

Centennial State Libraries

March 28, 2003

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Scholarships Offered for Library Master's Level Study

Two \$5,000 scholarships are available through the Colorado Council for Library Development for students currently enrolled or entering an ALA-accredited MLS program or a Masters in Educational Media program. Applicants must be residents of Colorado and citizens or permanent residents of the United States. The scholarships are open to anyone regardless of race, age, gender, or creed.

The scholarships are designed to increase the number of trained library professionals who either are members of special populations or who are committed to service for these groups. "Special populations" include ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, the underserved, and similar groups.

For information and complete requirements for applying for the [Colorado Library Service to Special Populations](#) scholarships or an application, visit the web site. Or contact Special Populations Committee, Colorado State Library, 303-866-6900. Application deadline is May 16, 2003.

Correction on Colleague Connection

Colleague Connection is hosted by the The annual Colleague Connection 2003 Dinner mentioned in the last "Centennial State Libraries" is hosted by the University of Denver Information Science Program, not by RMSLA as mentioned. Our apologies. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 22, 2003.

Pikes Peak Library District Kicks Off Second Century of Service

In 1903, the city of Colorado Springs appointed the first Board of Directors for a public library. The first task of the new board was to find a suitable building; construction on the downtown Colorado Springs Public Library - a Carnegie Library - began in 1904. In time, Colorado Springs Public Library became the Pikes Peak Library District (PPLD), which has grown to provide service in most of El Paso County.

PPLD is planning events, programs, and other festivities to celebrate all year long - not just to celebrate the past, but also to build on it for the future of our libraries.

100th Anniversary events include a Gala on June 14, All Pikes Peak Reads (September-October), author appearances beginning with John Nichols on April 19, and lots more. Find out more at the [PPLD](#) web site.

Federal Grant Opportunity for School Libraries

The federal Department of Education just released information on the 2003 "Improving Literacy Through School Libraries (LSL)" program. The purpose of the LSL program is to improve student literacy skills and academic achievement by providing students with increased access to up-to-date school library materials; a well-equipped, technologically advanced school library media center; and well-trained, professionally certified school library media specialists.

Visit the [U.S. Department of Education](#) web site for information about the LSL grant program. Print applications, a link for e-grant applications, and other resources are available. The due date is April 28, 2003. Although this is a federal grant opportunity not under the auspices of CDE, the Library Development staff at the Colorado State Library may be contacted for assistance with the applications or proposal ideas. Current rules limit applicants to those at 20% poverty level or higher.

Additional ALA Tool Kit Helps Libraries Facing Budget

Cuts

To assist those facing budget cuts, ALA has placed on line a [tool kit](#) that includes new information on how to stage a Save America's Libraries rally; tips for conducting an editorial board meeting; a press release and media alert; the latest information on library funding cuts; and more.

ALA/AASL Standards For School Library Media Specialist Preparation

The final version of the ALA/AASL Standards For Initial Programs for School Library Media Specialist Preparation has been approved by NCATE and is now available on the [AASL](#) web site. A brief [FAQ](#) about the NCATE accreditation process, developed by the ALA Office for Accreditation, is also available.

Study Finds Parents Important in Children's Internet Use

Despite a marked increase in children's use of the Internet over the past two years, children in underserved populations still experience a lag in both home and school access. A new report from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting entitled "[Connected to the Future](#)" examines the trends and implications of children connecting to the web. The report found that almost two-thirds of American children between the ages of two and 17 logged onto the Internet during 2002. The biggest gain -- a 205 percent increase -- occurred among African-American children. The report also warns of a growing broadband digital divide in which the preponderance of high-speed Internet customers come from upper-income families. [SOURCE: Corporation for Public Broadcasting]

SLD Denies \$590 Million in 2002 eRate Requests

The Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Co., the agency that administers the eRate, denied nearly \$590 million worth of 2002 applications in its March 10 wave of funding decision letters. These applications allegedly violated the program's competitive-bidding requirements. About \$470 million of these applications reportedly listed IBM Corp.... (Source Eschool News, March 17th 2003)

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