

Centennial State Libraries

August 15, 2003

Progress Happens @your library™

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Play with the Big Boys This Year in Coach/Player Advocacy Project

Apply to be part of the Coach/Player Advocacy Project and refine skills to help your library. Libraries of all types are being recruited for Coach/Player teams. This is the second year for the mentoring effort, which matches "coach" libraries, who have expertise in advocacy, with "player" libraries, who wish to receive training, mentoring, and support over a year, to provide intensive and strategic advocacy and initiative training.

Interested in developing expertise in:

- Community outreach techniques resulting in visibility and support?
- Fund-raising campaign approaches?

- Developing a network of advocates on behalf of your library?
- Gaining media and public attention for what you do?

Then you'll want to apply. The process is simple and selection is based primarily upon your interest in participating. This year, 23 libraries participated as either Coaches or Players. The vast majority feel the project has been of immense help to all parties. If selected, you or a professional level staff person must be able to attend a training session just prior to the CAL conference on Thursday, October 16, at Keystone. Then, over the next year, coaches and players communicate regularly. Project staff stay in touch with coaches/players to assist with progress based on action plans. Each participant plans an advocacy activity of his choice to be completed by fall 2004.

This is a project of the Colorado Association of Libraries, supported by LSTA grants. For information or questions, contact Bonnie McCune, Library Community Programs Consultant, Colorado State Library, mccune_b@cde.state.co.us, 303.866.6900.

Report on Regional Library Service Systems

Major reductions in state support for regional library service systems have mandated massive changes in service delivery. The [new report](#) describes allocated funding, planned expenditures, activities, and statewide cooperative projects administered by regional systems to serve the library community. The fiscal situation in Colorado had a direct impact on the Regional Library Service Systems for the fiscal year which began July 1, 2003. Despite ongoing operational changes, libraries will have access to some level of support, training, and cooperative services through a system. System-sponsored projects and services are listed.

Fast Facts Coming Fast and Furious—Latest Issues Feature History and New Trends

"Fast Facts," [Library Research Service's](#) quick and powerful briefs on studies, has published three issues of major importance on the status of Colorado's libraries.

- No. 196 - July 22, 2003
"Circulation Per Capita for Colorado Public Libraries Continues to Climb While Libraries Nationwide Stagnate, 1991-2001": confirms that Colorado's libraries continued their popularity up to the recent budget cuts and reversals in trends.
- No. 197 - July 23, 2003
"Impact of State and Local Budget Cuts Felt by Public Library Users": shows unfortunate recent declines in library use of several types, apparently due to budget cuts.
- No. 198 - July 24, 2003
"Colorado Public Libraries - Historical Data": Shows how Coloradans have

had a love affair with libraries since the beginning. Libraries have grown fairly steadily and Coloradans have supported libraries until last year.

New Spanish-Language Web Site Available

[AhoraUSA](#) is a web site in Spanish with information and useful links for Hispanics. They appear to have world news, dictionary, and links to numerous Spanish language web sites.

Writers' Conferences Offer Expertise to Hopefuls, Interest to Readers

- Your niche in the genre markets awaits you! Learn all about it September 13-14, 2003, when the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators presents its [GENRE-IFIC Fall Conference](#) at the Green Center (School of Mines) in Golden, Colorado. Editors, writers and illustrators will make presentations. Special segments for prepublished authors, illustrators, and published authors. Fees range from \$95 to \$130 for Saturday, \$65 to \$90 for Sunday (meals extra).
- Rocky Mountain Fiction Writer's 20th Annual Colorado Gold Conference is scheduled for Friday September 12 through Sunday, September 14, 2003. Colorado Gold brings together writers, editors, and agents in an informal setting. Dozens of workshops with dozens of professionals and authors! The conference kicks off with a book sale and author signing on Friday evening. Conference will be held at the Renaissance Hotel, Denver, Quebec St just south of I-70. Registration price of \$229.00 includes all conference workshops and presentations, some meals. Registration brochure at [RMFW's](#) website or email Diana Rowe at diana@dianarowe.com.
- "Literary Sojourn: Steamboat Springs' Festival of Authors," the eleventh annual, is scheduled for Saturday, September 13. This event attracts readers and writers from all over Colorado. The Bud Werner Memorial Library is the primary sponsor. Authors include Tim Cahill, Alexandra Fuller, Maxine Hong Kingston, Gus Lee and Colum McCann. Cost is \$65 to \$75. For information, see the [Literary Sojourn](#) web site.

Exhibit of Winning Posters Available Free to Libraries

The winner posters from the 2003 (and last!) Colorado National Library Week poster

contest are available from the Colorado State Library as a rotating exhibition. The theme was "Colorado History @your library," and 15 students from various grade levels won in their divisions. The artworks measure 11 by 17 inches (some horizontal, some vertical), with one piece for explanation and credit. They have been laminated but are lightweight and suitable for a wall, bulletin board, or panel. We suggest that you mount them on contrasting colored paper slightly larger than the posters, or use a similar technique to make them eye-catching. The exhibit will be scheduled, first-come, first-served, for about a month or so, depending upon demand. For information, contact Bonnie McCune at mccune_b@cde.state.co.us, Library Community Programs Consultant, Colorado State Library, 303.866.6891.

Method to Announce Emergency Closings

[Colorado Delays](#) is a web site that lists closings of schools and organizations due to weather or other conditions. You may want to consider establishing a connection for your library (some already have!) as an alternative to calling dozens of radio and tv stations. Instructions are to contact the KOA News Room; unfortunately a search of that site doesn't reveal a specific person or phone. But try [KOA's](#) site for contact information, or call 303-713-8000. Employees or the public can access the site through www.850koa.com or www.startcolorado.com. Thanks to Jackie Roberts for passing this information along.

Colorado Virtually Grows Through Virtual Library

Three new libraries have recently been added to the Colorado Virtual Library: Limon Memorial Library, Rampart Library District, and Colorado Technical University (Colorado Springs). All of these libraries are part of the ASCC project. More than 400 libraries are now directly connected through the Colorado Virtual Library, thereby serving even more Coloradans. To see a list, go to the [CVL](#) web site.

Broomfield, Denver, and Bemis Libraries Win Grants

The Mamie Doud Eisenhower Public Library, Denver Public Library and the Edwin A. Bemis Public Library in Littleton are three of 30 libraries nationwide selected for the MetLife Foundation Reading American Program. The library-based book and film discussion program for teens and adults is meant to forge greater understanding among generations, especially in new immigrant families, according to a library press release. The Reading American program aims to increase awareness and use of public libraries in communities of significant demographic change. "Our library is reaching out to the growing Asian and Hispanic populations in Broomfield," said Gigi Yang of the Broomfield library. "We're excited to offer a program that will help bridge cultural and generational gaps in the community by bringing teens and adults together

to explore different minority experiences." Libraries for the Future, the group selecting the libraries for the program, awarded \$5,000 grants to the libraries.

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

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