



## Centennial State Libraries

January 31, 2008

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### February Is Library Lovers' Month!

February is Library Lovers' Month. Here are ways to EASILY build visibility for your library and strengthen your relationship with important groups. These might be Friends, volunteers, elected officials, school administrators, or patrons.

- Adapt free electronic greeting cards with a Library Lover's greeting and send to staff, volunteers, and the public.
- Library supporters can create a celebration of their very own in honor of libraries. [www.librarysupport.net/librarylovers/](http://www.librarysupport.net/librarylovers/) Has sample proclamation and press release; things to do with kids; buttons, banners, bookmarks; outreach ideas and things to do; fund-raising ideas; and best of all, Take a Librarian to Lunch! From the Friends & Foundations of California Libraries.
- FOR SCHOOLS, a special resource from EducationLINK, weekly supplement for educators, [www.adn.com/widgets/libraryad.pdf](http://www.adn.com/widgets/libraryad.pdf), has lots of activities.
- More bookmarks, these with romantic plays on words, at [www.ssdesign.com/librarypr/content/p021101a.shtml](http://www.ssdesign.com/librarypr/content/p021101a.shtml).
- Postcards to download and send. You might add a photo of your library, patrons, local official in library, etc. From the Wisconsin Library Association, [www.wla.lib.wi.us/legis/lovelibs/liblovers.htm](http://www.wla.lib.wi.us/legis/lovelibs/liblovers.htm).
- Ask community leaders to provide the title of their favorite childhood book to create a bibliography you can give away.

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- Invite children (even adults!) to create a valentine for your library. Display these in the library or other high-traffic location. Or send them to the local media or a community leader.
  - Organize a contest in your library newsletter or a local paper for the best essay on "Why I Love My Library."

#### Library Lovers Things to Do with Kids

##### Snacks:

- Book related snacks to hand out include Alpha-Bits cereal (Chicka Chicka Boom Boom), cherry sour balls (Sylvester and the Magic Pebble), M&Ms (The M&M Counting Book), Bit-O-Honeys (Winnie the Pooh), and marshmallows (Little Rabbit's Loose Tooth).
- Book shaped cookies (made ahead) to frost and decorate at the library or to take home.
- Use a resource such as Book Cooks (Creative Teaching Press CTP 2321 \$9.98 about 80 pages) to create snacks on popular stories. Theme cookbooks such as The Wizard of Oz Cook Book or Encyclopedia Brown Take the Cake! are fun if you have a kitchen available. Make the snacks as a group during the program or prepare ahead of time. Have copies of the recipes available to take home.

##### Games:

- Library Bingo: On a blank Bingo sheet write in your own words having to do with the library. Play like regular Bingo.
- Library Scavenger Hunt: Make up a written checklist of things to look for in the library. Work alone or with a partner.

##### Crafts:

- Lots of suggestions and directions can be found in several books including Making Shaped Books by Gillian Chapman.
- Diorama: You can't be the tired and true "story in a box". Have children bring in their own boxed, supply a variety of materials to work with, and let them create their own tribute to a favorite story.
- Design a Cover for Your Favorite Book: Supply paper, markers, and crayons. Display finished cover in the library along with the books.
- Book Pennants: Cut pennants shapes from construction paper. Use crayons and markers to create pennants to promote favorite books. Kids may even want to make up their cheers. Attach pennants to thin dowels with tape or fold over edges and glue.

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Special thanks to Pam Carlson of the Long Beach (California) Public Library for sharing these great ideas from her presentation at the California Library Association Conference.

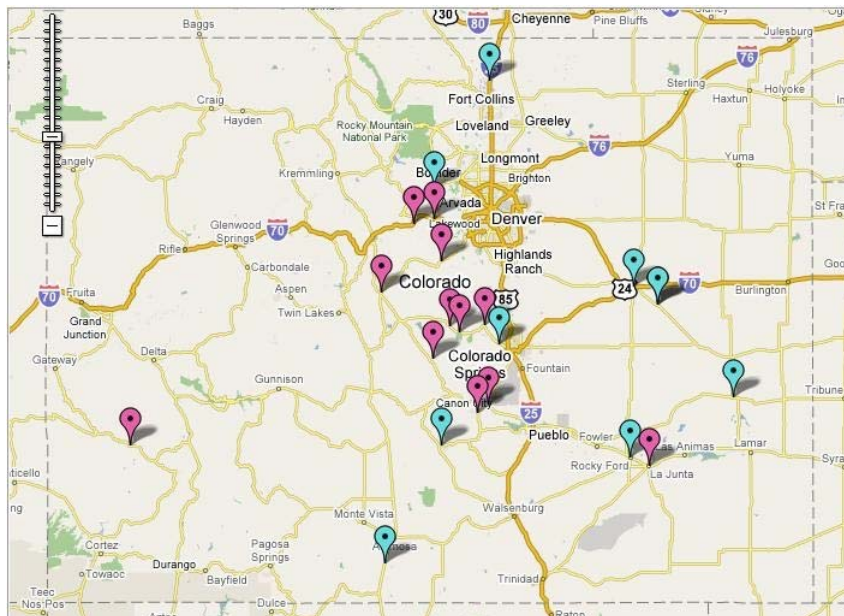
## **Plinkit Tool Helps Small Libraries Strengthen Web Presence**

Small public libraries now have updated Internet sites with the assistance of the Colorado State Library's new Plinkit Project.

The Colorado State Library—in conjunction with the Oregon State Library, Illinois Regional Systems and Texas State Library—now offers a Web site tool that allows small and rural libraries to create and manage their own Web sites.

The tool is called the Public Library Interface Kit (Plinkit).

The Colorado State Library hosts the software and provides training and support. Once a Web site is created, little effort and no technical expertise are required for library staff to update their Web site. The system allows the public to access such information as an events calendar, a photo gallery, and link to other online resources. In addition, the local library can update its Web content and control library Web information.



*Map of libraries using Plinkit, Fall 2007*

Colorado libraries now using Plinkit include:

- Creek County Library District (Georgetown and Idaho Springs) <http://clearcreek.colibraries.org/>
- Conejos County Library District <http://conejos.colibraries.org/>
- Kiowa County Library District – Eads <http://eads.colibraries.org/>
- Lincoln County Libraries: Limon Memorial Library, Lincoln County Bookmobile & Hugo Public Library <http://lincolncounty.colibraries.org/>
- Manitou Springs Public Library <http://manitousprings.colibraries.org/>
- Norwood Public Library <http://norwood.colibraries.org/>

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- Park County Public Libraries (Bailey, Fairplay, Guffey, Lake George) <http://parkcounty.colibraries.org/>
  - Penrose Community Library District <http://penrose.colibraries.org/>
  - Rampart Library District (Woodland Park and Florissant) <http://rampart.colibraries.org/>
  - Rocky Ford Public Library <http://rockyford.colibraries.org/>
  - Wellington Public Library <http://wellington.colibraries.org/>
  - West Custer County Public Library (Westcliffe) <http://westcliffe.colibraries.org/>
  - Wetmore Community Library <http://wetmore.colibraries.org/>
  - Woodruff Memorial Library (La Junta) <http://lajunta.colibraries.org/>

Other libraries coming soon include: Berthoud Public Library, Carnegie Public Library (Trinidad), Nederland Community Library, Red Feather Lakes Public Library, Silverton Public Library and Upper San Juan Library District (Pagosa Springs).

The project is supported by funds from U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services. For additional information, visit [www.colibraries.org/](http://www.colibraries.org/).

## **Libraries Still Relevant and Gen Y Knows It**

A recent study found that the public library continues to be a vital information source and Gen Y, contrary to what many pundits might think, is the big story in library use. Compared to their elders, Gen Y members were the most likely to use libraries for problem-solving information and in general patronage for any purpose.

The survey results challenge the assumption that libraries are losing relevance in the internet age. Libraries drew visits by more than half of Americans (53%) in the past year for all kinds of purposes. And it was the young adults in tech-loving Generation Y (age 18-30) who led the pack.

The report, by the Pew Internet and American Life Project is "Information Searches That Solve Problems: How People Use the Internet, Libraries, and Government Agencies" [www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/Pew\\_UI\\_LibrariesReport.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/Pew_UI_LibrariesReport.pdf) Summary w/ full report: [www.pewinternet.org/PPF/r/231/report\\_display.asp](http://www.pewinternet.org/PPF/r/231/report_display.asp)

This would seem to support the case for maintaining strong school libraries as well. If research, literary, and tech skills are developed early rather than when they're almost 18, students could enter the workforce better prepared for information problem solving they're now using the public library for.

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## Grants Available from IMLS

- **Time to Apply for The Big Read**

*Deadline for Applications: February 12, 2008.* IMLS, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, announces the fourth deadline for the Big Read program. The purpose of the Big Read is to revitalize the role of literature in American popular culture. Grants ranging from \$5,000 - \$20,000 are available to encourage local communities to inspire reading through the Big Read program. This will be the only application deadline in 2008.

[www.neabigread.org/](http://www.neabigread.org/)

- **Museums, Libraries, and Archives Urged to Apply for Free IMLS Connecting to Collections Bookshelf**

*Deadline extended to April 30, 2008.* IMLS, in cooperation with the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH), has extended the IMLS Connecting to Collections Bookshelf deadline to April 30, 2008. The Bookshelf is a core set of books, online resources, and a user's guide that are essential to the care of collections. A simple electronic application for the free IMLS Bookshelf is available at [www.aaslh.org/Bookshelf/](http://www.aaslh.org/Bookshelf/).

- **IMLS Calls for 2008 Native American Library Services Grant Applications**

*Basic Grant Deadline: March 3, 2008; Enhancement Grant: May 1, 2008*

The Institute is accepting applications for the 2008 Native American Library Services Basic Grants and Enhancement Grants. Basic Grants are available to support existing library operations and to maintain core library services, while Enhancement Grants may enhance existing library services or implement new library services. [www.ims.gov/news/2007/121307.shtm](http://www.ims.gov/news/2007/121307.shtm)

## AASL's 2008 "School Libraries Count!" Survey Open Until March 15

Please encourage your school librarians to fill out the AASL survey. The survey link is printed below. This information will help AASL develop tools to support school librarians at the local, state, and national levels.

You do not need to be an AASL member to fill out the survey.

At the 2008 ALA Midwinter Meeting, AASL launched the second year of its longitudinal survey, "School Libraries Count!" All K-12 schools - public and private - are invited to participate.

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The study gathers basic data about the status of school library media programs across the country, which AASL will use to develop advocacy tools to support school libraries at the local, state, and national levels.

This year's survey has an additional question that solicits information about the role of social networking and other electronic tools used in instruction by library media specialists and their classroom teacher collaborators.

The survey will be open through March 15, 2008, at [www.aaslsurvey.org](http://www.aaslsurvey.org)

## **2007-2008 Colorado School Survey Results**

Preliminary results from this fall's school library survey are now available. See the Colorado School Library Statistics page at [www.lrs.org/school\\_stats.php](http://www.lrs.org/school_stats.php) to see stats from the 819 libraries that responded to this year's survey, or to find individual School Library Profiles for participating libraries.

## **Recently Published Fast Facts from Library Research Service**

AskColorado, the statewide 24/7 free virtual reference service that started in September 2003, is a collaborative project among libraries of all types throughout the state. Through the efforts of over 350 librarians from public, academic, school and special libraries, the service provides online answers to Coloradans—any age, anywhere, anytime (including many students!). Since its inception, AskColorado has steadily increased both in number of user sessions and customer satisfaction levels.

The Library Research Service recently published a new edition of Fast Facts with details about AskColorado use:

No. 555 [AskColorado Customer Satisfaction High as Usage Continues to Increase](#)  
by Jennifer French

View this and other Fast Facts at <http://www.lrs.org/fastfacts.php>



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## **Delight in Diversity News: Winners of Grants; Workshops Available**

- Winners of the first diversity/inclusivity grants for "Promising Practices" are:
  - Las Animas Bent County Library for their new "Hispanic Section"
  - Pueblo City-County Library District for "Grand Opening of Nuestra Biblioteca"
  - Cotton Creek Elementary School Library for "Accessible Labels for Shelving"

See their projects and share your success stories and ideas at "Promising Practices," [www.cde.state.co.us/scripts/cdelibSpecPops/practicemenu.asp](http://www.cde.state.co.us/scripts/cdelibSpecPops/practicemenu.asp) on the new diversity Web site. You may win a grant and be honored for your effort. You know what works! Next round of grants closes MARCH 21.

- **Regional Workshops**

Make a New Year's resolution to help your library progress in its services to diverse populations. One way. . .attend

The Changing Faces of Communities and Libraries: Leadership and Diversity Connections

Regional presentations on diversity/inclusivity are scheduled with the support of the Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC). Join us in February 25-26 in Grand Junction. For more information and to register visit:

[www.clicweb.org/continuing\\_education/clic\\_workshops/clic\\_workshops.php](http://www.clicweb.org/continuing_education/clic_workshops/clic_workshops.php)

- **Resources**

- Free Resources for ELL or Family Literacy Programs

Raising Children in a New Country: An Illustrated Handbook and the accompanying Toolkit for Working with Newcomer Parents designed for English language learning (ELL) can be downloaded free from Bridging Refugee Youth and Children's Services (BYRCS). The new handbook, using basic English texts and communicative illustrations, helps teach American norms and requirements for parental involvement in children's schools, meals and nutrition, street and car safety, disciplinary techniques, and other activities. The toolkit is designed for teachers, caseworkers and counselors helping refugee families learn English and adapt to American culture. It includes a wealth of Web links to additional resources. BYRCS is a joint project of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and is supported by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

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- Summaries of this year's LSTA grants

Fifteen school, academic and public libraries have received grants from LSTA funds. Each project must address special populations and diversity in some way. See the award winners at [www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/LSTA/download/pdf/07-08LSTAGrantWinners.pdf](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/LSTA/download/pdf/07-08LSTAGrantWinners.pdf)

- Library Services for Immigrants, a Report on Current Practices, IMLS and Office of Citizenship: [www.uscis.gov/files/nativedocuments/G-1112.pdf](http://www.uscis.gov/files/nativedocuments/G-1112.pdf)
- Office of Citizenship Products

There is a great deal of worthwhile info contained in this site. This link below takes you directly to the downloadable versions of Welcome to the U.S.: A Guide for New Immigrants in 14 languages! [www.uscis.gov/newimmigrants](http://www.uscis.gov/newimmigrants) From that page, link to Resources for Libraries. The link below takes you directly to Civics and Citizenship study materials, copy of the Constitution, many others [www.uscis.gov/civicsflashcards](http://www.uscis.gov/civicsflashcards)

- A reminder from those working in the field. Here again is Al Milo's wonderful "Why Buy Spanish Books" [www.reforma.org/refogold.htm#top](http://www.reforma.org/refogold.htm#top)

## **Out & About with CSL Staff**

- Teresa Allen from Institutional Library Services provided consulting and training for volunteer library staff at Gilliam (Denver) and Zebulon Pike (Colorado Springs) Youth Services Centers.
- Institutional Library Development team members Erica MacCreagh, Diane Walden and Diana Reese were invited to Colorado Springs by the Colorado Department of Corrections Education Division to participate in a 3-year strategic planning process.
- Kris Johnson made an AskColorado presentation to St. Vrain School District media specialists. She also gave AskColorado librarian trainings at Bud Werner Memorial Library in Steamboat Springs, Pikes Peak Library District and Jefferson County Public Library.
- Bonnie McCune met in January at Lafayette Public Library with a dedicated group of library staffers interested in early literacy in libraries. The group, called Colorado Libraries for Early Literacy, will function under a steering committee comprised of representatives from 13 library districts.
- Nance Nassar, School Library Consultant, held Better Library Instruction workshops during December and January in Westminster, Steamboat Springs, Pueblo and Colorado Springs.



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- Diana Reese met with the Southeast Area Librarians (SEALS) group in December, and traveled to Rifle Correctional Center to train staff in library inventory procedures. In January she traveled to Philadelphia as a member of the national Library Support Staff Certification Program Advisory Council, and participated in ALA Midwinter activities as well.
  - Diane Walden visited the correctional facility libraries at Arkansas Valley, Ft. Lyon and Sterling to provide collection development assistance and welcome and train new staff.

## **Poetry Month Calendar for Denver Metro Area Poetry Events in April 2008**

To celebrate Poetry Month, the Denver Office of Cultural Affairs, UC-Denver's Copper Nickel, and the Colorado Center for the Book at Colorado Humanities are compiling and printing a community calendar of April poetry events for all ages in the Denver metro area. Please send news of your April 2008 poetry events to Josephine Jones at [jones@coloradohumanities.org](mailto:jones@coloradohumanities.org) by mid-February. If you have distribution lists or locations for the Poetry Month calendars after they are printed, please send that information as well.