



November 17, 2006

Be Thankful for and @your library



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Are You Serving Your Community? Recruiting Libraries for Community Assessments

The Special Populations & Issues Committee encourages quality library service to diverse and underserved groups, including ethnic populations, persons with physical and mental disabilities, seniors, and others. The Committee is currently undertaking research project based on a long-range plan to improve services across the state.

One part is a technical assistance project. Two to four libraries will be selected to receive hands-on assistance to determine their service area's diversity, so they can prepare to meet the needs of diverse populations. Libraries will be working with community demographic and library diversity assessments and tools like the U.S. Census, LRS Community Analysis Scan, ProMosaic II organizational diversity assessment, and ALA's equity access checklist. This project is a first step in a library's own diversity planning process.

A coach will work with the pilot libraries. The time frame is within six months. Selected libraries will be asked to continue the work beyond assessment and BRIEFLY report on challenges encountered, time required, and recommendations for other libraries undergoing diversity initiatives.

Interested? Submit a request for assistance, including: Library; Contact Person / Title/Person Completing Application; Address; Email / Phone; Community Size / Description. Selection criteria: (1) Describe current efforts and desires regarding diversity. (2) Why do you need this assessment? (3) What commitment can your library make to this effort beyond the assessment; i.e., what do you hope to accomplish? For more information: Contact Bonnie McCune, 303.866.6891 or mccune_b@cde.state.co.us. Visit CoLAB's Special Populations Committee online at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/ethnic.htm>.

New Staff Debuts at Colorado State Library

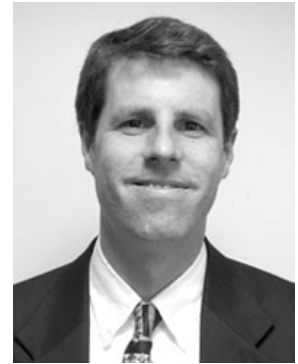
Teresa Allen is a new consultant with Institutional Library Services, responsible for acquisitions and providing technical assistance to the youth corrections facilities. Teresa is a certified teacher librarian and has experience working with at-risk youth. Most recently she was chair of the Language Arts Dept. with the San Marcos, CA school district, and taught there for seven years. She holds an M.L.S. from San Jose State University., with undergraduate studies in criminal justice and English. She drives a cool Mazda RX8 and hikes with a cool Basenji dog.



Samantha Hager has been appointed as library consultant for the State Publications Library, and is responsible for reference and outreach. Hager came to the State Library from Fondren Library, Rice University (Houston TX), where she was the government information librarian. Prior to her position at Rice, at the Houston Public Library she was in the Patent and Trademark Depository Library program and provided reference assistance and collection development in the business, science and technology section. She is an active member of the American Library Association's Government Documents Round Table and is currently a member of GITCO, the government information technology committee. She received her M.L.S. from Indiana University-Bloomington.



James M. Duncan has been named director of Networking & Resource Sharing. He is responsible for the online services, Colorado Virtual Library and Ask Colorado. Duncan was assistant director for technology services, Hardin Library for the Health Sciences, University of Iowa. Previously, he was coordinator of the Learning Resources Center and open-access computer labs at Thomas Jefferson University and Senior Librarian at the Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies, both in Philadelphia. He is active in a variety of professional associations involving libraries and information technology, and was a Fellow of the Frye Leadership Institute in 2002. He holds an MA in Library and Information Science from the University of Iowa.



Plinkit! The Magic Word to Bring Libraries to the Web

The Colorado State Library announces Park County Public Library as the first library system in Colorado to create their website using Plinkit! Plinkit is a template-based website creation toolkit that has been created by CSL, in conjunction with the Oregon State Library, Illinois State Library and Texas State Library, using open source software. A library uses Plinkit to create an intuitive, dynamic website with little effort and no technical expertise. CSL Networking & Resource Sharing hosts the software and provides training and support.



Patty Chapman, Director of the Park County Public Library wrote, Plinkit is "a wonderful tool for our community. We now have a website that is informative in so many, many ways, helpful and fun too." Plinkit offers many benefits to participating libraries. They can quickly launch an intuitive, dynamic website; easily add content and updates; create an online library presence with e-resources and services; be more visible in the community; and on and on. More information on Plinkit can be found at <http://www.colibraries.org/>. Check out Park County Public Library's site at <http://parkcounty.colibraries.org>.

Colorado Participates in Major Summer Reading Study

A National Leadership Grant for Libraries from IMLS, through Dominican University's Graduate School of Library and Information Science will examine the impact of public library summer reading programs on student achievement among third- and fourth-

grade students, as well as the effect of school and public libraries collaborating to support summer reading clubs. The results of this research will provide crucial data for librarians in the 95.2 percent of public libraries that have summer reading programs and school administrators eager to prevent summer learning loss. Partners on this project are the Center for Summer Learning at Johns Hopkins University, the Colorado State Library, and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Patricia Froehlich, public library consultant for CSL, says this exciting project has major implications for libraries, youth services, and academic achievement.

Health Resources for Libraries

These tidbits are all offered by Dana Abbey, dana.abbey@uchsc.edu or 303-315-4875. Contact her if you have questions.

- ✚ **Become a Network Member, It's Free:** Is your library or information resource center called on for health information? If so, consider joining the National Network of Libraries of Medicine as an Affiliate Network Member. Benefits of membership include: eligibility for grant funding for health information access and other projects; access to a variety of training opportunities for librarians, health professionals, and consumers; and many others. Visit <http://nnlm.gov/mcr/services/network/index.html#A2>.
- ✚ **The National Library of Medicine Debut's LactMed Database:** LactMed, a free online database with information on drugs and lactation, is one of the newest additions to the National Library of Medicine's (NLM) TOXNET system, a web-based collection of resources covering toxicology, chemical safety, and environmental health. The database contains over 500 drugs. LactMed is updated monthly and provides information on maternal and infant drug levels, drug effects on infants, and possible drug effects on lactation. Visit <http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov>.
- ✚ **Planning and Evaluating Health Information Outreach Projects:** Is your library involved in health information outreach projects? Do you want to know how to get started? Check out this free series that presents step-by-step planning and evaluation methods. Along with providing information about evaluation, each booklet includes a case study and worksheets to assist with outreach planning. The booklets are designed to supplement Measuring the Difference: Guide to Planning and Evaluating Health Information Outreach and to support evaluation workshops. Visit <http://nnlm.gov/evaluation/guide/index.html>.

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- ✚ **Consumer Health Information Resources on the Web:** The National Network of Libraries of Medicine MidContinental Region's website offers a wealth of consumer health information links. Visit <http://nnlm.gov/mcr/resources/> for health information links for the public, minority health concerns, low income health issues, Colorado health resources, and free reprintable PDF trifold.

Out & About with CSL Staff

- ✚ Steve Gregory (NRS) attended the Access Conference in Ottawa, Ontario, in October, an eclectic group of technically savvy people who get together every year to share fresh challenges, projects and solutions related to advances in information and library communities. Keynote speakers included Roy Tennant, Nora Young, and Clifford Lynch. Steve found the conference to be very stimulating and informative. Podcasts and PowerPoints are available on the Access conference web site.
- ✚ Kris Johnson, Sharon Morris and Jim Duncan (NRS) attended a one-day conference hosted by Colorado State University in Fort Collins titled "Library Renaissance: Perspectives for the Digital Age." The conference explored topics related to the modern and future library.
- ✚ Kris Johnson (NRS AskColorado) provided training at Western State College, Gunnison; Remington College, Colorado Springs; and Bemis Library, Littleton, in October. She also attended and presented at the DU Opportunity Fair for library students.
- ✚ Also appearing at the DU Opportunity Fair were Jean Heilig (Special Projects), Keith Lance (LRS), and Debbi MacLeod (CTBL/State Pubs).
- ✚ Many CSL staff presented at CAL or created and staffed exhibits: A sampling-- Michaela Hansen, Patricia Froehlich and Sharon Morris presented an all-day pre-conference workshop about Rural Sustainability attended by more than 50 participants from small rural libraries all around the state. Others involved one way or another—Amy Zimmer, Debbi MacLeod, Gene Hainer, Jim Duncan, Bonnie McCune, Nance Nassar, Jean Heilig, Mary McCarthy, Steve Wrede, Kris Johnson, Keith Lance, Nicolle Stephen, and others I may have forgotten.
- ✚ Teresa Allen (Youth Institutions Consultant) and Diana Reese (Institutional Libraries Coordinator) visited youth institutions in Pueblo, Greeley, Denver, Golden, and Englewood. Teresa has been ordering materials and consulting with Sol Vista Youth Services Center, a brand new facility in Pueblo, to help start up their new library.
- ✚ The AASL Fall Forum: Assessing Student Learning in the School Library was the destination of Nance Nassar, school library consultant; Michaela Hansen, director of library development; and Gene Hainer, state librarian. Held in Rhode Island, the forum gave the participants an understanding:
 1. of the role of the school librarian as a teaching partner in assessment;

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2. of how to assess student learning;
 3. of how to design instruction to improve student learning; and
 4. of how to measure the effectiveness of instructional practices.

- ✚ All of the Institutional Library Services staff attended the Correctional Education Association conference in early November, leading discussion sessions for correctional library staff. Diana Reese visited the Youthful Offender System facility in Pueblo to assist in setting up a satellite library for the female residents.

ALA Grants Links Updated

The ALA Washington Office's Grants page gets updated periodically with information about non-library opportunities. Visit www.ala.org/ala/washoff/WOissues/washfunding/grants/grants.htm#sourc for contacts such as these:

- ✚ Nominations for the 2007 [Verizon Tech Savvy Awards](#) are now available. These are the first national awards honoring programs that improve parents and children's understanding and use of technology. Four \$5,000 regional awards and one \$25,000 national award will be presented.
- ✚ Youth Leaders for Literacy is an initiative of the National Education Association (NEA) and Youth Service America (YSA) to help youth direct their enthusiasm and creativity into reading-related service projects.
- ✚ The mission of the Captain Planet Foundation is to support hands-on environmental projects for youth in grades K-12 throughout the world. The Foundation's objective is to encourage innovative activities that empower children to work individually and collectively as environmental stewards.
- ✚ The Unitarian Universalist Associations' Veatch Program at Shelter Rock supports nonprofit organizations in the U.S. whose goals reflect the principles of Unitarian Universalism, including peace and social justice, as well as programs that increase the involvement of Unitarian Universalists in social action.
- ✚ The National Geographic Society's Conservation Trust supports innovative solutions to issues of global concern.
- ✚ The PacifiCare Foundation's mission is to improve the quality of the lives of the disadvantaged or underserved in areas where PacifiCare Health Systems does business. The Foundation provides support to nonprofit organizations in company communities that focus on nurturing healthy lifestyles.
- ✚ The National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE) grants program seeks to fund projects with potential for broad outreach to meet a financial literacy need that is not being met for a segment of the nation's population.

Colorado Book Awards Named for 2006

Why not spotlight Colorado's native talent by promoting these new book award winners? You can find complete information at www.coloradocenterforthebook.org/

- ✚ Anthology/Collection: Comeback Wolves: Western Writers Welcome the Wolf Home – Gary Wockner, Gregory McNamee and SueEllen Campbell
- ✚ Children's Literature: Prehistoric Actual Size – Steve Jenkins
- ✚ Creative Non-Fiction: The Guinness Book of Me – Steven Church
- ✚ Fiction: Articles of War – Nick Arvin
- ✚ History/Biography: Blood Struggle: The Rise of Modern Indian Nations – Charles Wilkinson
- ✚ Non-Fiction: Town of Snowmass Village: Wild at Heart – Janis Lindsey
- ✚ Pictorial: 14,000 Feet: A Celebration of Colorado's Highest Mountains – Walter R. Borneman, photos by Todd Caudle
- ✚ Poetry: Body Painting – Jane Hilberry
- ✚ Popular Fiction: Eye of the Wolf – Margaret Coel
- ✚ Young Adult: Click Here (To Find Out How I Survived the Seventh Grade) – Denise Vega

Community Connection: Fort Collins Library Marches in Homecoming Parade

The Fort Collins Public Library stood front and center in the Colorado State University Homecoming Parade in October. With the title, "The Fort Collins Public Library: A celebration of history, a celebration of vision," the entry took a walk down memory lane with a couple of old favorite puppet shows from the public library. With the puppet show were figures from the library's past.



Beyond the float was a look towards the future as library staff and Fort Collins youths wore sandwich board spotlighting a glimpse of good things to come in libraries. Costumed mascots, puppet pals, and cheerleaders were part of the mob scene along with dozens of others. As they marched, they roared the library cheer. Those who couldn't (or wouldn't) march helped make signs, costumes and the float.

The biggest reward was the people (young and old!) along the parade route (10,000+ of them!!!) who, when they saw that we were the public library coming down the street, clapped, cheered and with heartfelt enthusiasm said, "The Library?? Oh, we LOVE the Library!!"



The group won first place in the Community Division. Can this be the activity that enabled Fort Collins to pass its proposal in the November election?