be offered in addition to the Basic Grant and will replace the Professional Assistance Grant. The Education/Assessment award is optional and provides funding for library staff to attend continuing education courses and/or training workshops on- or off-site; for library staff to attend or give presentations at conferences related to library services; and/or to hire a consultant for an on-site professional library assessment.

March 1 is the deadline for the 2005 Basic Grant with Education/Assessment Option and May 1 for the Enhancement Grant. 2005 Guidelines will be available on the IMLS Web site (www.imls.gov) by the end of November 2004 and copies of the guidelines are mailed to all federally recognized tribes in December 2004.
The Institute of Museum and Library Services is an independent federal grant-making agency dedicated to creating and sustaining a nation of learners by helping libraries and museums serve their communities. The Institute fosters leadership, innovation, and a lifetime of learning by supporting the nation’s 15,000 museums and 122,000 libraries. The Institute also encourages partnerships to expand the educational benefit of libraries and museums. To learn more about the Institute, log on to www.imls.gov. To learn more about the Native American Library Services Program, contact Alison Freese, Senior Program Officer, at 202-606-5408 or afreese@imls.gov.

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**Funding Opportunities**

**NMLF To Provide Grants**  
*by Charlene Greenwood, Chair, NMLF*

**Deadline: March 15, 2005**

“The New Mexico Library Foundation will support identified needs of New Mexico libraries. We will do this by providing grants to libraries to build and maintain their collections, update information access technology and enhance library programs.” This is the new mission statement of the Foundation that we developed after a thorough review of our operation with the help of an outside consultant. We also learned that we had to initiate a fund-raising program of our own to build a reserve that would ensure a predictable source of money for future grants.

In these days of shrinking library budgets but ever increasing demand for service, New Mexico libraries can benefit from small grants directed towards specific projects without having to go through a complicated time-consuming application process. Since 1992 the New Mexico Library Foundation has provided 17 such grants to New Mexico Libraries. In 1998 the Foundation underwrote the publication of “One Book at a Time: The History of the Library in New Mexico.” We supported the Library Legacy Exhibit that has visited more than 30 New Mexico Libraries since 1999. The Foundation has maintained close and cordial ties with NMLA and with the State Library. We support library legislation at all levels of government.

The Foundation’s fund raising campaign will ask the public and especially the library community to help us reach our goal — an endowment of $50,000. Not a big sum but enough to ensure that in the future we will have funds available to support our various activities. Soon you should be receiving a letter asking for such support. Keep an eye out!

One of our fund raising activities is a drawing at the NMLA conferences. At the mini-conference in Roswell, the beautiful Indian pot was won by Betty Long of Roswell. Congratulations, Betty!

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We have a new web site at www.nm-lf.org. Among other topics you’ll read about the history of the Foundation and find out about our current activities. You’ll be able to download grant applications and find other useful information concerning us. Check us out!

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**NMLA Scholarship and Grants Applications Online**  
*by Isabel Rodarte, Director, Northern NM Community College*

**Deadline: January 15, 2005**

Please check out the NMLA.org web site for information on NMLA scholarships and grants. Click on “Membership” then on “Scholarship and Grants Applications”. Continuing Education Grants are available for any amount up to $200. for those of you interested in attending a conference or training workshop but need a little financial assistance. The next application deadline for both the Marion Dorrah Memorial Scholarship and the College Scholarship Fund is January 15, 2005. These scholarships are for those of you working on an Associates degree, Bachelor’s degree, or Master’s degree in library science. You can find more information about the qualifications, criteria and application forms on the web site.

**School and Public Libraries Eligible to Apply for Giant Step Award**  
**Deadline: March 1, 2005**

Information and publishing company Thomson Gale and School Library Journal have developed the annual Giant Step Award to recognize outstanding school and public libraries that are providing the type of excellent programs and services that greatly impact student learning and development, both in school and beyond. In an effort to provide a more accurate comparison among nominees, the program has adopted separate evaluation criteria for school and public libraries. Through the program, Thomson Gale will distribute $10,000 in cash prizes. In addition, the winning library or libraries will receive a gala celebration at the American Library Association Annual Conference as well as a cover story in the April issue of School Library Journal. SLJ also will highlight other entrants deemed to be high achievers. To be eligible, applicants must be a U.S. or Canadian school library media center (either an individual library media center or an entire district’s library media services programs) or a youth services department in a U.S. or Canadian public library that partners with local schools (a single library/branch library or an entire library system). In addition, applicants must submit materials that demonstrate significant advancements that have improved services to students in the last three years. See the Thompson Gale Web site for complete application guidelines and materials RFP Link: http://www.gale.com/schools/giant_award/about_giant.htm
CPB/IMLS Create Partnership for a Nation of Learners
Deadline: March 15, 2005
The Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) have announced the creation of a broad initiative to spark collaboration among local public broadcasters, museums, and libraries, harnessing community educational resources in new and more meaningful ways.

Partnership for a Nation of Learners, a multiyear, $3 million initiative, will provide resources to bring together libraries, public pathways to learning, discovery, and exploration. The initiative will offer competitive grants to support existing collaborations and create new ones, encourage professional development, and conduct project evaluations to measure effectiveness. More information at http://www.partnershipforlearners.org.

Alexander Hamilton: The Man Who Made Modern America
Deadline: January 21, 2005
The American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office, the New-York Historical Society, and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History are accepting grant applications from public, academic and special libraries, as well as National Park historic sites, wishing to host the traveling exhibition, Alexander Hamilton: The Man Who Made Modern America.

Two copies of the exhibit will travel to 40 libraries and National Park historic sites around the country between October 2005 and March 2009. Each exhibit will consist of six colorful, freestanding 18-foot-long and 7-foot-high panels. Each section will examine a different period in Hamilton’s life, from his birth through his experience in the American Revolution and his career in politics, to the infamous duel with Aaron Burr that fatally wounded him, and the legacy he left in many arenas of government.

Libraries and National Park historic sites selected for the tour will receive grants of $1,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities for planning seminar and/or programming expenses. Selected institutions will host the exhibition for a six-week period and are expected to present at least two free public programs featuring a lecture or discussion by a qualified scholar on exhibition themes. All showings of the exhibition will be free and open to the public.

For more information about Alexander Hamilton: The Man Who Made Modern America, please visit www.ala.org/publicprograms/. Support for the exhibit is provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Linking Libraries, Communities and Culture
Deadline: January 31, 2005
The American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office and National Video Resources (NVR) are accepting grant applications from libraries of all types that are interested in hosting The World War I Years: America Becomes a World Power, a new film viewing and discussion series. Support for the series is provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).


Fifty libraries will be selected to participate in The World War I Years project. Participating libraries will receive a collection of six carefully curated documentary films to use for the series and keep as part of their permanent collections; seven compelling essays on the film topics written by eminent scholars; an extensive resource guide for additional reading, videos, and Web sites; and program and publicity materials. Additionally, 25 of the selected libraries will be invited to send the program coordinator and scholar to a training seminar in Chicago. These libraries will also receive a $1,300 grant to use toward seminar travel and other expenses. For more information, please visit www.ala.org/publicprograms or www.ww1films.com.

National Endowment for the Humanities Grants
Here is a sampling of upcoming NEH funding opportunities for libraries. Go to http://www.neh.gov/grants/grants.html for more information.

Deadline: Feb. 3, 2005
Implementation Grants for Libraries and Archives
Deadline: March 22, 2005
Consultation Grants for Libraries, Museums, or Special Projects
Deadline: July 15, 2005
Reference Materials Grants
Deadline: September 16, 2005
Planning Grants for Libraries, Museums, or Special Projects
Book Review


by Susan Halloran, Assistant Librarian, Corrales Community Library

In the introduction to their birding book for young readers the Coulters describe idyllic childhood days spent outdoors in a rural setting made magic by abundant wildlife. They delighted, especially, in the activities of the myriad bird species that resided in or migrated through their southwestern landscape. Three members of the family still reside in New Mexico and the love for the region’s birds obviously informs all of their lives. This book is their attempt to share that delight and to awaken in young minds fascination with the beauty, behaviors and adaptability of our feathered neighbors.

Four sections – Birds of Prey, High Country Birds, Open Country Birds, and Wetland Birds – offer the reader an introduction to examples of representative species. Each can be readily identified with the assistance of photographs and the softly rendered and immensely appealing drawings of Ms. Owings Dewey. Each entry is two or three pages long and provides information about the species’ natural habitat, nest, eggs, food, migratory patterns – if any – and idiosyncratic behaviors. Of particular interest to readers of all age groups are the descriptions of particular adaptive activities and physical peculiarities of certain birds. Who knew, for instance, that the Clark’s Nutcracker had the ability to carry up to 90 pine nuts in a pouch beneath its tongue? Or that Mergansers engage in complex team efforts to corral fish in the water? The descriptions of flight patterns, courtship and breeding rituals, and nest and territory defense maneuvers are depicted so vividly in the text and illustrations that readers will surely be stimulated to do further field and book research.

The authors generally maintain a nice balance in their presentation, providing images that will satisfy a young person’s craving for emotional and intellectual stimulation in easy conjunction with the scientific facts that place the birds in an environmental context. Most entries include a glossary clearly defining terms that are too technical or complex for some young readers. This however, raises an important question. Who is the intended audience for this mostly delightful and informative book? Each section devoted to a specific species is preceded by a short, story-like anecdote which is meant, presumably, to capture the reader’s interest in the individual bird. Unfortunately, most of these “stories” employ vocabulary and story lines which would appeal only to a very young child. An older reader, encountering these ‘babyish’ introductions might fail to continue on to the intriguing and complex information which follows. The first or second grader meanwhile might react with great interest to the anecdotes but be frustrated by the format and vocabulary in the main entries. Perhaps the authors really have two books here and in future editions could consider separating out the stories and using them (with more of Owings Dewey’s illustrations!) to create an introduction to birds for young readers – something along the lines of the Burgess Bird Books of yore. Apart from the single caveat, Winging It is enthusiastically recommended for middle school and public libraries.

Look at our new website – www.nm-lf.org. It has our new guidelines and online application for grants that are due March 15 and September 15 each year. It also gives information about the Foundation.

Since 1992 the New Mexico Library Foundation has been a tax deductible foundation serving the libraries and library organizations of the state by providing grants and services. Your donations are welcome in your name or to honor another person. Make checks payable to “NMLF” and send to the address above.
Talking Books/Los libros nos hablan/Naaltsoos Bahane’ hóloní State Library/Museum of New Mexico Partnership

by Kathy Barco, Youth Services Coordinator, Development Services Bureau, New Mexico State Library

The theme for New Mexico’s 2005 Statewide Summer Reading Program was chosen following a partnership agreement between the New Mexico State Library and the Museum of New Mexico (MNM). The museum received a substantial ($425,000+) grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to mount Speaking Volumes, a series of permanent and traveling exhibits about the history of printing in New Mexico.

Here are some ways the theme can be incorporated in library programming this summer:

- books as art
- commercial book production
- the “art” of booktalking
- hand-made books - children make their own; writing their own stories
- making pop-up books - workshops are being planned for this spring
- “talking books” - recorded books for the blind and physically handicapped
- “favorite” children’s book - invite local celebrities, politicians, etc. to talk about their favorites
- newspapers - sources for local history; resources for genealogy
- careers in printing and publishing - printers, publishers, writers, artists, reporters, photographers, graphic artists, editors,
- New Mexico ties to Caldecott & Newbery-winning books
- history of printing - world, US, NM
- famous printers - Gutenberg, Ben Franklin
- moveable type - kids carve their own using erasers, sponges, potatoes, linoleum blocks
- outside speakers - publishers of local newspapers; local authors, illustrators, etc.

Four Summer Reading Program Workshops were held in early November in Truth or Consequences, Moriarty, Santa Fe, and Jal. Incorporated into each workshop were three hours of Sign Language training conducted by Lillian Hubler of Time to Sign, Inc., Palm Bay, Florida.

Following receipt of the grant, the title of the exhibition was changed to “Lasting Impressions: The Private Press of New Mexico.” Frances Levine, Director of the Palace of the Governors, wrote a letter to Youth Services staff members that was distributed at the workshop. Here is an excerpt from that letter:

The SRP and “Talking Books” joins the Palace and “Lasting Impressions” in an effort to take our love of books and reading to every county in New Mexico. Supporting our goals with an extraordinary grant is the Institute of Museums and Library Services. Among those joining us are Literacy Volunteers of Santa Fe; the State Library’s Archives, Southwestern Collection and Bookmobiles; master’s degree students at New Mexico Highlands University” TREX: the Traveling Exhibitions Program of the Museum of New Mexico; the Museum Outreach Department’s Van of Enchantment, and you, Youth Services staff members who are the frontline of a most important component.

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Report

by Jean Whitehorse, Tribal Libraries Program, New Mexico State Library

I had the opportunity to attend the IFLA Conference held in Buenos Aires, Argentina from August 22 – 27, 2004. Over 70 librarians from around the world were invited and attended the Conference. Christine MacDonald, one of the chairpersons, invited me to represent The NMSL Tribal Libraries Program (TLP).

The opening session was on Monday at one of the world’s famous opera houses, Colon Theatre, which is right off of the world’s widest boulevard. Later that evening I had a chance to cross the 20 lanes at Avenida 9 de Julio. The session was mainly in Spanish, which was followed by a Tango demonstration. The majority of the sessions through the week were in Spanish with very little English spoken. The session I attended had interpreters in English, German, Frances, Japanese, Chine, etc, but no Navajo.

I wore my traditional dress with my hair tied in a traditional knot. Many participants were amazed at my outfit and asked if they could take my picture. Others asked where I was from, so I introduced myself in Navajo and told them that I was an American Indian from New Mexico in the U.S. As I introduced myself, most people heard only “Mexico” and did not know about American Indians. Before we left for our trip my daughter told me to take a Gallup tourist magazine with pictures of the Navajo people, rugs, pottery and fry bread in case people asked questions. After my show and tell two men from Kenya said they were studying the American Indians and about Navajo Code Talkers.

On Wednesday, Christine asked me to start the session with a Navajo prayer and to introduce myself. After my presentation on the Digital Diné, the audience was amazed at how the state library and Tribal Libraries Program continue to serve tribal communities. Someone asked if I knew who the Navajo Code Talkers were. Lorene Roy told them that I was a daughter of a Navajo Code Talker. Soon after that I was asked to say some
things in Navajo, and some of the people tried to repeat the the words. One of the men said Navajo was too difficult to learn - no wonder the Japanese could not break the code!

After lunch, we walked to “Museo Etnografico Museum” for a tour. The museum held indigenous tribal artifacts, such as rugs, looms and pottery. Some of these items strongly resembled our Navajo pottery, textiles and looms. I showed the museum staff the small Navajo rug that I used during my presentation earlier that morning.

My favorite part of the trip was our first meal in Buenos Aires in Puerto Madero district. We had lunch at “Spectus”. The tables were covered with white table linens, and stemmed glassware. Waiters on standby never let your glass reach half way, and there was a table full of desserts (crème brulee, tiramasu, cheesecake, etc.) For six of us to eat at Spectus it was 160 Argentine pesos equal to about 53 US dollars.

This was my second trip out of the country, and I enjoyed visiting Buenos Aires, especially since at the time the U.S. dollar was very strong there – 3 Argentine Pesos = 1 US dollar. Fortunately my son-in-law’s parents (who are fluent in Spanish) went with us. If it weren’t for them we would have had no way of communicating with anyone.

MPLA News
by Val Nye, New Mexico MPLA Representative

MPLA’s Annual Meeting

This year’s Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) conference was hosted with the Colorado Association of Libraries on October 21-24. The conference was well received with over 1200 librarians in attendance. In addition to the informative sessions and networking opportunities, the associations hosted a series of remarkable keynote speakers. Michael Willhoite, author of Daddy’s Roommate, spoke about his decision to write the book and the backlash the book has received since its publication in 1990. Bob Wendover, Director of the Center for Generational Studies also presented an entertaining and information-filled event with his presentation: From Ricky & Lucy to Beavis & Butthead: Managing the New Work Force. Wendover spoke about the four generations currently working in today’s work force and how these four different groups of people view the world in fairly different ways.

For information on joining MPLA visit:
http://www.usd.edu/mpla/

MPLA Seeks Conference Proposals

Next year’s MPLA conference will be jointly hosted with the Wyoming Library Association October 12-15 in Jackson Wyoming. Proposals for sessions are currently being accepted. Downloadable applications can be found online at: http://wyla.org/progcouncil/program_form.shtml. The deadline for program submissions is February 1, 2005.

Online Library Courses

Have you been wondering where you or your staff can take credit courses in library science conveniently, and at a reasonable price? The Library Science Program at Doña Ana Branch Community College in Las Cruces (a branch of New Mexico State University) will be offering several 8 week courses starting in January and March. All courses are offered ONLINE!

Courses being offered in the spring semester include:

- L SC 100 Introduction to Library and Information Services
  (Jan. 13 - Mar. 9)
- L SC 100 Introduction to Library and Information Services
  (Mar. 14 - May 6)
- L SC 110 Reference and Information Resources I
  (Jan. 13 - Mar. 9)
- L SC 140 Multimedia Materials and Presentations
  (Mar. 14 - May 6)
- L SC 175 Civic Involvement
- L SC 203 School Library Media Specialist
  (Mar. 14 - May 6)
- L SC 221 Cooperative Experience
- L SC 240 Internet Resources and Research Strategies
  (Jan. 13 - Mar. 9)
- L SC 270 Library Technology Capstone
  (Mar. 14 - May 6)

Non-degree seeking students who desire single classes for professional development are always welcome, however students may also choose to complete coursework leading to an Associates Degree in Library and Information Technology or a Certificate of Completion in Library and Information Technology. Additionally, the program offers courses that fulfill the state requirement for the Library Media Specialist Endorsement.

It’s easy to be admitted and enroll in our reasonably priced courses. For further information, please contact:

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Dated Material

Contents

NMLA Officers  2  
President's Message  3  
Annual Conference Updates  4  
SIG News  5  
Mini-Conference Photos  5  
Library News  6  
Grants and Awards  10  
Funding Opportunities  11  
Book Review  13  
MPLA News  15

Calendar

Jan 4–7, 2005  Hawaii International Conference on Education, Honolulu
Jan 7  NMLA Newsletter deadline
Jan 14–19  ALA Midwinter Meeting, Boston
Jan 26–29  Special Libraries Association 2005 Leadership Summit, Tampa
Feb 13–20  Music Library Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, British Columbia
Mar 7–9  PLA Spring Symposium, Chicago
Mar 18–19  25th Annual Children's Literature Conference, DeKalb, Illinois
Mar 30–Apr 1  NMLA Annual Conference, Albuquerque