



# NLC *ommunicator*

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*Timely information from the Nebraska Library Commission*

## **[Announcements]**

**T**he Nebraska Library Commission recently awarded \$250 “Dollars for Data” payments to unaccredited public libraries that submitted the 2006 Public Library Statistical survey using Bibliostat™ Collect. Since this is a necessary step toward meeting the standards of service outlined in the Public Library Accreditation Guidelines, these libraries are closer to achieving accredited status. For a list of forty-five unaccredited public libraries that qualify for this payment, see Announcements on the Nebraska Library Commission Website, [www.nlc.state.ne.us](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us). For more information contact Kit Keller, Nebraska Library Commission Planning and Data Services Coordinator, 402-471-3216, 800-307-2665, e-mail: [kkeller@nlc.state.ne.us](mailto:kkeller@nlc.state.ne.us).

**T**he Nebraska Library Commission awarded more than \$50,000 in **Youth Grants for Excellence** to twenty-one libraries and regional library systems to assist in providing improved services to children and young adults by providing continuing education and training opportunities for children and young adult librarians. For a list of recipients and description of their projects, see Announcements on the Nebraska Library Commission Website, [www.nlc.state.ne.us](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us). For more information contact Sally Snyder, Nebraska Library Commission

Children’s Services Coordinator, 402-471-4003, 800-307-2665, e-mail: [ssnyder@nlc.state.ne.us](mailto:ssnyder@nlc.state.ne.us).

**F**ebruary 1, 2008 is the next deadline for application for **Nebraska Library Commission scholarships**, supported by a grant awarded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to recruit and educate the next generation of Nebraska librarians. Due to funding considerations, master’s-level scholarships in this round may be limited. To apply, see Nebraska Library Commission’s Now Hiring @ your library® Website, [www.NowHiringAtYourLibrary.org](http://www.NowHiringAtYourLibrary.org) or contact Kit Keller, see contact information above. NOTE: Only three scholarship cycles will be implemented in 2008. Deadlines are: February 1, July 1, and October 15.

**O**ne Book for Nebraska Teens 2008 is underway. Librarians and students across the state are encouraged to read and discuss *The Book Thief*, by Markus Zusak. The Nebraska Library Commission is distributing book bags containing fifteen paperback copies and one DVD of the book, along with discussion questions and background information. To borrow the book bags, contact Nebraska Library Commission Information and Reference Services, 402-471-4016, 800-307-2665, e-mail: [ready@nlc.state.ne.us](mailto:ready@nlc.state.ne.us) or the Regional Library System offices. For more information contact Sally Snyder, see contact information above.

## [Announcements]



**S***erving Your Spanish-Speaking Customers* workshops, sponsored by the Nebraska Library Commission, the Gates Foundation, and WebJunction, will be offered in nine locations across Nebraska. The workshops will provide information on responding to the needs of the Spanish-speaking community, including outreach and marketing activities. There is no charge for these workshops and lunch is included. Library staff, volunteers, board members, and interested community members are welcome. Register at the Library Commission Website, Library Training, [www.nlc.state.ne.us/training/train.asp](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/training/train.asp), search on Spanish-speaking. For more information contact Sally Snyder, see contact information above.

**L****egislative Day 2008**, sponsored by the Nebraska Library Association (NLA), is set for **February 12**. The luncheon will be held at the Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln. The program will honor library volunteers, recognizing them for their involvement with libraries. To nominate for the volunteer awards, librarians are asked to send stories and pictures of library volunteers of all ages to [jennip@alltel.net](mailto:jennip@alltel.net) by **January 22**. For more information about NLA Legislative Day, see Announcements on the Nebraska Library Commission Website, [www.nlc.state.ne.us](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us). Register at [www.selsne.org/LegDay08.pdf](http://www.selsne.org/LegDay08.pdf).

## **F**ive vacancies currently exist on the **Advisory Committee to the Nebraska Library Commission Talking Book and Braille Service**.

The committee represents the needs of Talking Book and Braille Service borrowers and makes recommendations concerning policies, services, and programs. Membership includes library customers, librarians, educators, health care providers, and others who understand the needs of individuals with disabilities. For more information contact Dave Oertli, Nebraska Library Commission Talking Book and Braille Service Director, 402-471-4038, 800-742-7691, e-mail: [doertli@nlc.state.ne.us](mailto:doertli@nlc.state.ne.us), by March 1.

**N**ebaska Library Commission/NEBASE is offering a group discount to all Nebraska librarians who attend the **Computers in Libraries 2008** conference, **April 7-9**, at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, VA. The discount fee is \$219 for the three-day event (more than a 50 percent savings). No discount rates are available for the pre- or post-conference seminars and workshops. In addition, discount fees of \$99 are available for the **Internet@Schools East** conference on **April 7** and \$219 for the combination of **Internet@Schools East** and the **Computers in Libraries** general conference. For information about the conference, see [www.infotoday.com/cil2008](http://www.infotoday.com/cil2008). To register for the conference, print and complete the CIL 2008 Registration Form and mail it to Sue Bilstoft, Nebraska Library Commission Administrative Assistant, 1200 N St., Suite 120, Lincoln, NE 68508-2023, 402-471-4009, 800-307-2665, e-mail: [sbilstoft@nlc.state.ne.us](mailto:sbilstoft@nlc.state.ne.us). Payment must accompany the registration form. Make checks or money orders payable to Information Today, Inc. To receive the discount the **registration must be sent to the Nebraska Library Commission by February 22**.

## **[Announcements]** **[continued]**

**M**arch 2-8 is **Teen Tech Week**, a national initiative sponsored by the Young Adult Library Services Association, is aimed at teens, their parents, educators and other concerned adults. Teen Tech Week encourages teens to use libraries' nonprint resources (DVDs, databases, audiobooks, and video games) for education and recreation, and to recognize that librarians are qualified, trusted professionals in the field of information technology. Libraries are encouraged to register at [www.ala.org/teentechweek](http://www.ala.org/teentechweek) and access activities and other resources. Apply for a Teen Tech Week Mini Grant at [www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw08/contests/contests.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw08/contests/contests.cfm) to win money for programs and materials. Additional information is available from the Teen Tech Week Wiki at [wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/Teen\\_Tech\\_Week](http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/Teen_Tech_Week).

**S**tate Aid Award Letters were mailed in December to eligible public libraries. During the first quarter of 2008, the Nebraska Library Commission will distribute more than \$375,000 in direct state aid payments. In order to be eligible, a public library must be accredited and meet the maintenance-of-effort requirement regarding local revenue. The state aid amount includes, in some cases, an incentive payment for additional public revenue received by the library, and an incentive payment for achievement of Enhanced and Excellent Accreditation status. For more information contact Kit Keller, see contact information above.

**T**he Nebraska Library Commission will fund a **bus trip to the Public Library Association 2008 Conference**, March 24-29. The bus transportation, organized through the Regional Library Systems, will be **free of charge**. Bus pick-up locations are Lincoln, Omaha, and South Sioux City. Register for the bus trip by March 3 by contacting Jenni Puchalla, 402-467-6188, 800-288-6063, e-mail: [jennyp@alltel.net](mailto:jennyp@alltel.net). For more information about the conference, see [www.placonference.org](http://www.placonference.org). Conference Advance Registration Deadline: February 29.

**T**he Nebraska Library Commission will bring children's author **Ben Mikaelson** to Nebraska for an **April statewide author tour**. Mikaelson will present programs for school children and the general public in ten Nebraska communities, in cooperation with the Regional Library Systems. Mikaelson is the author of *Rescue Josh McGuire*, Nebraska's 2007 One Book One Nebraska Kids selection. For more information see Announcements on the Nebraska Library Commission Website, [www.nlc.state.ne.us](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us) or contact Sally Snyder, see contact information above.

**S**ummer Reading Program-**Catch the Reading Bug!** workshops will be held across the state. Sally Snyder, Nebraska Library Commission Children's Services Coordinator, will present best reads for teenagers and younger readers. Nebraska children's librarians will share ideas, tips, and tricks with the group. To register see the Library Commission Website, Library Training, [www.nlc.state.ne.us/training/train.asp](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/training/train.asp), select All, search on Summer Reading. For more information contact Sally Snyder, see contact information above.

## [Blog]



Join the conversation on the **Library Commission Blog**, see [www.nlc.state.ne.us/blogs/NLC/](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/blogs/NLC/) for more details and further discussion about:

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- **What? You don't have a flash drive yet.** "In case you haven't noticed, floppies are dead. In most cases if you purchase a new computer, you'll need to specially add a floppy drive."

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  - **No results? Chat with a librarian.** "Several libraries around the country have been embedding MeeboMe chat windows into their OPACs...the Commission has done the same thing. If you search our catalog and get no results, you'll be able to ask for help right there and then."

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  - **Gaming at the Grand Island Veterans' Home.** "Today's blog post is courtesy of Janice Rihn, librarian at the Grand Island Veterans' Home. She has a GREAT gaming success story to share, and we wanted everyone to hear about it directly from her."

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  - **But I don't have a URL of my own...** "Here's two great ways to get a URL of your very own, without a lot of work."

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  - **April 10 Colloquium Features Humorous Look at Libraries.** "The Nebraska Library Commission will again fund a colloquium event inviting Nebraska librarians to come to dinner and explore library issues and trends."

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  - **We the People Bookshelf Grants Deadline January 25, 2008.** "The We the People Bookshelf, a collection of classic books for young readers, is a project of the National Endowment for the Humanities' (NEH) in cooperation with the American Library Association (ALA)."

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  - **Public Libraries Invited to Apply for Student Internship Grants.** "Nebraska Library Commission continues to offer grants to libraries for student internships. Each grant will provide a \$1,000 student stipend."

# [Training]

<b>Class</b>	<b>Date: Location</b>
● Serving Your Spanish-Speaking Customers	<b>January 23: South Sioux City January 24: Norfolk</b>
● Understanding MARC 21 Bibliographic Records (Day 1)	<b>January 29: La Vista</b>
● Reference for Dinosaurs	<b>February 1: Papillion</b>
● Understanding MARC 21 Bibliographic Records (Day 2)	<b>February 5: La Vista</b>
● NEBASE Hour	<b>February 6: Online Session</b>
● Serving Your Spanish-Speaking Customers	<b>February 7: North Platte</b>
● Serving Your Spanish-Speaking Customers	<b>February 8: Grand Island</b>
● Soaring to Excellence 2008: People Watching With a Purpose: Meeting Needs Before They Need It	<b>February 8: Online Session</b>
● Serving Your Spanish-Speaking Customers	<b>February 19: Ralston</b>
● Serving Your Spanish-Speaking Customers	<b>February 20: Lincoln</b>
● Summer Reading Program Workshop	<b>February 22: Fremont</b>

**Click on Library Training on the Nebraska Library Commission Website for more Fall training events**

*Continuing Education (CE) Credits for the above training events are issued by the Nebraska Library Commission as part of the Nebraska Public Librarian and Board Certification Program.*

*For more Information about any of the above training events or to register, see the Nebraska Library Commission Training Portal, on the Library Commission Website, [www.nlc.state.ne.us](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us), click on Library Training.*

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# Nebraska Library Commission

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**2007 Public Library Surveys Due January 31**  
**See Announcements, [www.nlc.state.ne.us](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us)**



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