

Centennial State Libraries

August 17, 2001

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- [Teens gain enthusiastic advocates.](#)
- [Power Libraries and the future of paraprofessionals' jobs featured in new FAST FACTS.](#)

Colorado Library Resource Sharing and Information Access Board

Mark your calendars now! Annual meeting, Thursday and Friday, October 4 & 5, 2001, at the Aurora Conference & Event Center, 411 Sable Blvd., Aurora CO 80011 (free parking).

Thursday features a focus on E-Books:

- Overview--latest information on e-book vendors and technology.
- Librarian/educator panel--how e-books are used in their libraries and schools.
- Vendor panel--future trends in e-books.

Friday features Resource Sharing in Colorado:

- Updates from AIRS Committee (Acquisition of Information Resources Statewide) on statewide licensing projects.
- Digital government initiatives.
- And much more!

Registration information will be available in early September. For more information, contact [Brenda Bailey-Hainer](#) at the Colorado State Library, 303.866.6907, and visit the [Colorado Library Resource Sharing and Information Access Board Annual Meeting](#).

PLA, ALSC to Partner on Early Childhood Literacy Initiative

The Public Library Association (PLA), and the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), both divisions of the American Library Association, have formed a joint committee in order to partner with the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), of the National Institute of Health (NIH), in order to provide information and training that will help parents and teachers of preschool children get ready to read. In addition to helping disseminate information from research findings on how children learn to read, the groups will work together to help build public library services for preschool children based upon the findings in NICHD studies and the recommendations of the NRP Report. More information is available at the [PLA's Preschool Literacy Initiative](#) web site.

See Y'all at C'YAAL

The Colorado Young Adult Advocates in Libraries, an ad hoc group of library staff from across the state, continues its energetic leadership of services to this customer group. The [C'YAAL](#) web page is up and running. Quarterly meetings keep the group focused, and an e-list via Yahoo enables members to stay in touch between times.

August's meeting centered on summer reading programs. Most YA programs run eight weeks. One objective on the part of libraries is to increase the number of teens who COMPLETE their summer reading programs, not just register. Among the innovative ideas: A "virtual question" built into the program, in which teens used library computers to research answers, thus improving their skills. . . goal setting by individuals of ALL ages, rather than the library establishing numbers of books or hours to be completed. . . a program that required reading of different TYPES of books (such as mystery, how-to). . .lots of teen volunteers in libraries. . .weekly contests in which teens guess numbers of things (usually candy) in large jars, to keep kids coming back.

Two components are crucial for successful YA programs—enthusiasm and support by all staff (not just YA or children's specialists). Members of C'YAAL will be making presentations at the CLA conference. The group plans to coordinate some basic information and assistance for a statewide YA Summer Reading Program next year. For more information, visit the web site.

Two New FAST FACTS Feature Power Libraries and Parapro

Librarians, teachers and principals in Power Libraries schools confirm that

participation in the Power Libraries project, a library-to-library mentoring program, has improved their CSAP scores. For detailed results of a recent State Library survey of project participants, see *FAST FACTS* [no. 178: "Librarians, Teachers & Principals Agree 'Power Libraries' Lead to Higher Student Test Scores."](#)

Recently, Colorado State Librarian Nancy Bolt spoke at the annual Colorado Paraprofessionals Conference. Drawing on data from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, she described the job outlook for the state's library paraprofessionals. For a summary of the statistical portion of that presentation, see *FAST FACTS* [no. 179: "Job Outlook for Library Paraprofessionals in Colorado."](#)

For additional information, E-Mail: Bonnie McCune, mccune_b@cde.state.co.us

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