

# MERIDIAN MONITOR

MERIDIAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

JUNE/JULY2009

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## **KLA/MPLA Highlights**

As is my usual practice, included in this edition are notes and hand-outs from various sessions I attended at the joint Kansas Library Association/Mountain Plains Library Association conference in Wichita. I hope you find them useful.

**Highly Recommended Christian Fiction Authors** from a session on Books for the Soul: Contemporary Christian Fiction at Your Library

- Lynn Austin – writes historical and contemporary women’s fiction
- Bodie & Brock Thoene – have written over 45 historical fiction novels since the mid-80’s
- Karen Hancock – One of the few fantasy and science fiction authors in Christian fiction. Recommended series: Legends of the Guardian King
- Dee Henderson – writes suspense with a touch of romance and featuring modern day occupational heroes (FBI or CIA agents, police officers, etc.)
- Francine Rivers – is known for making the just from the romance genre to Christian fiction, she writes romance and historical novels and her Redeeming Love is considered a classic of the genre
- Vinita Hampton Wright – writes introspective fiction that examined the plight of modern day families and communities
- Jan Karon – her Mitford series is the very definition of a “gentle read” – her books reflect Christian values
- Tamera Alexander – Her historical romance series the “Fountain Creek Chronicles” has been a huge success
- Melody Carlson – writes edgy fiction that deals with modern day issues; also writes series for children and teens
- Ted Dekker – Has a reputation for spinning tales filled with the supernatural and fantasy elements; some are dark and border on horror
- Athol Dickson – writes introspective novels with a touch of “magical realism”, miracles show up in unexpected places and people
- Tracy Groot – writes powerful historical fiction; so far all are set in Biblical times and related to Biblical stories
- Angela Ewell Hunt – writes a variety of fiction, from the chick lit “Doesn’t She Look Natural” to the creepy allegory “Uncharted” and books for children and teens

- Beverly Lewis – Her gentle modern day novels set among the Amish are enormously popular
- Frank Peretti – made history with “This Present Darkness”; still remains popular for creepy supernatural suspense; also writes for children and teens
- Lisa Samson – writes modern day fiction that both challenges the status quo and tells a compelling story
- Jamie Langston Turner – writes modern fiction in a way that really gets you into the character’s heads

**Better Than Good – They’re Great!**

The Best Picture Books of 2008:

The Retired Kid – John Agee  
 Lucy and the Bully – Claire Alexander  
 Chuck’s Band – Peggy Perry Anderson  
 M is for Mischief (An A to Z of Naughty Children) – Linda Ashman  
 Mimi – Carol Baicker-McKee  
 Doggone Dogs! – Karen Beaumont  
 Sally and the Purple Socks – Lisze Bechtold  
 Beware of the Frog – William Bee  
 Little Yellow Leaf – Carin Berger  
 Pearl Barley and Charlie Parsley – Aaron Blabey  
 Pete & Pickles – Berkeley Breathed  
 Sophie and the Next-Door Monsters – Chris Case  
 Artie and Julie – C.Y. Chen  
 One is a Feast for a Mouse – Judy Cox  
 Bedtime at the Swamp – Kristyn Crow  
 What Pet to Get – Emma Dodd  
 Happy Hector – Polly Dunbar  
 Forever Young – Bob Dylan  
 The Mystery – Maxwell Eaton III  
 The Sandman – Ralph J. Fletcher  
 Wild West Bonanza – Paul Frank  
 A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever – Marla Frazee

This is the Way – Charles Fuge  
 Toot Toot Beep Beep – Emma Garcia  
 Alfred Digs – Lindsay Barrett George  
 Turtle’s Penguin Day – Valeri Gorbachev  
 Five Little Firefighters – Thomas Graham  
 Little Mouse’s Big Book of Fears – Emily Gravett  
 Fine as We Are – Craig Hall  
 Mail Harry to the Moon! – Robie Harris  
 Dog Day – Sarah Hayes  
 Woolbur – Leslie Helakoski  
 Look Out, Suzy Goose! – Petr Horacek  
 The Block Mess Monster – Besty Howie  
 No! That’s Wrong! – Zhaohua Ji  
 The Flim Flam Fairies – Alan Katz  
 Owney, The Mail Pouch Pooch – Mona Kerby  
 Guess What I Found in the Dragon Wood – Timothy Knapman  
 Ghosts in the House – Kazuno Kohara  
 Big Kicks – Bob Kolar  
 Bats at the Library – Brian Lies  
 Little Panda – Renata Liwska  
 The Ultimate Guide to Grandmas and Grandpas – Sally Lloyd-Jones  
 Kitchen Dance – Maurie J. Manning  
 Baron von Baddie and the Ice Ray Incident – George McClements  
 Santa Duck – David Milgrim  
 Halloween Night – Marjorie Dennis Murray  
 Our Walk in the Woods – Charity Nebbe  
 Ducks Don’t Wear Socks – John Neddwick  
 Baseball Hour – Carol Nevius  
 Not A Stick – Antoinette Portis  
 One Boy – Laura Vaccaro Seeger  
 Cat & Mouse – Ian Schoenherr  
 Too Many Toys – David Shannon  
 Wabi Sabi – Mark Reibstein  
 The Boy Who Wouldn’t Share – Mike Reiss  
 Critter Sitter – Chuck Richards  
 I Feel a Foot! – Maranke Rinck  
 Little Hoot – Amy Krouse Rosenthal  
 There are Cats in this Book! – Viviane Schwarz

Splat the Cat – Rob Scotton  
 Dinosaur vs. Bedtime – Bob Shea  
 The Lump of Coal – Lemony Snicket  
 Peg Leg Peke – Brie Spangler  
 Millie in the Snow – Alexander Steffensmeier  
 Addis Berner Bear Forgets – Joel Stewart  
 Roadwork – Sally Sutton  
 Me Hungry! – Jeremy Tankard  
 Red Sled – Patricia Thomas  
 The New Bear at School – Carrie Weston  
 Daft Bat – Jeanne Willis

The Best Chapter Books of 2008:

Ghost Letters – Stephen Alter  
 Underneath – Kathi Appelt  
 Dog on His Own – Mary Jane Auch  
 Seer of Shadows – Avi  
 Science Fair: A Story of Mystery, Danger,  
 International Suspense and a Very Nervous  
 Frog – Dave Barry  
 Airman – Eoin Colfer  
 Waiting for Normal – Leslie Connor  
 Hate That Cat – Sharon Creech  
 Skylar: A Story – Mary Cuffe-Perez  
 Shooting the Moon – Francis O’Roark  
 Dowell  
 London Eye Mystery – Siobahn Dowd  
 Tomorrow Code – Brian Falkner  
 Graveyard Book – Neil Gaiman  
 Eleven – Patricia Reilly Giff  
 Nightmare at the Book Fair – Dan Gutman  
 Well Witched – Frances Hardinge  
 Runemarks – Joanne Harris  
 Brooklyn Bridge – Karen Hesse  
 Bird Lake Moon – Kevin Henkes  
 My One Hundred Adventures – Polly  
 Horvath  
 Dragonfly Pool – Eva Ibbotson  
 Stolen Children – Peg Kehret  
 Dinosaur Trouble – Dick King-Smith  
 Last Invisible Boy – Evan Kuhlman  
 Savvy – Ingrid Law  
 Thornspell – Helen Lowe  
 Willoughby’s – Lois Lowry

Big Field – Mike Lupica  
 Leanin’ Dog – K. A. Nuzam  
 Keeping Score – Linda Sue Park  
 Night Children – Kit Reed  
 Pillage – Obert Skye  
 Bronze Pen – Zilpha Keatley Snyder  
 Wild Magic – Cat Weatherill  
 Little Audrey – Ruth White



**It Isn't Only a Game:  
 Sports Nonfiction**

Readers don't have to love athletics to enjoy reading about it. Sports nonfiction can be suggested to readers who like suspense, historical fiction, gentle reads, adventure stories, ribald humor, literary fiction and fantasy, to name a few. You can bring you're a-game to Readers' Advisory with just a little working knowledge of the wide world of sports nonfiction.

**Types of Sports Nonfiction:**

History – *Shades of Glory: The Negro Leagues and the Story of African-American Baseball* by Lawrence D. Hogan

How-to – *Five Lessons* by Ben Hogan

Humor – *The Devil Wears Pinstripes* by Jim Caple

Biography – *The Game* by Ken Dryden

Story – *Fantasyland* by Sam Walker

**If the readers' preferred appeal is:**

Character then consider *Caddy for Life* by John Feinstein

Story then consider *Friday Night Lights* by H.G. Bissinger

Pacing then consider *Into Thin Air* by Jon Krakauer  
Frame then consider *Diamonds in the Rough* by Lew Freedman

**If the readers' preferred genre is:**

Historical Fiction then consider *The Gladiator* by Alan Baker

Memoir then consider *My Losing Season* by Pat Conroy

Biography then consider *Sound and Fury* by Dave Kindred

Gentle Fiction then consider *Peanuts and Crackerjack* by David Cataneo

Adventure then consider *Being Extreme* by Bill Gutman

Business then consider *Amped* by David Browne

Romance then consider *My Sergei* by Ekaterina Gordeeva

Science then consider *Gear Heads* by Brad Stone

Street Lit then consider *Wrecking Crew* by John Albert

Suspense then consider *The Proving Ground* by G. Bruce Knecht

Politics then consider *How Soccer Explains the Worlds* by Franklin Foer

Travel then consider *Sunday Money* by Jeff MacGregor

Women's Lives and Relationships then consider *She's Got Next* by Melissa King

**Writers to know:**

- Roger Angell
- Christine Brennan
- Frank Deford
- John Feinstein – currently one of the most popular sports writers today with regular commentary on NPR and multiple best-selling books on a variety of sports and sport related personalities and topics.

- Tim Green
- David Halberstam
- Roger Kahn
- Bill Littlefield – host of radio show, Only a Game, frequently interviews authors and reviews sports books.
- Charlie Pierce

The Top 100 Sports Books of All Time compiled by Sports Illustrated  
[http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/si\\_online/features/2002/top\\_sports\\_books/1/](http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/si_online/features/2002/top_sports_books/1/)



**YOU'VE GOT TO READ THIS ONE!**

**Alexie, Sherman. *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian.*** Arnold Spirit, AKA "Junior" becomes a part-time Indian when he decides to forgo his reservation schooling and go to school off the reservation at an all white school. Only the love of his family, his best friend, and his new friends can get him through this first school year off the reservation.

**Asher, Jay. *Thirteen Reasons Why.*** High school student Clay Jenkins receives a box in the mail containing seven cassette tapes recorded by his crush, Hannah Baker, who committed suicide, and spends a night crisscrossing their town, learning the truth about Hannah's pain.

**Baskin, Nora Raleigh. *Anything but Typical.*** Jason tells his story about what it is like to live with ASD, autistic spectrum disorder. Even though his parents are supportive, it wears them out to deal with Jason. This book shows the trials and abilities of someone with autism.

**Crutcher, Chris. Deadline.** Ben Wolf is told he has a terminal disease at the beginning of his senior year. He decides to keep it a secret so that he can live an entire lifetime in one year.

**Deuker, Carl. Gym Candy.** Mick Johnson works hard for a placement on the varsity team during his freshman year, and decides to use steroids in order to hold onto his edge, despite the consequences to his health and social life.

**Fields, Terri. Holdup.** Diverse teens each react differently to a busy shift at a Phoenix, Arizona, Burger Haven on a hectic Saturday night that culminates in a show-down with two armed robbers.

**George, Madeleine. Looks.** Meghan Ball is the brunt of all the fat jokes and cruel antics. Her peers disregard her which they should not because she knows so much about everyone. Enter the new girl, Aimee. She is the thinnest girl around. She, like Meghan, comes with many problems to contribute to her physical appearance. An unlikely friendship develops and both girls even the score with all who made their lives miserable.

**Harazin, S.A. Blood Brothers.** Sharing spit at seven made Clay and Joey blood brothers. As the boys got older, Clay needed to work to help support his father, Joey has few responsibilities and runs with a fast crowd. At seventeen, Joey is in a comma as a result of taking PCP and Clay is blamed for his condition. With his mother deceased and an absent father, Clay needs to find the strength to move on without Joey.

**Mastoon, Adam Shared Hearts: Portraits and Stories Celebrating Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Young .** The vignettes

in this book are the result of the author's feeling of alienation while growing up. This book shares the stories and feelings of 40 young people. The stories are dignified, thought-provoking, and honest. The fact that pictures and handwritten notes accompany the text make the teens come to life.

**Merriam, Eve The Inner City Mother Goose** Mother Goose rhymes are a part of our folk tradition and Merriam claims we do not really think about what the words are saying. She explores such topics as poor housing, unemployment, filthy living conditions, and corruption.

**Vincent, Erin. Grief girl.** Erin Vincent's parents both died in an automobile accident in October 1983; her mother immediately and her father one-month later. Erin, fourteen, Tracy, seventeen and Trent, three are left orphans. Tracy tries to keep the family together through thin and thinner times, Erin mourns and Trent forgets. Gritty language.

Web sites: Professional Assembly on Literature for Adolescents <http://www.alan-ya.org/> Author chats, book reviews, author information Oklahoma Library Association Sequoyah <http://www.oklibs.org/> Promotional resources for the master lists

Presenters:

Dr. Barbara Ray Assoc. Professor Library Media \* Northeastern State University [raybj@nsuok.edu](mailto:raybj@nsuok.edu)

Joan Bennett Media Specialist at Locust Grove High School [jben-nett@lg.k12.ok.us](mailto:jben-nett@lg.k12.ok.us)

Tough Financial Times? Library Journal recently published advice on how to navigate tighter budgets in "Survivor: The Library Edition." Among the tips:

- Talk to your users: It's easier to defend hours and programs if you have data from users on their value.
- Counter the myths: Your detractors may say things like, "No one uses libraries anymore," or "Everything's on the Internet." Don't let statements like these be the last word.
- Focus on planning: It's easy to lose sight of the big picture and the long-term library vision when faced with a critical situation. Take time to step back and ask what the library could be if you started with a blank slate.

Read the entire article at [www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6645870.html](http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6645870.html).



**Read Aloud Nebraska** promotional materials are now available at:

<http://www.readaloudnebraska.org/ibbtcgllw/psa.html>



A complete listing of book discussion book set titles available for loan both from Meridian Library System and the other regional library systems is now available at: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/meridian/book%20sets.html>

## Paraprofessional of the Year

The Paraprofessional Section of the Nebraska Library Association (NLA) accepts nominations for the Paraprofessional of the Year Award each year. This award is given annually to a paraprofessional who must be a member of the Paraprofessional Section of NLA who has demonstrated outstanding service in a library setting.

The recipient will be selected on the basis of all of the following criteria:

1. Innovative programs that the nominee has worked with which have resulted in new or improved library services.
2. Exceptional volunteer work in library service or related field.
3. Exceptional use of library resources, local or otherwise.
4. Significant involvement or leadership in NLA Paraprofessional Section (i.e., holding office, member of a committee, or workshop or conference presentation).

The Paraprofessional of the Year may receive:

1. A one year paid membership to NLA, in the Paraprofessional Section.
2. Fifty dollars.

Nomination forms can be found at <http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/PARA/paranomform.html>. Nominations are due on July 31, 2009.

Send form to:

Jennifer Wrampe  
Paraprofessional Publicity/Citations Chair  
Nebraska Library Commission  
1200 N St, Ste 120  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
[jwrampe@nlc.state.ne.us](mailto:jwrampe@nlc.state.ne.us)

**NLA Public Library and Trustee Spring Meeting Report**  
**By MaryJo Ryan**  
**Nebraska Library Commission**

The Public Library and Trustee Section (PLTS) of the Nebraska Library Association (NLA) held Spring Meetings this year at Wahoo Public Library, Bridgeport Public Library, and the Lexington Public Library. The meeting included a program on Nebraska's Open Source Integrated Library Systems Statewide Project, presented by Greg Mickells, Assistant Library Director, Lincoln City Libraries.

Greg Mickells spoke about the option of open source software (OSS) for cooperative library catalogs. Open source software replaces the standard model of purchasing software and doing only what it allows you to do, with free software that allows you to change it to fit your needs. However, as it has been said, OSS is not free as in beer, but free as in kittens. There may be no up-front costs, but that doesn't mean there will be no costs in the long run. However, software customization and maintenance costs can be shared by partners using the system. This dynamic, flexible, affordable, Web-based option will be tested in Nebraska in the near future. Mickells described the pilot collaborative effort in Nebraska and the activities underway through the Nebraska Pioneer Project, including:

- A core group of seven libraries of all sizes (Omaha Public Library, Lincoln City Libraries, St. Paul Public Library, Gretna Public Library, Grand Island Public Library, Bellevue Public Library, and Holdrege Area Public Library) has been formed. This partnership will be formalized through interlocal agreements, currently underway.

- Koha ([www.koha.org](http://www.koha.org)) has been selected as the software to use to build the system.
- The partnership wrote a \$100,000 grant and received funding through the Nebraska Library Commission's IMLS-funded Library Improvement grant process.
- The next step is a scoping study.
- The partnership expects to have a viable product available for testing by September.
- Additional Nebraska libraries will be invited to join the partnership at some time in the future.



The Golden Sower Committee is pleased to announce the 2009 award winners and honor books!

**Primary Winner:**

*If I Built a Car* by Chris Van Dusen

**Primary Honor Books:**

*Fancy Nancy* by Jane O'Connor, illus. by Robin Preiss Glasser

*Library Lion* by Michelle Knudsen, illus. by Kevin Hawkes

**Intermediate Winner:**

*Satch and Me* by Dan Gutman

**Intermediate Honor Books:**

*Room One: A Mystery or Two* by Andrew Clements

*Rules* by Cynthia Lord

**Young Adult Winner:**

*Twilight* by Stephenie Meyer

**Young Adult Honor Books:**

*Heat* by Mike Lupica

*Life as We Knew It* by Susan Beth Pfeffer

## FUTURE SEARCH: VISION STATEMENT TO CONSIDER

### **If you've got it, flaunt it – or, at least, market it.**

In a tough economy, libraries are more important than ever. Now is the time to show our communities why we are so valuable.

**Vision statement to consider:** *Increasing the visibility of Nebraska libraries through listening, communicating, and delivering services to enhance our communities.*

Note the similarities between this vision statement and the American Marketing Association's definition of marketing: *"Marketing is the activity, set of institutions, and processes for creating, communicating, delivering, and exchanging offerings that have value for customers, clients, partners, and society at large."*

This vision statement is all about marketing our libraries – informing our communities of the services, programs and resources that the public library offers.

### **Economics, Enrichment, Relationships: Why do people use *your* library?**

There are numerous ways to market our "product." Because libraries offer such a variety of resources and services, it is best to first identify the key "offerings" that you want to promote. People use libraries for many different reasons. The American Library Association has identified three primary motivations for using the library: 1. Economics, 2. Enrichment, 3. Relationships. Learn how the people in your community use the library, and find out why it is important to them.

#### Activities:

Visit ALA's @ *Your Library* website, [www.atyourlibrary.org](http://www.atyourlibrary.org). Look at the information listed under the tabs at the top - "What's at the Library," "How do I use the Library," and "Why use the Library." Does your library provide the services, programs and resources identified by ALA? Do your patrons use the library for the reasons specified by ALA? Are there any issues affecting your community that may determine why/how the library is important?

Discuss the trends and data outlined in the 2009 State of America's Libraries report by ALA. The report is at <http://www.ala.org/2009state>. How does your library fit into the report? Do the findings regarding increased library usage reflect your library's usage? If not, why do you think it is different? Are children your heaviest users, why or why not? Does your library support gaming, why or why not? Based on the findings, can you identify new ways to reach the people in your community to better market library services, programs and resources?

Use the Nebraska Library Commission's Return on Investment Wiki to learn about ROI, and determine the value or economic impact of the library in your community. Create brochures or other types of promotional materials to publicize your findings.

## **Listen to the Community and Develop a Plan:**

Libraries develop and initiate services and programs through strategic planning. This includes consulting with and listening to members of the community. The strategic plan is a guideline to follow for the future direction of the library. It addresses the goals of the library, and specifies the approach and activities the library will take to achieve its goals.

### **Activities:**

Use the Future Search focus group questions to initiate your own focus group. Invite community members, library users, library staff, and trustees to talk about libraries and library service. The questions have no right or wrong answers, and you may build off one another's responses. For each focus group, there should be a facilitator and a recorder. The facilitator will ask the questions, without additional commentary, except to help in clarifying the question. The recorder will record responses to the questions on a flip chart.

### **FOCUS GROUP QUESTIONS:**

- As a customer, staff person, and/or library user what are your expectations of the library?
- How are the roles of libraries changing?
- What are the key trends and issues affecting libraries?
- What library service needs and wants will you and your community have within the next five years?
- What knowledge, skills and abilities do you and your community need to be successful?
- Beyond your community whom do you want or need to partner with to be successful?
- Other comments:

Design your own survey using Survey Monkey, <http://www.surveymonkey.com>. Place the survey on your library's website and/or make a PDF copy and distribute the survey to patrons in your library.

### **Forums for Listening and Communicating:**

Whether you are eliciting or disseminating information about the library and/or library usage, there are several paths to lead you to your audience. Try surveys, blogs, focus groups, communication plans, online town meetings, and trainings.

## **University of Nebraska at Kearney Library Welcomes You**

The University of Nebraska at Kearney's Calvin T. Ryan Library (2508 11th Avenue) welcomes all library users. Any Nebraska resident, 18 years or older, may apply for a special borrower card. Just fill out an application at the Circulation Desk and present a valid Nebraska photo ID. Community members are allowed to borrow five circulating items at a time. What circulates? Most books, books on tape, videos, CDs, and lots of other information resources!

The library supports the research needs of the Colleges of Business and Technology, Education, Fine Arts and Humanities, and Natural and Social Sciences. So, within the library walls can be found programming language manuals, management handbooks, and works related to educational theory and practical resources for curriculum development and instruction. Musical scores, art books, literature, poetry, and plays, form a part of the collection. Materials related to history, astronomy, biology, botany, chemistry, geology, sociology, and psychology, among other subjects, contribute to the breadth of the collection, as well. The library also serves as a depository for federal and Nebraska state government documents. In this collection you will find the text of laws, committee hearings, and government publications, just to name a few resources.

Graduates of the University (or Kearney State College, or the Normal School!) may be interested in reminiscing about their college days. Digital versions of the school's annual, Blue & Gold, can be accessed from the library home page ([library.unk.edu](http://library.unk.edu)). Bound periodicals can also be a vehicle for visiting the past. In the library's collections are print editions of Life (from 1943-1972), Look (1964-1971), and Time (1929-1973; newer issues are available on microfiche or digitally), just to name a few.

Homeschooling parents and community educators will find great resources in our textbook and curriculum materials collections. Our extensive juvenile literature collection contains classics, award winners, and covers many subject areas. Visit the library for educational games, kits, and videos, too.

Parking on a university campus is always a challenge! We can help to ease this difficulty by sending you a temporary parking permit, directions, and a campus map with the appropriate parking lots marked. To request a permit, please contact Jennifer Harvey ([harveyjs@unk.edu](mailto:harveyjs@unk.edu); 308-865-8276) or Rochelle Krueger ([kruegerr@unk.edu](mailto:kruegerr@unk.edu); 308-865-8819). There is also street parking on the south side and east side of the campus, if you don't mind a little walk! If visiting isn't a possibility, consider borrowing our resources through your local library's interlibrary loan service.

We hope to see you soon!

Jennifer Harvey, Curriculum Librarian

## **CCC Offering Statewide Online Program in Library, Info Services**

Central Community College is offering a new statewide online program for Nebraskans who want to work in libraries. Students in the new library and information services (LIS) program will develop practical skills in acquisition, processing and circulation of all types of information resources. The focus will be on library management in small rural libraries as well as assistance in large more urban resource centers. The LIS program replaces one that was offered jointly by Nebraska's six community colleges, with each college offering one or two courses online.

Dr. Dianna Parmley, dean of educational services at Central Community College Columbus, said, "The quality of the course work was excellent but there were some logistical problems for students taking courses from several colleges, particularly when it came to financial aid opportunities."

Dr. Eric Jones, dean of educational services at CCC Grand Island, developed a proposal for the college to offer all of the library information courses and make them available statewide. The chief instructional officers' council of the Nebraska Community College Association approved the proposal last summer.

Students completing the six LIS courses offered online by CCC will receive a certificate from the college and will meet Nebraska Library Commission requirements for Nebraska Public Librarian certification. The library courses were developed in cooperation with the Nebraska Library Commission.

"We've been delighted that CCC is stepping up to give this program some good central coordination and leadership," said Rod Wagner, director of the Nebraska Library Commission. "This is an important program because it provides education across the state for people interested in working in Nebraska libraries and provides a way for them to become certified."

Participants who complete the program will meet library commission requirements to work in a small Nebraska library. Public libraries must have a certified librarian to be eligible for state grants and for federal funds administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.

By completing additional requirements from Central Community College, students can earn an associate of arts degree designed to transfer to the University of Nebraska at Omaha, which offers three options for LIS transfer students. Questions regarding options at UNO can be directed to Dr. Rebecca Pasco, director of the library science program at [rpasco@mail.unomaha.edu](mailto:rpasco@mail.unomaha.edu). Library and information services courses offered by Central Community College will be available online when the 2009 fall semester begins in August. For course descriptions, go to [www.cccneb.edu/LIS](http://www.cccneb.edu/LIS). For information about enrolling in the program, contact Mary Young at (402) 562 1296; toll-free at 1-877-222-0780, ext. 1296; or by e-mail at [myoung@cccneb.edu](mailto:myoung@cccneb.edu).

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