

MERIDIAN MONITOR

MERIDIAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2010

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Association for Rural and Small Libraries & Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services Conference 2010

This conference in Denver from October 14-16 provided some excellent information for small libraries that I would like to share with you.

A Top 10 List for Trustee Training by Bonnie McKewon from Northwest Iowa Library Services. There were several of these points that I think are worth mentioning:

1. Make trustee meetings and training entertaining. Nobody wants to sit through something that is boring and the same thing over and over.
2. Use the Trustee Troubles DVD from the Wyoming State Library (you can request a copy or download it from the Internet). Add a local introduction and information on Open Meeting Law and Confidentiality Law.
3. Thank trustees for the work they do. Check out Baudville.com.
4. Seek out testimonials from those trustees who attend workshops or conferences. Have them tell "Why I Love Being a Trustee."
5. Define the library jargon that we use for boards so they understand what we are talking about.
6. Trustees learn best by seeing/hearing/doing. Be sure to do hands-on training. Boards need to use technology for their own use. They can be better advocates if they understand.

PR: Telling Your Library's Stories With A Smile by Lisa Charbonnet. Here's a great form to use when planning something:

Once upon a time, there was a library: _____ with an issue _____ and a goal _____.
We've got some seed money: \$_____ and some staff time _____(hours/week).

Here is our core committee (List committee members).

We'll ask for (Circle as many as you need)

Awareness Specific Items Money Volunteer Time Help with potential donors

Here's the way we'll measure success:

Bonus: Compute your Return on Investment (ROI)

circulations X average list price of books

Library's Annual Revenue: _____ plus the value of programs, computers, meeting space, tutoring, etc.

Customer Service: Hold the Pickles by Vanessa Uribe. This program adopted the principles of Zingerman's Deli. Zingerman's have been incredibly successful by giving great customer service.

Customer service is integral to the mission/vision of the organization.

Teach It: Don't just say it, teach it.

Define It: What does a great customer service interaction look like at your library?

Live It: Systematically practice good customer service.

Measure It: Measure how well you are performing.

Reward it: Offer motivation to staff to give great customer service.

Good customer service is basic:

1. Figure out what the customer wants.
2. Get it for them: accurately, politely and enthusiastically.
3. Go the extra mile. Do something for the customer they did not ask for. Examples: Offer a book recommendation, demonstrate a catalog search, show details of an unfamiliar website.

When you receive a complaint:

1. Acknowledge the complaint.
2. Sincerely apologize.
3. Take action to make things right. Empower employees to do this without having to seek management approval.
4. Thank the guest.
5. Document the complaint.

Let go of the notion: Is the complaint fair. It does not matter. What matters is a happy customer.

You sometimes have to break the rules to provide good customer service (and let's face it, there are many stupid, prohibitive library rules!). What rules or policies are in the way at your library?

You have to measure how well you are doing. Create a "code red" form for complaints. Create a "code green" form for compliments.

Staff rewards: You have to be a practitioner of customer service in order to be promoted, In Zingerman's hierarchy, the more prestige you have in the organization, the more you work with the public: a servant/leader model. Often the company president and managers work the floor of the restaurant helping customers and clearing tables. Does your director ever work directly with the public?

Peer recognition programs: employees nominate deserving peers for rewards. Example: employee receives a voucher for items from the library book sale.

Taking Your Show on the Road: Portable Story Times by Terry Jones.

Our story time philosophy in a nutshell: keep it fun, moving, inclusive and laugh a lot. If you are enjoying yourself, so will the families. And along the way, we'll all learn a few things.

Why do story times? Because they are fun!

They also help us to:

- Learn about the world around us
- Encourage imagination and creativity
- Build strong family bonds
- Develop language skills

Promoting story times: don't underestimate the value of advertising your event ahead of time. The use of a folding sign, lawn sign or banner that announces your story times ahead of the event helps create awareness and some excitement. Inexpensive, simple bubbles 10 minutes

before your story time let everyone know the show is about to begin. Goodbye bubbles are a great way to give little ones who are reluctant to leave that extra incentive!

Don't forget to contact your local newspaper. They love to mention free local events and pictures of kids at story times are pretty irresistible.

Creating the space—how to set up your story time spot just about anywhere.

Folding chairs—inexpensive, folds and stows in a bag. Sets you a little above the crowd.

All weather blankets that easily wash, fold and store. Water resistant backing. Size is important: 54" x 84" with side pockets for storage. Around \$25.

We've used the same set up on lawns, under overhangs, in the bookmobile, at schools and in cow pastures.

Basket of books and toys—encourage parents to stay, visit, and share time with each other. Board books and surface washable toys work best.

Give them shade and they will come: pop-up tent structures for outdoor areas. Lightweight, quick to put up and take down. Great for attaching banners.

Ideas that work: If you don't know who is coming to your story time, be prepared with a varied bag of tricks you can pull out as you assess your audience. Don't be afraid to change it up if you're not connecting. Get older kids to help out. Pick your stories to appeal to multiple ages. Step it up a notch: pull out the hand puppets, big books and felt board stories. Have older kids help hold the big books or BE the felt board!

Songs and Stories that keep it fun: Start your story time with a simple beginning song that you can make simple or more complicated. Do another round of a song if the kids are just learning it. Cut down songs with multiple verses. If you're not a singer, don't let that stop you. Pick some songs and burn them to a disk and let the player drown you out or just lip sync. Portable players work well for bookmobiles. Don't forget you can

use songs or audiobooks in different languages to help make your story times bilingual.

Props that travel well: finger puppets, hand puppets, big books, parachutes, pop-up books.

Audience participation—getting parents to join in the fun along with the kids. Try books with vehicle noises and get them to help. If you have chatting moms or caretakers, throw in a "mom" book. It will usually reel them in. Throw in hand motions that parents and caregivers have to help the kids with.

Give one parenting tip for early literacy per story time.

A great line that works for us after every story time: "This is the important part! Clap for yourselves for being such great listeners!"

Turning Enemies into Allies by Pat Wagner

Goals for you, your library and your community:

1. A small community or library does not have to be run only by nice, mean, or indifferent people. Rational also works. Think!
2. Develop and maintain a performance state at work and in the greater community that is respectful, calm, grounded, resolute, good-humored and interested, but not placating, nervous, angry, aggressive, fearful, belligerent or demeaning. No harping on past mistakes. No escalation, threats, blaming, bullying. Take out the drama.
3. No malignant gossip or making fun of the values of people in your community.
4. Know the policies of your library inside out and backwards, and confirm frequently that your information is correct and current. Support policies even if you disagree with them, even while you work appropriately to change them. No sabotage or insubordination. Respect the "rule of law."
5. Coordinate with the other people in your group, team, shift and department so that you support all library employees consistently giving the same messages to library users: no favorites, special favors or secret

Crash into Me - Albert Borris

services. You personally don't get to treat some people differently just because they are friends, or enemies.

6. Be ready and willing to back up other employees in difficult situations. Let them take the lead and do not undermine them, particularly in front of library users.

7. Be willing to grow and practice new skills.

8. Be willing to calmly, consistently set limits, including saying no, asking someone to leave or calling for help, including the police.

9. Be willing to document events and invest time in communicating with employees, co-workers and bosses.

10. Participate in creating an emotionally safe work environment so as to create an emotionally safe community.

Three Steps for Solving Conflicts:

1. What do you want have happen instead of what is happening?

a. Is the outcome an internal or external outcome?

b. Is the problem a personal or personnel problem?

c. Are you being specific?

d. Are you being emotionally neutral?

e. What will this outcome do for you?

f. What are five other ways to get this outcome?

2. What about the other person(s)?

a. What is the cost of change for them? What is the benefit for them?

b. How will this outcome affect the other person(s)?

c. How will this outcome affect other people indirectly?

d. How will this outcome affect other departments?

e. How will this outcome affect the whole library?

f. How will this outcome affect the larger institution and community?

3. What are you going to do instead of what

you are doing , in order to change the outcome from what you have, to what you want?

a. How will you build rapport back with the person?

b. Do you need to stop talking about the person to others?

c. Do you need to change your day-to-day behavior with them?

d. What details of your behavior do you have to change?

e. What criticism about your own behavior do you need to consider?

f. What are five behaviors that really annoy you in other people?

g. How can you learn if these are behaviors that you do as well?

h. How will you measure success?

Teens: What They Really Read: What's Hot and What's Not by Karol Sacca

Young Adults

Marcello in the Real World - Francisco X. Stork

The Last Summer of the Death Warriors - Francisco X. Stork

After - Amy Efav

Maze Runner - James Dasher

I am Number Four - Pittacus Lore

Black Hole Sun - David Macinnis Gill

Lockdown: Escape from Furnace - Alexander Gordon Smith

Swim the Fly - Don Calame

When Your Reach Me - Rebecca Stead

Carter Finally Gets It - Brent Crawford

The Heart of a Shepherd - Rosanne Parry

Adult . . ."ish" Reads

The Help - Kathryn Stockett

The Blue Notebook -Dr. James Levine

The Magicians - Lev Grossman

The Mountain Between Us - Charles Martin

The Weight of Silence - Heather Gudenkauf

Lottery - Patricia Wood

Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet - Jamie Ford

City of Thieves - David Benioff

Shadow Baby - Alison McGhee

Hold Still - Nina LaCour
Before I Fall - Lauren Oliver
By the Time You Read This I'll Be Dead - Julie Anne Peters
Freeze Frame - Heidi Ayarbe
Riker's High - Paul Volponi
Response - Paul Volponi
Shift - Jennifer Bradbury

Love-Romance- Heart Throbs-Smooch

Halo - Alexandra Adornetto
The Summer I Turned Pretty - Jenny Han
I Heat You-You Haunt Me - Lisa Schroeder
Far From You - Lisa Schroeder
Chasing Brooklyn - Lisa Schroeder
Waiting to Score - J.E. MacLeod
Sing Me To Sleep - A. Morrison
Perfect Chemistry - Simone Elkeles
The Last Song - Nicholas Sparks
The Chosen One - Carol Lynch Williams
Twenty Boy Summer - Sarah Ockler
If I Stay - Gayle Foreman
Deadly Littler Secret - Laurie Stolarz
Ostrich Boys - Keith Gray
The Sky is Everywhere - Jandy Nelson
Feathered - Laura Kasischke
Because I am Furniture - Thalia Chaltas
Hate List - Jennifer Brown
Stolen - Lucy Christopher
Girl Stolen - April Henry

Series . . . continues on and on and on and on and on

Wake & Fade - Lisa Mc Mann
The Last Thing I Remember - Andrew Klavan
Gone - Michael Grant
Hunger Games - Suzanne Collins
Graceling - Kristin Cashore
The Last Apprentice - Joseph Delany
Ranger's Apprentice - John Flanagan
Evermore - Alyson Noel
The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flame! - Michael Scott
Crank-Glass- Fallout - Ellen Hopkins

Shiver- Linger - Maggie Stoeferater
The Forest of Hands and Teeth - Carrie Ryan
Incarceron - Catherine Fisher

Middle School

Leepike Ridge - N.D. Wilson
Bystander - James Peller
Out of My Mind - Sharon Draper
My Mother the Cheerleader - Robert Sharenow
I Can't Keep my own Secrets - 6 Word memoirs by teens famous and obscure
Purple Heart - Patricia McCormick
Split - Swati Avasthi
The Thin Executioner - Darren Shan
The Prince of Mist - Carlos Ruiz Zafon
The Body Finder - Kimberly Derting
Ship Breaker - Paolo Bacigalupi



2010 National Book Award Young People's Literature Finalists

- * Paolo Bacigalupi, Ship Breaker
- * Kathryn Erskine, Mockingbird
- * Laura McNeal, Dark Water
- * Walter Dean Myers, Lockdown
- * Rita Williams-Garcia, One Crazy Summer



For conference information, go to:
<http://tandteventsites.com/>

The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), seeks members' application for the **MAE Award for Best Literature Program for Teens**, sponsored by the Margaret A. Edwards Trust. The winner receives \$500 and an additional \$500 for their library. The award is open to all personal members of ALA/YALSA who have created an outstanding reading or literature program in the twelve months preceding the award deadline of December 1.

To apply, fill out the official application form available online at www.ala.org/yalsa/awards&grants. Send your completed application by email to Nichole Gilbert, ngilbert@ala.org, by Dec. 1. Attachments must include the applicant's last name and the name of the award (i.e., Gilbert_MAE). To learn more and download an application, visit www.ala.org/yalsa/awards&grants. Winners will be announced after ALA's Mid-winter Meeting 2011, Jan. 7-11 in San Diego.



I was excited to attend the Carol Fiore workshop “Bridging the Gender Gap: Boys for Books” in Aurora on September 14th. As a mother of two boys, I am constantly looking for ways to entice my boys to read so this workshop was a perfect fit for my needs.

Carol began with some simple directions. Take a few moments to write down 3 difficulties you have serving boys in your library. Only three? While I don't work in a library, I know the difficulties I have getting my boys to read. My first challenge is getting them to sit still long enough to get interested in a book and not be distracted by what's happening around them. Finding books that maintain their interest that are intellectually stimulating but on their reading level is another challenge as both of my boys read below their grade level. Getting my two boys to want to read is another difficult task as reading is “hard” for them. That's just the three although there are many more.

Carol then began discussing how boys are different from girls. She explained some statistics regarding boys including:

- Four year olds were expelled at a rate of about 50% greater than three year olds
- Boys were expelled 4 ½ times more often than girls
- African-Americans were twice as likely to be excluded as Latinos, Caucasians, Asian-Americans
- Of African-Americans expelled, 90% were boys
- Boys are twice as likely to be diagnosed with a learning disability (of all diagnosis-boys account for 70%)
- Boys are up to 4 ½ times more likely to be on medication for ADHD (80% of school students on Ritalin are boys)

Carol concluded these statistics by highlighting some trends we should be concerned about. Boys are on average a year

to a year and half behind girls in reading and writing skills. Boys get the majority of D's and F's in the most schools in some as high as 70%. Boys make up 80% of discipline problems. Boys account for 80% of children diagnosed with behavioral disorders. Boys account for 80% or high school dropouts. Boys comprise 44% of college populations.

Carol explained how boys' brains work and why they are falling behind. First boys compartmentalize brain activity – they use less of the brain (15% less blood flow to brain than girls) and they are structured to learn with less multi-tasking. Boys do best when focusing for long periods on one task. They do not do as well when required to move from task to task rapidly. Boys in general, have weaker neural connectors in their temporal lobes. Neural connectors facilitate detailed memory storage and better listening. Boys are slower to pick up what is being said in words and require more sensory-tactile experiences than girls. Boys frontal lobes are less active than girls. Therefore, they are given to impulsive executive decisions. Boys realize slower development in the main language centers of the brain. The female brain uses more neural pathways and brain centers for word production and expression of experience, emotion and cognition through words. And then there are hormonal differences as well.

So what do we do with all this information? We start by creating a "Boy-Friendly" Learning environment that is predictable, stimulating, interactive and supportive. Give them sufficient workspace; adequate lighting; books, blocks and karate kicks and choice-making. Carol challenged us to think about changes we can make to create a "Boy-friendly" learning environment. She encouraged us to promote verbal skills by reading daily, conducting meaningful conversations, maintain eye-

contact and encourage eye-contact with boys, ask about daily experiences and create word games. We need to make sure kids are developing fine motor skills along with reading skills. Boys love shoot them up computer games and studies indicate boys have good eye/hand coordination and have a better reaction time. There are many ways to encourage fine motor skills such as clapping out patterns and Wii games.

Carol concluded the workshop by giving book talks about books boys like. She divided the books into genres although many of the books fit into several genres. She began with adventure books as they are the most popular with boys. For a copy of the booklist, contact the System office.

—Delilah Gillming, Meridian Library
System Administrative Assistant



John Seyfarth to Retire

John Seyfarth, longtime NLA member and technical guru, will retire from library "active duty" in November. Please join us for a "Celebrate John" day on November 24th from 9 – 5. Drop by the Sump Memorial Library at 222 North Jefferson in Papillion for a day of festivities – coffee and rolls in the morning and cake and punch at 4:00 in the afternoon. Share your favorite story or photo of John by email or come in person to wish John well in his retirement.

Email submissions may be sent to sumplibrary@gmail.com.

John has supplied technical support for the System Office for many years. He will be sorely missed!

Pioneer Consortium Reaches Agreement with PTFS for Open Source ILS Solution

A group of five Nebraska libraries called the Pioneer Consortium has just successfully concluded a Library Improvement Grant awarded by the Nebraska Library Commission. In this project, Pioneer has determined the feasibility of utilizing open source integrated library system (ILS) software for circulation, cataloging, etc. for its membership as an alternative to their existing ILS systems and as an eventual option for libraries across the state of Nebraska.

Basic information about the Pioneer Consortium can be found below.

Open source ILS software differs from current proprietary products sold by a variety of businesses to libraries because with open source there is no cost to obtain the software and source code, and development of the software features is shared among a large community of users. Improvements are made by local libraries and available to all, and most developments are adopted by the entire community as new "releases". A library or consortium has a choice among several open source products and then has a choice of two basic paths of operation: 1) getting their own server and installing and operating the open source system or 2) having a third party provider host and maintain their system.

Pioneer Consortium has chosen the Koha open source product and the second path of operation, reaching an agreement with LibLime, a division of PTFS, Progressive Technology Federal System Inc. headquartered in Bethesda, MD, to provide the public libraries in Grand Island, Gretna, Holdrege, Lincoln and St. Paul with the following services:

- Installation of open source Koha software for one union catalog of all the members' holdings
- Circulation, cataloging, public access catalog, acquisitions and other modules required by most libraries
- Configuration tailored to the consortium's system parameters as well as individual library policies whenever permitted, and branding/look/feel of the software for staff and public
- Data migration, import and record structure profiling in Koha
- Union catalog de-duplication and quality control to allow migrating libraries to easily attach their holdings to already-migrated bibliographic records
- Training
- Maintenance and hosting services - phone and online help desk, backups, upgrades and all system administration
- PTFS-hosted Internet "cloud" access to member libraries

Call for Additional Consortium Membership

As the current Pioneer membership begins this process with LibLime in October 2010, it is also beginning a process of accepting letters of interest from Nebraska accredited public libraries for possible inclusion in the union catalog starting in mid-2011. The

consortium anticipates considering additional members on a semi-annual basis thereafter and will work with LibLime and any new members to determine the best means to schedule and pace migration and go-live dates. Pioneer plans to publish additional information of assistance to interested libraries this fall, especially those considering Library Improvement Grant applications through the Nebraska Library Commission for data migration needs.

This process will be opened up to other types of libraries throughout Nebraska starting in 2012.

Letters of interest may be sent to the President of the Pioneer Consortium:
Steve Fosselman, Grand Island Public Library, 211 North Washington Street, Grand Island, NE 68801, sf@gi.lib.ne.us 308-385-5333

Basic Membership Costs

Factoring in both initial and annual maintenance costs, libraries will benefit from a considerable total cost-of-ownership savings with open source software through the Pioneer Consortium.

Initial Costs

Pioneer Consortium Orientation Fee \$250

One-time database setup charges based on that library's number of bibliographic records:

0-25K \$750.00

25-50K \$1,000.00

50K+ \$1,500.00

Charges for dataload, de-duplication, etc. 15 cents per bib

All libraries are responsible for their own Internet costs, pc workstations, networking structure, local IT and technical services support, etc. There is no need for ILS-related server hardware housing bibliographic/patron/circulation data at each library.

Annual Maintenance Costs

In 2010/11 the costs of LibLime maintenance - as well as modest costs for development work performed on Pioneer Consortium's behalf by LibLime and "central-library" reimbursement for cataloging/training assistance - will be assessed to all members by formula in relative proportion to their legal service area, operating revenues, collection size and circulation. This assessment formula is based on a minimum annual payment of \$350 or 1% of the total budget, whichever is higher. The Consortium is happy to provide an estimate of costs for various-sized libraries with exact costs to be determined based on all libraries' assessment as per the formula.

These are the basic costs for a full range of Koha open source modules, and do not include future years' maintenance increases charged by LibLime, desired third party add-ons either to be paid by each library or by the Consortium as a whole as budget allows, and more extensive funding for development and "central library" reimbursement. Through the process of spreading costs among additional members, however, the Pioneer Consortium will be able to support such enhancements and total cost of

ownership should still remain low in the future.

Not Just Cost, But Service Benefits

For this investment, participating libraries will receive the benefits of a next generation integrated library system with no local responsibility for server maintenance, data recovery or other server-related technical support, as well as transparent access to the collections of other member libraries across the state.

As the Pioneer Consortium works toward its first goal of developing this union catalog, other cost and service benefits can be realized through exploration of ways to reduce or reallocate cataloging and staffing costs for member libraries. This drives the total cost of ownership even lower. And longer-term goals impacting total cost of ownership include shared resource-sharing and other consortium arrangements of benefit to member libraries.

Pioneer Consortium's overall goals are enhanced efficiency and productivity for Nebraska libraries, and an enhanced experience for any patron using a Nebraska library.

Editor's note: I asked Steve to work up an example of the costs for automating a library with 20,000 volumes. Below is his response:

Right now the consortium costs are based on a combination of four factors: LSA, operating revenues, # of holdings, and circ (all from the most recent NLC stats).

Plus any cost I could give right now would be based only on that library's participation in addition to the five going ahead now. Obviously there will be more and it all depends on each library's apportionment using those four factors.

So just as an example, RIGHT NOW first year costs would be the minimum \$350 for a library with 1,000 LSA, \$100,000 operating revenues, 20,000 holdings, and 30,000 circulations (this combination of factors PRESENTLY is lower than the minimum, and so is adjusted upwards).

If that same library has 35,000 circs and all other factors remain the same, the cost is still only ~\$350 (this combination of factors PRESENTLY equals the minimum payment).

If that same library has 40,000 circs and all other factors remain the same, the cost is just above the minimum at ~\$360.

KEEP IN MIND: These are the basic costs for a full range of Koha open source modules, and do not include future years' maintenance increases charged by LibLime, desired third party add-ons either to be paid by each library or by the Consortium as a whole as budget allows, and more extensive funding for development and "central library" reimbursement. Through the process of spreading costs among additional mem-

bers, however, the Pioneer Consortium will be able to support such enhancements and total cost of ownership should still remain low in the future.

The 15 cents per record cost to migrate marc records from the previous system to Koha includes any dedup'ing in order to fold those records into the union catalog. We have not yet discussed the process necessary for libraries who do not presently have marc records to migrate.



Nebraska Book Award Winners to be Honored at Celebration

An awards presentation ceremony will highlight the Nebraska Center for the Book's Celebration of Nebraska Books on November 6 at the Nebraska State Historical Society's Nebraska History Museum, 131 Centennial Mall North in downtown Lincoln.

Winners of the 2010 Nebraska Book Awards will be honored and the celebration will include readings by some of the winning authors. And the winners are:

2010 Nebraska Book Award Winners:

Anthology: Bruce A. Glasrud and Charles A. Braithwaite. African Americans on the Great Plains: An Anthology. University of Nebraska Press.

Anthology Honor: Loren C. Eiseley, Ray Bradbury, and Aaron Franco. The Loren Eiseley Reader. Abbatia Press/Infusionmedia Publishing.

Young Adult: Chloe Neill. Some Girls Bite. New American Library.

Fiction: Ladette Randolph. A Sandhills Ballad. University of New Mexico Press.

Nonfiction: Joe Starita. "I Am a Man": Chief Standing Bear's Journey for Justice. St. Martin's Press.

Nonfiction Honor: Robert Cochran. Louise Pound: Scholar, Athlete, Feminist Pioneer. University of Nebraska Press.

Poetry: Dwaine Spieker. Garden of Stars. All Along Press.

Cover/Design/Illustration: Mari Sandoz and Kimberli A. Lee. "I Do Not Apologize for the Length of This Letter": The Mari Sandoz Letters on Native American Rights, 1940-1965. Texas Tech University Press.

Cover/Design/Illustration Honor: Forsberg, Michael. Great Plains: America's Lingering Wild. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

The 2010 Jane Geske award will be presented to Plainsongs and Hastings College. The Jane Geske Award recognizes a Nebraska association, organization, business, library, school, academic institution, or other group that has made an exceptional, long-term contribution to one or more of these fields in Nebraska: Literacy, Reading, Book Selling, Books, Libraries, and/or Writing in Nebraska.



Golden Sower Award

Nebraska's Children's Choice Literary Award

2011-12 GOLDEN SOWER NOMINEES

Primary Nominees

Ashman, Linda. *Creaky Old House: A Topsy-Turvy Tale of a Real Fixer-Upper.*
 Foley, Greg. *Willoughby and the Lion.*
 Lewis, J. Patrick. *Spot the Plot: A Riddle Book of Book Riddles.*
 Long, Loren. *Otis.*
 Myron, Vicki and Bret Witter. *Dewey: There's a Cat in the Library!*
 Noll, Amanda. *I Need My Monster.*
 Robinson, Sharon. *Testing the Ice: A True Story About Jackie Robinson.*
 Stevens, Janet & Susan Stevens Crummel. *Help Me, Mr. Mutt! Expert Answers for Dogs with People Problems.*
 Van Dusen, Chris. *The Circus Ship.*
 Zemach, Kaethe. *Ms. McCaw Learns to Draw.*

Intermediate Nominees

Clements, Andrew. *Extra Credit.*
 DiTerlizzi, Tony. *Kenny & the Dragon.*
 Dowell, Frances O'Roark. *Shooting the Moon.*
 Hahn, Mary Downing. *Closed for the Season.*
 Harley, Bill. *Night of the Spadefoot Toads.*
 Kelly, Jacqueline. *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate.*
 Klise, Kate. *Dying to Meet You. (Book One of 43 Old Cemetery Road)*
 Platt, Chris. *Storm Chaser.*
 Prineas, Sarah. *The Magic Thief.*
 Rollins, James. *Jake Ransom and The*

Skull King's Shadow.

Young Adult Nominees

Baskin, Nora Raleigh. *Anything But Typical.*
 Bodeen, Stephanie A. *The Compound.*
 Bryant, Jen. *Kaleidoscope Eyes.*
 Cashore, Kristin. *Graceling.*
 Galante, Cecilia. *The Patron Saint of Butterflies.*
 Korman, Gordon. *The Juvie Three.*
 Paulsen, Gary. *Notes from the Dog.*
 Taylor, Greg. *Killer Pizza.*
 Wolfson, Jill. *Cold Hands, Warm Heart.*
 Yoo, Paula. *Good Enough.*



2010 Nebraska Library Award Winners

Mari Sandoz Award: Jean Lukesh
 Meritorious Service Award: Becky Pasco
 Mad Hatter Award: Judy Henning
 Excalibur Award: John Seyfarth



Cutting Machines

Sign-ups are now being taken for 2011 for the cutting machines. The only months taken at this time are January and August. Contact the System Office to reserve your month now!

For a list of the dies, go to:

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/Meridian/dies.html>