

Centennial State Libraries

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Challenging Developments @your library™

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Collaborative Virtual Reference Assumes Substance

The Colorado State Library has received an LSTA grant to set up a statewide Collaborative Virtual Reference Service. We are looking for a fulltime Coordinator who will work with other State Library staff and staff from libraries throughout the state to create and manage the service. A complete description of the position is available on the [State Library's Jobline](#) or visit the [Collaborative Virtual Reference Service project](#) website.

Local Authors Again Recruited for Big Book Bash

Last year's Big Book Bash at the Colorado Association of Libraries convention was so successful they'd like to do it again. Nearly 200 authors participated and nearly 1,000 librarians attended the conference. Most authors enjoyed it and said they'd like to return. Please let any interested authors know. The event will be at Keystone on Saturday, Oct 18, 2003, 3:00 to 6:00 p.m., reception from 6 to 7, optional author dinner at 7. Betsy Pink from Colorado Assoc. of Libraries is coordinating the author communication. Contact her directly BetsinColo@aol.com if you'd like to be included in future communications as plans develop.

NO STOP Service Victim of Budget Cuts

As part of its service as the Colorado Resource Center (CRC), Denver Public Library provided an out-of-state ILL referral service called DPL NO STOP. When the funds for the CRC were zeroed out last year, the Regional Library Service Systems paid DPL to continue that service through June 30, 2003. However, no state funds are available to continue the service during the coming fiscal year. The DPL NO STOP service is no longer available. Requests that were placed on SWIFT for NO STOP before June 10, may still have DPL NO STOP as a potential lender.

This Junction Helps You Travel Far

[WebJunction](#) is an online community of libraries and other agencies sharing knowledge and experience to provide the broadest public access to information technology. Benton Foundation, Colorado State Library, Isoph, OCLC, and Tech Soup have partnered to create the initial design and creation of the portal. The portal is divided into five sections: Policies and Practices, Technology Resources, Buying Guide, and Community Center.

In addition to the many resources under each major category, there are also online discussion forums under the Community Center. Looking for practical advice for a current issue that your library is facing? Explore the Forum topics. For example, one threaded discussion under the Policies and Practices heading deals with print management issues. The forum offers dynamic solutions, and allows you to post questions and share information in a collaborative environment with colleagues that are dealing with the same types of issues.

Web Junction also provides a variety of online courses through "The Learning Center" that are listed under four different series: Using the Internet, Managing Public Access Computers, Basic Computing, and Applications. Courses range from introduction to PCs to Using XML. Courses are free.

New Web Resources Helps Spanish-Speaking Youth and Families

["Fuente de Juventud" \("Fountain of Youth"\)](#), is a resource for youth librarians serving Latino communities. It contains separate pages on collection development, emergent literacy and programming resources. This resource will move to the [Plano \(Texas\) Public Library System](#) server sometime in the next two to three months. "Fuente de Juventud" is very much a work in progress, with hopes (and plans) to expand the site to include more specifics on storytime and other programs. In the meantime, please send me your suggestions and corrections. For information, contact Solina Marquis in Texas at solina-marquis@attbi.com.

Reading Rockets, a service of PBS station WETA, has added a Spanish language component to its early childhood literacy web site. "[Colorincolorado!](#)" has information for parents, educators and kids.

Ideas Solicited from School Library Media Specialists

AASL and the ALA Public Information Office are developing an @ your library® Toolkit to help school library media specialists better market their school library media programs. We know that many of you have had success and would like to invite your good ideas, tips and insights, including outreach strategies to students, teachers, parents and principals/administrators, collaboration, fundraising, advocacy, involvement with Friends groups. We're especially seeking low-cost ideas and how you have used ALA's @ your library brand to promote your library. Send your ideas directly to Linda Wallace, editor, @ your library Toolkit, at lkwallace@mindspring.com. Please include your name, position, school or organization and contact information (now and over the summer). The toolkit will be published this fall -- we'll let you know when it's available. Many thanks in advance for your help.

Connecting with Favorite Books

Today, the lives and works of authors are made more accessible through portals that aggregate author material from all over the web, allowing students and teachers to study, be inspired by, and connect with the people behind their favorite books and characters. The [TeachingBooks.net](#) site gives educators easy access to children's book authors and authoritative teaching resources, to connect educators and families with authors, books and authoritative teaching materials. The site is indexed by author, title, subject and grade, all multimedia programs and resources about trade books that are currently freely available on the Web." Among the gathered goodies are teacher guides (more than 3,200!), National Public Radio interviews, a wealth of multimedia links, and authors' personal websites -- more than 6,500 links that are continually updated and checked for reliability. (Source: [Philadelphia Inquirer May 15,](#)

[2003](#))

Einstein Papers on the Internet

A new web site [Einstein Archives Online](#), created by the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena and the Albert Einstein Archives at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, is making available hundreds of Albert Einstein's scientific papers, personal letters and humanist essays dating back to Einstein's youth. Included are Einstein's papers on relativity, the quantum theory of light and matter, and education, international affairs and pacifism. (Source: [San Jose Mercury News 21 May 2003](#))

Adult Education Fees Another Sign of Budget Limits

On July 1, the Colorado GED Testing Program begins to charge fees for services. GED test centers will charge an administrative fee of \$5 per battery and \$1 per sub-test. The fee also applies to all re-tests. The fee is addition to that charged by test centers for the GED and will be transferred to CDE to support the administration of the GED testing program statewide.

In addition, beginning July 1, the state GED office will charge a \$5 fee for processing age-waiver requests. Like the fee increase for duplicate diplomas and transcripts, the administrative and age-waive fees stem from the elimination of the state subsidy for the GED program. We hope that through the collection of the administrative and age-waiver processing fees, we are able to reduce the amount charged for GED transcripts.

The CDE web site for [adult education](#) contains more information.

Boulder Rotary Offers Free Booklets on Free Tours

The Rotary Club of Boulder Flatirons is offering "Colorado's Free Tours" to libraries and schools. The booklet is especially of interest to students and teachers. It includes places like the Governor's Mansion and the National Earthquake Center. Reproducible worksheets are also available. For information contact 303.543.8532 x 18 or 303.786.7777 x 112

Jared Polis Foundation Offers Techie Trip

The Jared Polis Foundation offers the Education Station, a mobile technology bus that

travels free throughout the Denver/Boulder area offering age-appropriate technology programs that enable learners of all ages to increase their computer knowledge and gain hands-on experience with technology. Educators can integrate what students learn on the bus with what they are learning in the classroom. Four software applications are available, with songs, games, web page creation, photography and photoshop. For information, contact Shana Hyer, 303.442.1130, shana@jaredpolisfoundatio.org.

NASA Traveling Exhibits Interactive and Available

NASA offers a traveling, interactive exhibit designed to reach children 5 to 12, as well as members of the community. Five sets of the freestanding exhibit will tour the U.S. for two years, with a month at each participating public library. The exhibit contains six desktop computers and work space. "NASA @your library," supported by Apple Computers, is designed to promote fascinating scientific information on NASA research and demonstrate the expertise of librarians (!) in selecting books and materials to help patrons become excited about space research and its impacts. No funding from libraries is required; however, there are some requirements for training and services. For information, contact the Association for Library Service to Children, Linda Mays, 800.545.2433 x 1398, lmays@ala.org. Applications must be RECEIVED by July 25.

Littleton Teen Writers Win Awards at Film Festivals

A film script written by the Teen Writers Group at the Bemis Public Library (Littleton) won its third national award at the 2003 Lumiere All-School Film Fest. "[Squeegie and Bob](#)," a claymation video created collaboratively by students in Littleton and Suttons Bay, Michigan, also took second place of middle school animation at the April Windsong International Film Festival in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and a third place at the East Lansing Children's Film Festival in Michigan. The 90-second video follows two friends as they argue, then patch up their friendship.

For additional information, E-Mail: [B. McCune](mailto:B.McCune)

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