



Straight*talk*

News For And About The Libraries Of Northeast Nebraska

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Kathy Ellerton - System Administrator/Editor



Winter Workshop Returns!

The Northeast Library System is proud to announce the return of it's annual Winter

Workshop. Come join us on February 1st at the Lifelong Learning Center, Northeast Community College in Norfolk for a fun-filled day. Registration begins at 8:30am with the first workshop beginning at 9:15. The Registration form is on page 13 of the newsletter. Continuing Education credit hours will be available for participants.

All workshops will be presented twice so everyone can have a chance to attend the presentations. The workshops are:

Sales Taxes & Libraries

Libraries are doing more fund raising than ever. Raffles, games, reading marathons, etc. are bringing dollars into the library. Ruth Karlsson from the

Nebraska Department of Revenue will discuss how libraries should deal with the sales tax issue and answer any questions you may have.

READ@your library

Everyone is a celebrity when they READ. Mary Jo Ryan from the Nebraska Library Commission will explain how the READ software works and how it can make everyone in your community a star! Bring a book and have your picture taken or bring photographs to be turned into a poster. Photograph specifications are on page 2.

Graphic Novels

What is a graphic novel? How does it compare to manga? Is it related to anime? Should I have them in my library? How do I find and select them? Susan Steider, Young Adult Librarian from the Lincoln City Libraries will answer these questions and more.

Feeling Blogged Down?

What is a blog? Who uses blogs? What blogs are useful to my patrons? How do I set up a blog? Scott Childers, Assistant

System Librarian, University of Nebraska-Lincoln will answer all these questions and more.

What's Up With Copyright?

Our luncheon speaker will be Kay Hershey, Coordinator of Library Services, at Metropolitan Community College. She will give an update on copyright issues such as fair use, the TEACH act, the DMCA act and more. There will be a question and answer period following her presentation.

Of course, we'll have lots of items to give away to all who preregister. I have checked the Farmer's Almanac and on February 1st, and the weather should be just fine. See you at the workshop!



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READ Guidelines

The Nebraska Library Commission, in partnership with the Regional Library Systems, is experimenting with a pilot project to encourage Nebraska librarians to create unique local promotional materials. For a limited number of Nebraska libraries and school media centers, we will use the ALA READ software to convert your photographs into files that you can have printed as posters and other promotional items. These files will be produced on a first-come-first served basis—turnaround time is expected to be several weeks.

If you are interested in taking photographs for us to produce into files that you can use to create local READ posters, please follow the photography guidelines and licensing considerations below. We suggest that you take photographs of your customers, library boards, and local celebrities to be made into READ promotional materials. You can also take photos of staff, but photos of community members make fantastic READ posters.

For more information, see the American Library Association (ALA) Web site, <http://www.ala.org/>, (click on Products and Publications, click on Make your own READ posters) or contact Mary Jo Ryan, 402-471-3434, 800-307-2665, mjryan@nlc.state.ne.us.

Photography Guidelines

- Digital photographs should be mailed to Mary Jo Ryan, Nebraska Library Commission, The Atrium, 1200 N St., Suite 120, Lincoln NE 68508-2023 on a cd—please do not e-mail photos.
- Digital photographs must be 300 dpi or larger—save as high resolution or raw files.
- Include the name of school or library in the file name of each photograph.
- Shoot far enough away from the subject so that the subject does not fill the entire frame.
- Shoot the subject’s head no larger than ½ the frame size.
- Shoot the photos vertically (portrait), not horizontally (landscape).
- Take several shots of each subject. We will select the one the works best.
- Make sure the subject holds the book so the title can be read. Avoid shiny book covers—glare obscures the title.
- There are two options for READ posters. They can be made (continued on page 3)

READ Guidelines continued...

using the background in your photo or the ALA background files can be inserted behind your photo subject. See below for background details.

Background Details

If your preference is to insert one of the ALA background files behind your photo subject, please set up the photograph as follows:

- Shoot the subject in front of a solid color, not brick or textured.
- Shoot the subject in good lighting, with as few shadows as possible.
- Make sure the face is as clear as possible.
- Contrast the background with the subjects' clothing as much as possible.

If your preference is to use the background that shows up in your photograph, try to avoid a cluttered background and match the background to the interests of the individual or the content of the book they have chosen.

Licensing Considerations

Since the word READ is a registered trademark of the American Library Association, the Nebraska Library Commission was required to purchase this software in order to make READ poster files from your photographs. We are not allowed to share the software with you.

In addition the Licensing Agreement specifies:

The images and layouts are for use only by registered non-profit purchasers only to enhance reading programs and to promote them. The images may not be incorporated in products offered for sale. An image(s) may not be incorporated in a product for the purpose of redistributing the image(s), and the images themselves may not be sold or rented, or downloaded or transferred electronically such as on an electronic network or bulletin board. Pornographic or defamatory use of the images is prohibited.

Lazy Boy Day Fundraising



Consider running a Lazy-Boy Day for a fun activity and a way to raise some money. You need to set up a Lazy Boy chair in the cafeteria at lunch on Monday to Thursday, and sell tickets for 25 cents or more. On Thursday, just before the end of school, a winner's name is drawn. That person got to spend all of their classes on Friday from the comfort of the Lazy Boy chair. Student council members brought the chair to the winner's first period class and at the end of first period, student council members moved it to their next period class. It is a great way to raise a little money and have some fun at the same time. Another suggestion is that the winner can keep the chair at the end of the day, but we just used an old chair from somebody's basement.



Monster Madness

Some monsters seem scary, some sympathetic, while others can only be described as supremely silly. Whether they're hiding under the bed, or going bump in the night, monsters may be all around!

A Creepy Countdown

By: Charlotte Huck

Illustrated by: Joseph A. Smith

Reading Level: Beginning Reader

From "one tall scarecrow standing on a hill" the countdown of creepy Halloweenish creatures continues until ten tiny mice scare them all with a loud "BOO!" The countdown begins again from ten until "one tall scarecrow stood all alone." The rhyming count is illustrated by carefully composed, highly expressive black & white scratchboard illustrations.

Awful Ogre's Awful Day

By: Jack Prelutsky

Illustrated by: Paul O. Zelinsky

Reading Level: Independent Reader

Awful Ogre's day is much like anyone else's, but with an ogre-ish twist. He uses onion juice as a mouthwash with just a dab on his chin, writes love letters to a delightfully disgusting ogress and more. The clever rhyming verse and dark-lined illustrations are filled with humor and visual jokes that will make this collection of poetry awfully popular.

Do Not Open

By: Brinton Turkle

Reading Level: Independent Reader

Miss Moody loves storms. They wash up many surprises, which she always uses in her sturdy little seaside house where she lives with Captain Kidd, her cat. One day, Miss Moody and Captain Kidd find a bottle washed up on the beach. When they ignore the warning not to open it, they release a mean, evil, genie-like creature. Undaunted, Miss Moody and her cat outsmart and defeat the monster.

First Graders from Mars: Horus' Horrible Day

By: Shana Corey

Illustrated by: Mark Teague

Reading Level: Independent Reader

Even young monsters on Mars can have trouble adjusting to the first day of first grade. Not only does Horus miss the comforts of Martiangarten, but a know-it-all student harasses him. At his mother's insistence, a very reluctant Horus returns the next day. Once there, he is able to forget his own problems when he helps a new and even more timid Martian. Characters are vividly colored and peculiarly shaped to create a comical but sympathetic school story of adjustment and emerging friendship.

Go Away, Big Green Monster!

By: Ed Emberley

Reading Level: Pre-Reader

The big Green Monster gradually appears on dye-cut pages with its big yellow eyes, a long nose, and a big red mouth with sharp teeth and more to create a "big scary green face!" But readers are in



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control as they turn the pages making the monster "GO AWAY" feature by stylized feature. Young children will be empowered by this carefully conceived and brightly colored book

Goblins in Green

By: Nicholas Heller
Illustrated by: Joseph A. Smith
Reading Level: Beginning Reader
Meet Annabelle, Zelda, and the 24 lively green goblins in between, all dressed in zany costumes gleaned from an attic trunk. The language is alliterative and may stretch readers (and listeners) though well-crafted, brilliantly hued illustrations brimming with verve and humor provide visual cues and clues.

Harry and the Terrible Whatzit

By: Dick Gackenbach
Reading Level: Beginning Reader
Harry knows that a terrible two-headed monster lives in his basement. So when his mother doesn't return from a trip downstairs, Harry swallows his trepidations and goes down to rescue her. But when he confronts the monster face-to-face, it literally diminishes in size and eventually leaves Harry's house forever. Humorous illustrations use black line and limited color to depict Harry overcoming a once fierce (but softly edged) monster.

The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything

By: Linda Williams
Illustrated by: Megan Lloyd
Reading Level: Beginning

Reader
On her way home one windy autumn night, a fearless old lady notices a pair of shoes following her (clomp clomp!). Then she sees and hears the pants, shirt, and the rest of the outfit, but she's not afraid - that is until she sees a large pumpkin head! The little old woman who wasn't afraid of anything is also a very good runner - and run she does to the safety of her own home.

The Mysterious Tadpole

By: Steven Kellogg
Reading Level: Beginning Reader
Uncle McAllister gives Louis a tadpole from Scotland for his birthday, which Louis names Alphonse. Louis takes Alphonse to school every week so that the class can track his growth, but it's soon obvious that Alphonse is no ordinary tadpole. With a little help and research from his friend, the librarian, Louis comes up with a creative solution that benefits both Alphonse and the town.

The Tailypo: A Ghost Story

By: Joanna Galdone
Illustrated by: Paul Galdone
Reading Level: Independent Reader
A long time ago, an old man who lived in a rustic cabin in the woods ate the tail of mysterious critter. That night, the critter came back to get his tail saying, "Tailypo, tailypo, all I want is my tailypo." Getting that tailypo makes for a satisfyingly spooky tale bound to make readers or listeners jump. Galdone's cartoon-like illustrations add humor to a creepy yarn drawn from the oral tradition.



Cultural Encounter Kits Available

Encounter kits designed to give Nebraska youth a better understanding of the Germans from Russia and Mexican-American cultures are ready for use statewide in schools, libraries, museums and other organizations who serve youth grades 4-8.

The kits are available for loan through the Nebraska Humanities Council (NHC) as part of the NHC's new program emphasis, *The New Nebraskans*.

The kits explore immigration patterns by pairing a new immigrant group with a more established group. Teachers already report positive results after testing the kits in the classroom, according to Gwendolyn Meister of the Nebraska Folklife Network.

"Kids especially enjoyed interviewing each other about their own folk groups," she said. "It helped them get to know each other in a different way than their usual classroom interactions."

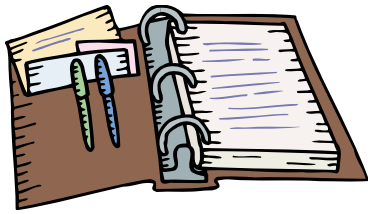
Nebraska's Hispanic population grew 155 percent from 1990 to 2000, and Germans constitute the state's largest traditional immigrant group, so it is likely that youth from both ancestries will participate wherever cultural encounter kits are used.

Multiple resources can be used creatively to teach youth who learn in different ways. The kits contain practical and user-friendly lessons, plus a manual, books, CDs, tapes and artifacts of traditional clothing, games, celebrations, music, crafts, foods, history, maps, religious expression, language, stories and other aspects of each culture. The kits' in-depth information promotes cultural knowledge and understanding.

"Excellent kit! You've done a great job of providing plenty of resources. And the kit is formatted in a way that teachers can take only what they need or want to use," said Cindy Simonson, a 4th grade teacher at Sandhills Elementary School in Halsey. The kits have a flexible format with lesson plans that are keyed to required educational standards.

Each kit will travel to an estimated 25 schools and youth organizations during the school year, reaching at least 3,750 people annually. Encounter kits pairing Swedish and Vietnamese cultures are scheduled for use by fall 2006.

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Duane Munson	
2315 29TH STREET, BOX 624, COLUMBUS, NE 68601 TELEPHONE 402-564-3073 FAX 402-564-9730 CELL PHONE 402-910-0772	
ECONO-CLAD CHILD'S WORLD REFERENCE BOOKS	MARSHALL/CAVENDISH SALEM PRESS COMPTON'S ENCYCLOPEDIA



Check Your Calendar

November 16 - **Northeast Library System Board Meeting** at Hartington Public Library at 10 am.

November 17 - **E-rate Workshop** at Battle Creek city hall from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm.

November 18 - "**Libraries, the Universe, and Everything: Google and Your Patrons**", Du Page Video, at 11 a.m.

November 22 - **Basic Skills: Collection Development** class held at LifeLong Learning Center, NECC, Norfolk from 10 am - 3 pm.

November 24 - **Thanksgiving** holiday. Office closed.

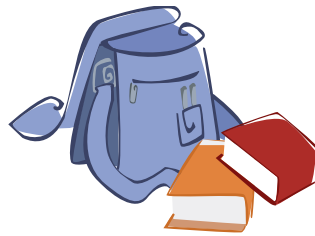
November 25 - **Thanksgiving** holiday. Office closed.

November 27 - **Basic Skills: Collection Development** class held at LifeLong Learning Center, NECC, Norfolk from 10 am - 3 pm.

December 1 - "**You Are, But IM: Best Practices & New Directions to Serving Young Adults in Schools & Public Libraries**" by Patrick Jones at Seward Public Library from 9 am - 4 pm.

December 26 - **Christmas** holiday. Office closed.

January 18, 2006 - **Northeast Library System Board Meeting** at Orchard Public Library at 10 am.



**NEW
@
NLS**

Please call the system office at 1-800-578-1014 to check out one of the following items:

RFID in Libraries, Library Video Network, 2004. 35 min.

Learn how this new technology works by following two library systems that are using it: Baltimore County Public Library in Maryland and Haverstraw King's Daughters Public Library in New York. Managers from both systems discuss their experiences with this technology.

Bridges Out of Poverty, by Ruby K. Payne, Phillip DeVol & Terie Dreussi Smith, aha! Process, Inc., 2001.

This book gives readers a mental image of crossing a divide that separates those in poverty from other economic classes. The bridge does exist, but it is more challenging to cross than one might suspect. *Bridges* also offers tactics that entire bureaucracies can employ to better serve their clients from the culture of poverty.

Connecting Young Adults & Libraries by Patrick Jones, Michele Gorman & Tricia Suellentrop, 3rd Edition, Neal-Schuman, 2004.

The authors present a comprehensive guide to the why and how of serving teens. Among the topics that are covered are customer service, collections, booktalking, space, promotion, and technology. Scattered throughout are examples of libraries successfully connecting with teens.

Ho, Ho...Whoa! Issues to Consider When Celebrating Holidays & Commemorations in the Public Library by Tatiana Weinstein, Public Libraries, Sept/Oct 2005, pp.254-255.

The author presents some common pitfalls of celebrating only a select few holidays in public libraries.

More Money In The Mailbox: Eleven Tips for Improving Your Mailings by Andy Robinson, Grassroots Fundraising Journal, Nov/Dec 2005.

Have returns from your mail appeals been declining? Author Andy Robinson shares his ideas for how to boost those returns back up.



2006-2007 NEBRASKA GOLDEN SOWER AWARD NOMINEES
Sponsored by the Nebraska Library Association's Children, and Young People Section

These lists were developed by selection committees of volunteer readers representing classroom teachers, media specialists, and librarians in Nebraska. They were created from nominated titles sent in by participating libraries and schools from across the state. They were created from nominated titles sent in by participating libraries and schools from across the state. Local library or school officials are responsible for selecting books from these lists they feel are appropriate for the needs and interests of their patrons or students.

Grade Kindergarten-3 Category

Cannon, Janell. **PINDULI**. Illustrated by the author. Harcourt, Inc., 2004.
Cline-Ransome, Lesa. **MAJOR TAYLOR, CHAMPION CYCLIST**. Illustrated by James E. Ransome. Atheneum, 2004.
Cook, Lisa Broadie. **MARTIN MACGREGOR'S SNOWMAN**. Illustrated by Adam McCauley. Walker & Co., 2003.
Demi. **THE HUNGRY COAT: A TALE FROM TURKEY**. Illustrated by the author. Margaret K. McElderry, 2004.
Frank, John. **THE TOUGHEST COWBOY: OR HOW THE WILD WEST WAS TAMED**. Illustrated by Zachary Pullen. Simon & Schuster, 2004.
Hopkinson, Deborah. **A PACKET OF SEEDS**. Illustrated by Bethanne Andersen. Greenwillow, 2004.
Kasza, Keiko. **MY LUCKY DAY**. Illustrated by the author. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2003.
Paterson, John & Katherine. **BLUEBERRIES FOR THE QUEEN**. Illustrated by Susan Jeffers. HarperCollins, 2004.
Sierra, Judy. **WILD ABOUT BOOKS**. Illustrated by Marc Brown. Knopf, 2004.
Wheeler, Lisa. **OLD CRICKET**. Illustrated by Ponder Goembel. Atheneum, 2003.

Grade 4-6 Category

Collins, Suzanne. **GREGOR THE OVERLANDER**. Scholastic, 2003.
Crisp, Marty. **WHITE STAR: A DOG ON THE TITANIC**. Holiday House, 2004.
Gutman, Dan. **THE MILLION DOLLAR STRIKE**. Hyperion, 2004.
Haddix, Margaret Peterson. **THE HOUSE ON THE GULF**. Simon & Schuster, 2004. I
Hahn, Mary Downing. **THE OLD WILLIS PLACE: A GHOST STORY**. Clarion, 2004.
Hannigan, Katherine. **IDA B....AND HER PLANS TO MAXIMIZE FUN, AVOID DISASTER, AND (POSSIBLY) SAVE THE WORLD**. Greenwillow, 2004.
LaFaye, A. **WORTH**. Simon & Schuster, 2004.
Philbrick, Rodman. **THE YOUNG MAN AND THE SEA**. Blue Sky Press, 2004.
Van Draanen, Wendelin. **SECRET IDENTITY**. Knopf, 2004.
Woodson, Jacqueline. **LOCOMOTION**. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2003.

Young Adult Category

Bunting, Eve. **THE PRESENCE: A GHOST STORY**. Clarion, 2003.
Carbone, Elisa. **THE PACK**. Viking, 2003.
Friend, Natasha. **PERFECT**. Milkweed Editions, 2004.
Hale, Marian. **THE TRUTH ABOUT SPARROWS**. Henry Holt, 2004.
Kwasney, Michelle D. **BABY BLUE**. Henry Holt, 2004.
Rodman, Mary Ann. **YANKEE GIRL**. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2004.
Seely, Debra. **THE LAST OF THE ROUNDUP BOYS**. Holiday House, 2004.
Tocher, Timothy. **CHIEF SUNRISE, JOHN MCGRAW, AND ME**. Cricket Books, 2004.
Tunnell, Michael O. **WISHING MOON**. Dutton, 2004.
Weeks, Sarah. **SO B. IT**. Laura Geringer Books, 2004.



Dear
Dr.
Tech:

I heard on the news the other day that the number of zombie computers were on the rise. Was the announcer repeating an urban myth? Or even

worse, reviewing a bad horror movie?

Signed,
Confused

Dear Confused;

In *The Night of the Living Dead*, zombies sucked brain matter in a frenzied hunger. In the computer world, a Trojan virus can be used to turn your PC into their own computing matter - effectively turning it into a zombie machine. Computer criminals often use zombie computers to launch spam e-mail attacks that try to steal personal information, such as Social Security and credit card numbers. While the zombies of Hollywood B-movie fame are easily identifiable by their gruesome appearance and menacing groans, zombie computers are silent stalkers. People who use the Internet but don't properly protect their PCs from computer criminals may never know that their machines have been compromised - even after their infected machines begin causing problems for other people and, potentially, themselves.

TIPS TO STOP PC ZOMBIE ATTACKS

- Use a firewall to protect computers from hacking attacks while connected to the Internet.
- Get computer security updates or use the automatic updating features to shield computers from viruses, worms and other threats.
- Use up-to-date antivirus software to help protect against the latest threats.
- Get anti-spyware software and beware of tricks designed to get people to download and install unwanted and sometimes destructive software. This software is sometimes distributed in noncommercial music downloads, file-sharing programs and free games.
- Be cautious about opening any attachment or downloading any files in e-mails from unknown senders.

Sources: Microsoft, Federal Trade Commission and Consumer Action

Web Sites

Small Town Papers

This site provides access to scanned images of recent issues of small town newspapers throughout the United States. The site also includes a searchable archive.

www.smalltownpapers.com

Celebrity Reading List

The Gardiner Public Library in Maine has been asking celebrities each year since 1988. This site lists the books, indexed by name and year, with comments from hundreds of celebrities.

www.gpl.lib.me.us/wrw.htm

Books As Gifts: 2005

Reading Rockets has produced it's annual book buying guide for frustrated parents. The guide lists books for ages newborns to nine-year-olds. It includes audible books as well.

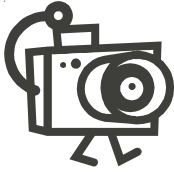
www.readingrockets.org/holiday

Gifts In A Jar

Need a quick gift for a friend? A Teacher? A Co-worker? This web site lists hundreds of recipes for cookies, cakes, beverages, etc.

www.recipegoldmine.com/foodgiftcake/giftcake.html





Weed of the Month: Photography

Remember that camera you were using for family photos ten years ago? Compare that to the digital camera you are using today. Big change, right?

Suggested Dewey Numbers to Check:

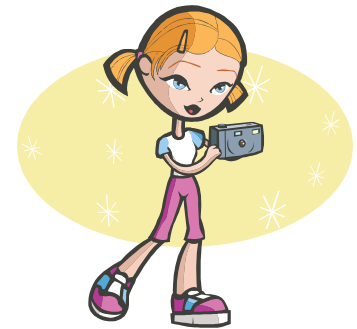
Review general photography titles at 770 (photography, photographs, computer art). Also check the remaining 770s, from 771 (techniques, procedures, apparatus, equipment, materials) for works on specific camera types to 779 (photographs). The biography section should be checked for those titles not classed in the 770s.

Specific Criteria for Weeding:

Because of the rapid changes in consumer level cameras in recent years, review carefully any title over ten years old. Most students are using and more interested in digital cameras and digital video techniques today compared to 35mm and videotape based models. You will want to keep historical accounts of older cameras and their inventors (George Eastman and Edwin Land for example), but you do not need titles that are equipment and selection guides to outdated cameras. Darkroom methods and techniques probably also belong in photography history books instead of guides. Keep newer books on the basics for them. Careers in photography and titles about photography as a business must be current to be relevant today. You can and should keep older titles on the works of famous photographers unless their condition warrants their updating .

Consider Weeding Titles Like These:

- 101 experiments in photography, 1969.
- Beginner's guide to darkroom techniques, 1976.
- Beginning underwater photography, 1975.
- The complete beginner's guide to photography, 1979.
- The darkroom handbook : a complete guide to the best design, construction, and equipment, 1979.
- Freelance photography : advice from the pros, 1979.
- The history of photography, from 1839 to the present day, 1971.
- How to take better Polaroid pictures, 1975.
- Modern photographic techniques, 1976.
- Money-making photography, 1980.
- Photographic tricks simplified : a modern photo guide, 1974.
- Trick photography : crazy things you can do with camera, 1980.
- Your future in photography, 1970.



Consider Adding Titles Like These:

- America through the lens : photographers who changed the nation, 2005. Grades 6-9.
- Creating digital video in your school : how to shoot, edit, produce, distribute and incorporate digital media into the curriculum, 2005. Professional.
- Dorothea Lange, 2004. (Women in the Arts Series) Grades 6-12.
- Digital cameras in the classroom, 2003. Professional.
- Digital filmmaking for teens, 2005. Grades 7-up.
- In real life : six women photographers, 2000. Grades 6-up.
- The kids' guide to digital photography : how to shoot, save, play with & print your digital photos, 2004. Grades 5-8.
- Picture this : fun photography and crafts, 2004. (Kids Can Do It Series) Grades 4-6
- Shooting under fire : the world of the war photographer, 2002. Grades 10-adult

For more information about weeding photography, visit the SunLink Weed of the Month site, "<http://www.sunlink.ucf.edu/weed/>".

Marge Stottler, librarian at the **Bloomfield Public Library** resigned as of October 1st. Renea Johnson is the new director. Welcome Renea!

Halloween found Jeanne Crumley, school media specialist at the **O'Neill Jr/Sr High School Library** dressed as a bookworm reading Edgar Allen Poe's spooky story, "The Black Cat".

It was a grand day for everyone in Atkinson on November 6th when the new **Atkinson Public Library** had it's dedication ceremony. It was standing room only as the Friends of the Library Foundation dedicated the library to everyone in the Atkinson area.

"Who Gets Grandma's Pie Plate?" was a recent program at the **Hruska Memorial Public Library** in David City. Debbie Way, Outreach/Education Coordinator for Roper & Sons and Metcalf Funeral Services talked about ways to distribute items of great sentimental value and the powerful messages that are send in the division of personal property.

Please keep Marlene Winbolt of the **Emerson Public Library** in your thoughts and prayers. She is currently battling cancer. Jill Tolstedt is running the library in Marlene's place. Welcome Jill!

To quote that old song, "What A Difference A Day Makes!" ran in my mind during a recent visit to the **Walthill Public Library**. Joyce Swanson and her crew have been busy little bees

re-arranging the library to a more welcoming atmosphere!



Teens Choose Favorite Young Adult Book

Teen readers across the country voted "*Girls In Pants: The Third Summer of the Sisterhood*," as their favorite book to take the #1 spot on the annual Teens' Top Ten (TTT), sponsored by

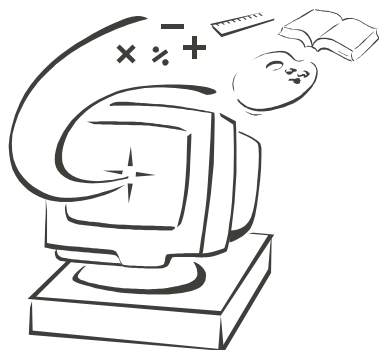
The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), the fastest growing division of the American Library Association (ALA). The vote took place during Teen Read Week, October 16-22, 2005, and gave teens an opportunity to voice their choice of the best new young adult books.

TTT is a part of YALSA's Young Adult (YA) Galley Project, which facilitates access to advance copies of young adult books to national teen book discussion groups. These groups evaluated books that were published from January 2004 through October 2005, and created a list of 78 nominations for the best new books for young adults. Teen voters across the country then cast ballots for their three favorites, creating 2005 Teens' Top Ten booklist of the best new books for young adults.

Teens were encouraged to vote for their favorite young adult books during Teen Read Week, from the official nomination list posted online at the Teens' Top Ten site. Over 2400 online ballots were cast and the results, combined with the results of a separate vote of the TTT groups, determined the final ranking of the 10 top books of the year, as selected by teen readers.

With Ann Brashares' third *Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* novel topping the list, the 2005 Teens' Top Ten includes:

1. *Girls In Pants: The Third Summer of the Sisterhood* by Ann Brashares (Delacorte Books for Young Readers, 2005).
2. *The Truth about Forever* by Sarah Dessen (Viking, 2004).
3. *Looking For Alaska* by John Green (Dutton, 2005).
4. *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult (Atria Books, 2004).
5. *Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie* by Jordan Sonnenblick (Scholastic Press, 2004).
6. *Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment* by James Patterson (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2005).
7. *The Gangsta Rap* by Benjamin Zephaniah (Bloomsbury, 2004).
8. *Teen Idol* by Meg Cabot (HarperCollins, 2004).
9. *The Garden* by Elise Aidinoff (Harper Tempest, 2004).
10. *How I Paid for College: A Novel of Sex, Theft, Friendship & Musical Theater* by Marc Acito (Broadway Books, 2004).



Internet Safety Poster Contest

Sponsored by the Nebraska Attorney General and Nebraska Educational Service Units

The ESUs of Nebraska in partnership with the Nebraska Attorney General's office are sponsoring an Internet Safety Poster and Public Service Announcement (PSA) Contest for students in K-12 Schools in Nebraska.

Eligibility: Any public or private school/district within an ESU may participate.

Categories: Each school or district may submit one entry from each grade grouping: K-4, 5-8, 9-12, i.e. three entries per school. An entry may be a poster, an audible Public Service Announcement (PSA) or a video PSA.

Entry formats:

Poster: computer generated (pdf, tiff, jpg, or png) high quality; or hand drawn
size: minimum - 8.5" X 11", maximum - 16" X 22", place in tube container for protection during delivery.

Audio PSA submit on labeled CD (mp3, aiff, or wav format)

Video PSA submit on labeled VHS, DVD, or CD (QT, WMV, or RM format).

Rules: No real names used on posters or in audio or video PSAs.
Copyright laws must be followed, i.e. images, sound, etc.
29 second maximum on PSAs (audio and video).
Label CDs and DVDs with ESU Internet Safety Entry Form
Put ESU internet Safety Entry Form on back of posters

Deadline: Entries must be submitted to your associated ESU by March 1, 2006.
Contact your local ESU for submission details.

Award: One entry in each grade grouping from each ESU will be selected and sent on to the Attorney General's office. These posters, audio and video PSAs will then be eligible for awards and/or use by the ESUs and the Nebraska Attorney General's Office.

Why Libraries Matter: A Story Long Overdue

The Alliance Library System of East Peoria, Illinois, and TumbleBooks Inc are pleased to announce the launch of a new animated online book entitled, "Why Libraries Matter: A Story Long Overdue."

The book, in both online and downloadable format, is available free to all public libraries and elementary schools in North America for use on their websites. This tale, told in rhyming verse, is a story of a young girl who shows her family and neighbors how important the library is to them and their community.

To request "Why Libraries matter: A Story Long Overdue" for your website, visit the Alliance Library System's website at: www.alliancelibrarysystem.com.





**Northeast Library System's
Winter Workshop 2006
"Blizzard of Fun@your library"**

- 8:30-9:00am Registration, coffee and visiting with your colleagues
- 9:00-9:15am Welcome
- 9:15-10:15 Sales Taxes & Libraries
or
READ @ your library
- 10:15-10:30 Break – Visit with exhibitors & colleagues
- 10:30-11:30 Graphic Novels
or
Feeling Blogged Down?
- 11:45-1:00pm Luncheon
Speaker-Kay Hershey, Metropolitan Community College,
"What's New with Copyright?"
- 1:00-2:00 Graphic Novels
or
Feeling Blogged Down?
- 2:00-2:15 Break: Visit with Exhibitors
- 2:15-3:15 READ @ your library
or
Sales Taxes & Libraries



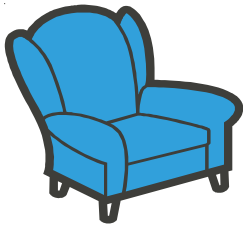
Registration Information: Complete the information requested below. Cost for the workshops is \$15 which includes lunch. Please fax to: 402-564-7977 or mail the to: Northeast Library System, 3038 33rd Avenue, Columbus, NE 68601. **Registration Deadline:** January 27, 2006.

NAME: _____ **Phone:** _____

Library/School: _____

Payment Enclosed _____

I will bring payment with me _____



The Reviewer's Chair

Helen Keller

By David A. Adler

This lower level book is a delight. It has boiled down the life of Helen Keller for younger children. They will enjoy hearing how she became blind, grew, learned, and excelled. Helen Keller was a great woman. This book is recommended for grades K-4 in any library. This is a great book for younger listeners or readers. Pictures also add a great deal to the format of this book.

~~Karma Ragland, Red Cloud, NE

The Girl and the Elephant

By Nicole de Cock

This is a very easy story of a girl and an elephant and how they become friends and how their friendship lasts forever. The pictures tell the story. This story would be very good for young children. It is recommended for infants up to 1st grade in school libraries. This is a good book for a child and parent to bond over. It has a message of friendship which we all need in our journey through life.

~~Inez Barth, Stanton, NE

The Sea, the Storm and the Mangrove Tangle

By Lynne Cherry

The book explains the process of how a mangrove seed can float across the sea and become trapped on the shores of a lagoon where it grows until it becomes a mangrove island that shelters many birds and animals. This book is recommended for 2nd-5th grades in both school and public libraries. There are detailed illustrations throughout the book. Inside the front and back cover animals are identified and there are maps showing where mangroves can be found. Lynne Cherry does an excellent job of portraying the special ecosystem that surrounds the mangrove.

~~Latricia Olson, Randolph Public School

Yankee Girl

By Mary Ann Rodman

Alice moves to Mississippi when her FBI agent father is sent to aid voter registration in 1964. She learns lessons in North/South customs, black/white relationships, and friendship. Alice is not the only new girl in her school where integration has started. Along the way she is forced to grow up quickly. This book liberally uses derogatory language in the context of the times. Adult guidance may be needed to prevent misinterpretation. This is a very realistic story. This book is recommended for 4th grade

and up in public and school libraries.

~~Janet Davis, Atkinson, NE

It's Hard to Be Five

By Jamie Lee Curtis & Laura Cornell

This book covers the trials and celebrations of being 5 years old and how life changes. Great pictures and details. I read to my 1st grade class and they loved it. Recommended to be read to 5-6 year olds in both public and school libraries.

~~Kris Bahns, Norfolk, NE

Miss Smithers

By Susan Juby

Sixteen-year old Alice MacLeod has been home schooled since first grade for thinking she was a hobbit. Though she now attends the "alternative" school, her hobbit days are still indicative of her current social standing. Imagine her surprise when the Smithers' Rod and Gun Club invites her to be its representative in the town beauty pageant. Alice chronicles her (mis)adventures in her journal and 'zine (in which she bashes her fellow contestants and most of the town). Life begins on a downward slide for Alice, however, when her 'zine is prematurely published and inadvertently distributed to the entire student body. She seeks to find meaning in her life by joining religious groups, experimenting with alcohol, and trying desperately (and unsuccessfully) to acquire



which are typically contrived and usually seek to provide a moral, this book portrays teenage life quite accurately. Alice's antics and narration are hysterical, and will delight high school readers.

~~Amanda Limoges, Crofton, NE

Confessions of a Teenage Nanny

By Victoria Ashton

When Adrienne's friend Liz tells her about a two week nanny job Adrienne jumps at the chance to make some spending money. Her ward is eight-year old Emma, who is a genius and will do whatever it takes to get Adrienne in trouble. But Adrienne is able to keep her in line. Emma's seventeen-year-old sister Cam is another story. Cam takes her shopping for designer clothes and invites her to party with Cam's friends. Soon Adrienne is arranging parties where she is tricked into doing drugs and then photographed by Emma to use to blackmail Adrienne into doing whatever she and Cam demand. Now Adrienne must explain the expensive jewelry that is missing. This story is recommended for 8th grade and up. This is a fast, fun moving story of the kind of life that young teens often dream of. The ending leaves you wanting more, which is ok because the next book in the series is already in print.

~~Diane Limoges, Eastern Township LibrarY, Crofton

Buttermilk

By Ruth White

Piper Berry deals with the divorce of her parents with the help of her friends Lindy and Bucky. In the process her father remarries and her mother tries to make more of her life. Recommended for middle school readers. A young girl's feelings about the divorce of her parents and a mystery involving one of her friends was fun to read at times. I'm sure some children would commiserate with the different feeling Piper experiences because of the divorce. Even though both of her parents loved her, you could sense the urgency they felt to move on with their lives. At times it seemed that this was more important than Piper's best interest.

~~Deb Daehnke, WSC

Too Many Frogs

By Sandy Ashe

Rabbit lives alone and like it that way.

Frog and family come over to read and rabbit makes them leave. He then realizes how lonely it is and invites them back for a night of reading. Young children would enjoy this as a read to. This would be appropriate for middle grade readers to read independently. This book could be used to teach about sharing and togetherness. This book would be a good purchase.

~~Sharon Kinnan, Oakdale, NE

I'm Gonna Like Me

By Jamie Lee Curtis and Laura Cornell

This is a very good book about self-esteem. Each page quoted, "I'm gonna like me...", which is a great repetitive statement for younger children to hear. The book gave a lot of different examples of self-esteem scenarios. Younger children would love this book. Recommended for K-2 in both public and school libraries. The illustrations are very colorful and entertaining. I feel that this book would be a great example of a self-esteem booster for younger children. Young children need to know that they should still like themselves even if they do something wrong.

~~Sarah Klinetobe, O'Neill, NE

Let's Do That Again

By Hiawyn Oram

This is a wonderful story about Little Brownmouse and his mother as they have simple fun working through their evening routine. The illustrations by Sam Williams are beautiful and provide great stimulus for conversation from a mouse's perspective. The theme of the close bond between parents and children that develops as they find fun in everyday life is a good reminder for our busy, entertainment oriented culture. Recommended for preschool to early elementary and any collection.

~~Heather Reid, parent, Omaha, NE

**The Northeast Library System serves the following counties:
Antelope, Boone, Boyd, Butler, Cedar, Colfax, Dakota,
Dixon, Holt, Knox, Madison, Merrick, Nance, Pierce, Platte, Polk,
Stanton, Thurston, Wayne and Wheeler.**

**Kites rise highest against the wind — not with it.
~~Sir Winston Churchill**

Check out our web site at: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/northeast/nesys.html>



**Northeast Library System
3038 33rd Avenue
Columbus, NE 68601**

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Nebraska Regional Library Systems
present
Literary Ireland Tour

July 23-August 5, 2006
\$1,995 / person (land only)
Airfare Additional

" and then we had a
pint in the pub
where James Joyce
penned ... "

Ireland has produced four Nobel prize winners in one century: Yeats, Shaw, Beckett, and Heaney, and the Irish way with words is alive, alive-oh! Join us on a customised tour of the streets and fields which gave birth to generations of writers and explore the hidden places which colored their work. Forget the summer schools with their intense concentration upon the finer points of allegory and



hyperbole - we have designed a tour to take you to the places which are the backdrop and the inspiration to so many modern Irish writers. Yeats was right to say: "Romantic Ireland's dead and gone" but what about the quiet backwaters of Leitrim, the setting for so much of John McGahern, or the byways of Derry, home ground to Seamus Heaney. "Ireland" is such a nebulous concept - this tour is designed to light your path through the mist.

Visit the literary sites of the Emerald Isle!
Travel arrangements through Lynchpin Tours -
www.lyncpintours.com

Itinerary

Day 1 Fly Omaha to Chicago for Aer Lingus or American Airlines overnight flight to Dublin

Day 2 Met at Dublin airport and taken on city orientation tour to include National Writers' Museum in Parnell Square.

Afternoon check in at our three star hotel near Phoenix Park.

Day 3 Tour Dublin, visiting Trinity College Library, the Library at the National Museum and the Guinness Storehouse! Evening literary pub tour.

Day 4 Depart Dublin for Belfast via Newry and the Mountains of Mourne at Newcastle. Afternoon visit to Downpatrick Cathedral and St. Patrick Centre. Evening at a three star hotel in Belfast.

Day 5 Morning city tour of Belfast plus afternoon visit to the Linenhall Library, home of "The Troubles" collection. Evening show at the Grand Opera House, depending on the programme.

Day 6 Morning drive along the Antrim Coast Road, visiting the Giants Causeway and the Old Bushmills Distillery. Overnight in a three star hotel in Portrush.

Day 7 Drive along the north coast via Derry/Londonderry to Lettrkenny, Donegal Town and Belleek Pottery, spending the night at the friendly Carlton Hotel in Belleek.

Day 8 Leave Belleek and drive to Yeats' grave near Sligo, followed by a drive across the boglands of Mayo to spend the night in the enchanting Bervie House on Achill Island.

Day 9 Leave Achill for Westport and the scenic drive through the Connemara National Park to the scenic boat ride in Killary Harbour, Ireland's only fjord. This is right beside Leenaun, the setting for the film of John B. Keane's "The Field." Then onward via Clifden to Galway city. Overnight in a three star hotel.

Day 10 Depart Galway for Dingle via the Cliffs of Moher and the ferry over the Shannon. Call at the Writers' Museum in Listowel before reaching one of our tried and tested three stars in Dingle.

Day 11 Short trip in the morning to see the eighth century Gallarus Oratory. Rest of the

day free. Overnight in Dingle.

Day 12 Transfer from Dingle to Limerick for half day free for shopping and optional literary tour, based on the works of Frank McCourt. Onward for a final night at a comfortable three star hotel in Bunratty, near Shannon Airport.

Day 13 Morning transfer to Shannon Airport for midday departure to USA.

Our personalized two week tour will depart from Omaha (or a gateway city) on July 23rd.

Air arrangements will be made when the registration deposits have been received in January 2006. Airfare will be in addition to the land cost.

Land cost is \$1995/person in shared rooms. Deposit of \$500 is due by January 31, 2006. Full payment is due June 15, 2006. We accept personal checks or purchase checks on credit card accounts. The land cost includes the following: Eleven nights accommodation with accompanying Irish breakfast, bus, driver/tour guide, dinner on seven nights and sixteen entrance/tour fees.

The tour is open to anyone interested in Ireland or literature.

Suggested reading list:

James Joyce—*The Dubliners*

John Hewitt—*The Planter & The Gael*

Brian Friel—*Translations*

Anything by John McGahern

Anything by William Trevor

Seamus Heaney—*Death of a Naturalist* or *North* or his translation of *Beowulf*

If you plan on the optional Frank McCourt side-trip in Limerick, then you should read Angela's Ashes.

Questions? Call Sharon Osenga at Meridian Library System: 800/657-2192 or 308/234-2087 or e-mail sosenga@frontiernet.net

Remember: You will need a valid passport for Ireland.

