



Rocky Mountain Book Festival Celebration of Books and Reading

The 7th Annual Rocky Mountain Book Festival and Children's Book Festival will take place over three days in November, the weekend before Thanksgiving, November 18, 19 and 20. The Colorado Center for the Book presents this major community celebration of books and reading.

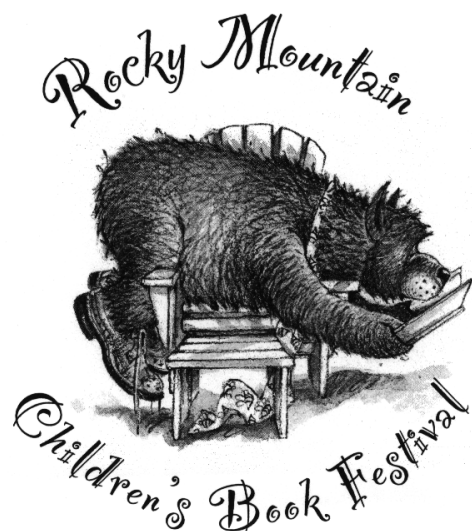
Hundreds of authors will appear in a variety of formats, from main stage readings to panel discussions and hands-on workshops on the craft of writing. Authors include Thomas Hoving, former director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City; Bob Mankoff, cartoon editor of the New Yorker celebrating the New Yorker's 75th anniversary; Dava Sobel, the award-winning former New York Times science writer and author of the international best-seller *Longitude*; Joyce Maynard, whose memoir of her year-long relationship with J.D. Salinger has been controversial; and Richard Roeper, a Chicago Sun-Times writer with his book, *Urban Legends*. Other special programs include a book arts demonstration area, a banned books reading area, magnetic poetry, and book club events.

There will be a new emphasis on writing for dramatic media, including a session on play writing, a session on books-to-movies hosted by Howie Movshovitz, and a rare live performance of a 1949 black radio play from the landmark series

"Destination Freedom," produced by donnie betts and featuring the famous jazz singer Oscar Brown Junior, who appeared in the original broadcast in Chicago. This special performance will be hosted by John Dunning, author of *On the Air: An Encyclopedia of Old Time Radio*.

Other highlights include a continuous poetry stage, and sessions on romance, mystery, science fiction, and the West. Several state poet laureates will appear. The Colorado Endowment for the Humanities will present a series of chautauquans including Dorothy Parker, James Joyce, Louisa May Alcott, and Edgar Allen Poe. The Colorado Council on the Arts will sponsor a round table symposium on the state of literature in Colorado with representatives from literary groups from around the state. Also, the winners of Colorado literary awards will be honored and will present an introduction to their works.

Major sponsors include the Colorado Endowment for the Humanities, the Colorado State Library, and the Colorado Council on the Arts. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$2 for children. Complimentary tickets will be available from selected book stores and metro public libraries. Volunteers are still needed to help with the fair, host programs, direct participants, and coordinate logistics. The Colorado Center for the Book is affiliated with the Library of Congress and is headquartered in the literary landmark house of Colorado's late poet laureate, Thomas Hornsby Ferril. For further information, call 303/839-8320.



ACLIN Named Library Spot's Library Site of October

ACLIN is honored to have been selected as the LibrarySpot Library Site of the Month for October. LibrarySpot received hundreds of nominations for the honor, and determined that ACLIN deserves special recognition for its outstanding content and contribution to the library community online.

LibrarySpot is a library and reference portal of the Web, located at <http://www.libraryspot.com/>. The LibrarySpot Library Site of the Year will be selected from the Site of the Month winners at the end of 1999.

What's Happening

FROM THE COLORADO STATE LIBRARY

Libraries Support for Student Achievement

by Nancy Bolt, Deputy State Librarian

I suppose by now you would have to have had your head in the sand not to realize there is a crisis in K-12 education in Colorado. Too many kids lack essential reading and writing skills that would allow them to really succeed in college or work or as parents.



The 1999 results show that 39% of fourth graders in Colorado cannot read at grade level, and 60% of these students cannot write at a proficient level. In the seventh grade, 40% cannot read at grade level, and 51% cannot write at a proficient level. This does not bode well for the future of our state if something isn't done to help these kids learn vital skills. All of K-12 education is, or will be very quickly, focused on improving student reading and writing skills.

The Colorado Department of Education has adopted an organizational commitment to put our resources toward improving student achievement. The commitment states:

The Colorado Department of Education dedicates itself to increasing achievement for all students through comprehensive programs of education reform involving three interlocking elements:

- 1 **High Standards** for what students should know and be able to do;
- 2 **Tough Assessments** that honestly measure whether or not students meet standards and tell citizens the truth about how all our schools serve our children;
- 3 **Rigorous Accountability Measures** that tie the accreditation of school districts to high student achievement.

The State Library supports the organizational commitment, and libraries around the state also provide services that help students acquire needed skills. Much of this activity is supported by research.

Research shows that:

- when parents read to children, the children are more likely to learn and to read (numerous studies);

- kids who read during the summer maintain their reading level more than kids who do not read during the summer (numerous studies);

students who have an opportunity to choose their own reading material from a wide selection do better on tests and have more ongoing interest in reading (Stephen Krashen, *The Power of Reading*);

- kids who have the benefit of a well-staffed and well-stocked school library media center also have better test scores (Keith Lance of the Colorado State Library).

Helping children and young adults learn to read, read to learn, and read to enjoy is the responsibility of all libraries, not just the State Library or school libraries. Colorado has several projects underway that support this effort:

- **Power Libraries**, is an LSTA grant sponsored by the Colorado Council for Library Development and the Central Colorado Library System. This grant pairs High Performance Libraries with Mini-Grant Libraries. The High Performance Libraries have already proven their high integration and support for content standards and student achievement. They work with the team from the Mini-Grant Libraries in a mentor capacity to help develop services and methodologies to improve service to students and teachers in the Mini-Grant Schools.

- **Reading Readiness** is an LSTA grant sponsored by the Colorado State Library. The project has already trained staff of 10 public libraries in reading readiness schools for pre-schoolers, and those libraries trained staff in 30 day care centers around the state. This year we are training 60 more public library staff who have committed to training staff in 180 day care centers. A brochure, *Reading Tips for Parents*, is being distributed widely.

- **Web sites for Student Learning** is sponsored by the ACLIN Collection Development Committee. It is a companion to the Standards and Assessment Resource Bank and is focused on identifying and organizing Web sites that are aimed at student learners and relate to reading and geography standards.

- **Standards and Assessment Resource Bank** is sponsored by the State Library. It is aimed at teachers and administrators and includes all the standards and information about curriculum and assessments to use in helping kids reach the standards.

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What's Happening (Continued from page 1)

Libraries Support for Student Achievement (Continued from page 1)

- **The Colorado Online Library Instruction Project** is an LSTA project sponsored by the Denver Public Library. This project will develop instruction tutorials, lesson plans, and rubrics/assessments designed to improve the information literacy of Colorado's middle and high school students in support of Colorado's Model Content Standard in Reading and Writing. DPL will conduct training sessions around the state, and the tools will be available on ACLIN for any library to use.
- The **Colorado Digitization Project (CDP)**, an LSTA and Regional Systems project (not also supported by a federal grant), will be digitizing and linking to sites with primary Colorado history resources. Last summer, CDP worked with a teacher institute on the Colorado Coal Field War in Ludlow, Colorado, making history come alive a new and stimulating way.
- The **Colorado Talking Book Library (CTBL)** has increased its emphasis and service to learning disabled students in school. CTBL's collection is available to support students with reading difficulties who need assistance in their studies or to read recreationally.
- **Teen-Read Week** is sponsored by the American Library Association with help in Colorado from the State Library and local libraries. The theme this year is Reading Rocks: Read for the Fun of It. The goal is to build reading habits and skills that lead to success in school and a lifetime of learning and enjoyment.
- The **Summer Reading Program** is sponsored by the Colorado Center for the Book and the State Library. The program supports libraries throughout Colorado, with the themes Books on Stage for younger kids and Summer Scene for 6th grade and up. Next spring there will be a major campaign to help K-12 schools to recruit kids to participate in local summer reading programs to help them maintain their reading levels.
- **CDE Regional Teams** are part of an organizational restructuring at the Department of Education. Each of five regional teams has a State Library staff member assigned to help support efforts to improve student achievement using library and school media resources.
- *The Impact of School Media Centers on Student Achievement* is the now famous Keith Lance study. Keith's study was originally funded by the US Department of Education in 1992. This past year, Keith received an LSTA grant to repeat the study using Colorado's CSAP scores. Results are due this spring.

There is nothing more vital to society than people who can and do read. Libraries have always been prominent in this effort. Colorado's new emphasis on standards and assessment and accountability raises the stakes for all, and libraries should be in the center of these efforts.

Centennial Ceases as Print Publication

Centennial State Libraries has been available on the Web as well as in print for the past several years. Beginning with the January 2000 issue, Centennial will cease as a print publication and be published exclusively on the Web as Centennial State Libraries Online. Making the transition to an electronic publication will allow us to include more current information and will generate significant savings in design, printing, and postage costs.

To accommodate the needs those who do not have Web access at home, work, or at a local library, we are offering a print copy of the Web newsletter on at least a temporary basis. If you do not have Web access and would like to receive a print version of Centennial State Libraries Online beginning in January, please complete the information below and return it to by mail or fax to: Linda Kierstead, Colorado State Library, 201 East Colfax Ave. #309, Denver, CO 80203; fax 303/866-6940.

Reading Tips for Parents Available

The Colorado State Library has developed a brochure entitled Reading Tips for Parents. Copies were distributed in the monthly mailing from the State Library.

The brochure offers tips and ideas on how to read to children and how to set an atmosphere for reading activities. It also includes general-reading tips and age appropriate ideas and techniques from birth to 6 years of age. The English version is already available, and the Spanish version is being proofed for printing.

To receive copies of the brochure, contact Dan Petro by email

<petro_d@cde.state.co.us> or phone 303/866-6909. Include your name, library, the number of brochures you are requesting, and the address you want them sent to. The brochure will also be available on the Colorado State Library Web page soon <http://www.cde.state.co.us/index_library.htm>.

State Publications

Student Achievement

The Colorado Department of Education is concerned with student achievement in grades K-12. Many print and electronic publications of the department support that effort. Listed below are selected CDE Web sites, as well as print titles that are available to borrow from the State Publications Library.

The following are Web sites on the CDE Home Page related to this topic:

- **Standards/Assessment Resource Bank** is a collection of information and documents on standards-based education in Colorado: <<http://www.aclin.org/sarb>>.
- **Student Assessment Page** includes student test results for 1997-99 and related links: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/index_assess.htm>.
- **K-12 Academic Standards Page** contains standards documents in PDF format: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/index_stnd.htm>
- **Information Literacy page** provides the Model Information Literacy Guidelines in various formats: <<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/slinfolitindex.htm>>.

The following are print reports available to borrow from the State Publications Library:

Annual report on the Colorado Student Assessment Program student performance in reading comprehension, third grade, & reading and writing, fourth grade. . . /prepared for the Colorado General Assembly by the Colorado Department of Education. ED2/102.10/1998.

CSAP update/Colorado Student Assessment Program. ED2/102.10/Sept.1999

How are Colorado students and schools measuring up? A parent's guide to the Colorado Student Assessment Program. ED2/102.2/M46/1998/2. Denver, CO: CONNECT, [1998]. 1 folded sheet ([8]p.)

How are Colorado students and schools measuring up? A teacher's guide to the Colorado Student Assessment Program. ED2/102.2/M46/1998. Denver, CO: CONNECT, [1998] [16]p.

Making standards work!: history: a teacher's guide to contextual learning: integrating academic content standards with career development and workplace competencies/developed by the Colorado Department of Education in conjunction with the Colorado School-to-Career Partnership. ED1/20.2/H62/1999. [54]p.

Making standards work!: reading & writing: a teacher's guide to integrating academic content standards and assess-

ments with workplace competencies and school-to-career activities/developed by the Colorado Department of Education in conjunction with the Colorado School-to-Career Partnership. ED1/20.2/R22/1998. [53]p.

Recipe for success: a Colorado parent's guide to improving school quality and student achievement. ED12/4.2/R24/1999. Denver, CO: Partnerships/Goals 2000, Colorado Dept. of Education, [1999]. 135p.

The Road to high achievement: standards, assessment and accountability. ED5/90.15/1999. Denver, Colo.: [Colorado Dept. of Education, Research and Evaluation Unit. [2]p.

Students with special needs and the Colorado Student Assessment Program. ED12/1.2/AS7/1998. [Denver, Colo.]: Special Education Unit, Colorado Dept. of Education. 1 folded sheet ([8]p.)

Teachers' guide to the Colorado student assessment program for fifth grade mathematics: an assessment of kindergarten through fourth grade benchmarks. ED2/102.2/M42/1998. Denver, Colo.: Colorado Dept. of Education; Teaming for Results; CONNECT; 1 v. (various paging)

Teachers' guide to the Colorado student assessment program for eighth grade mathematics: an assessment of fifth through eighth grade benchmarks. ED2/102.2/M42/1999. Denver, Colo.: Colorado Dept. of Education. 1 v. (various pagings)

Teachers' guide to the Colorado student assessment program for eighth grade science: an assessment of fifth through eighth grade benchmarks. ED2/102.2/SC2/1999. Denver, Colo.: Colorado Dept. of Education. 253 p.

The following titles were developed by the Standards and Assessment Development and Implementation Council of the Colorado State Board of Education.

Colorado model content standards, civics. ED1/20.2/C49/1998.

Colorado model content standards, economics. ED1/20.2/M97/1998.

Colorado model content standards, foreign language. ED1/20.2/F76/1997.

Colorado model content standards for geography. ED1/20.2/G29/1995.

Colorado model content standards for history. ED1/20.2/H62/1995.

Colorado model content standards for mathematics. ED1/20.2/M42/1995.

Colorado model content standards, music. ED1/20.2/M97/1997.

Colorado model content standards, physical education. ED1/20.2/P56/1997.

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Colorado model content standards for reading and writing.
ED1/20.2/R34/1995.

Colorado model content standards for science.
ED1/20.2/SC2/1995.

Colorado model content standards, visual arts.
ED1/20.2/AR7/1997.

To borrow any of these print publications, contact the State Publications Library, 201 E. Colfax Ave., Room 314, Denver, CO 80203; 303/866-6725; fax 303/866-6940. Hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Publications may also be available at depository libraries that carry state government documents, or through interlibrary loan. For information, access the Web site at <<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/slstpubs.htm>>.

Drama is Center Stage for the Colorado 2000 Summer Reading Program

The focus of the Colorado 2000 Summer Reading Program (SRP) is drama, a subject that lends itself to an abundance of activities, entertainment, and creative expression. And, for the first time, a theme for young adults grades 6 through 12 joins the offering for the younger set.

Books on Stage, for pre-kindergarten to 6th graders, features the intriguing and delightful art of award-winning illustrator/author Steven Kellogg. Kellogg's work will decorate the manual, poster, bookmarks, and other items for the SRP. Kellogg has published over 90 books for children. He was presented with the 1987 David McCord Citation and the 1989 Regina Award for his distinguished contribution to children's literature. In 1998 he was the recipient of the Jo Osborne Award for Humor in Children's Literature. The SRP illustration shows animals

(Pinkerton-style dog, pigs, mouse, and other creatures) performing to an audience of pigs feeding their bodies as well as their minds.

Art for Summer Scene, the young adult SRP, was created by Castle Rock teen artist Cameron Armstrong. Already the recipient of recognition locally for his talent, Armstrong appeals to teens with an illustration of an actor taking bows for books.

The volunteer SRP Advisory Committee of librarians and community representatives has developed items to assist public libraries and schools in encouraging students to read:

- A large manual containing resources such as crafts, play scripts, clip art, songs, story lists, entertainers, games, and other items about drama, stage, comedy, films, and acting.
- Promotion/recognition materials, posters, reading logs, book-

CENTENNIAL STATE LIBRARIES

(ISSN 0887-1116) is published monthly by the Colorado State Library, Colorado Department of Education, 201 East Colfax Avenue, Room 309, Denver, CO 80203; telephone 303/866-6900. Periodicals Postage is paid at Denver, CO.

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to: Centennial State Libraries, Colorado State Library, 201 East Colfax Avenue, Room 309 Denver, CO 80203.

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CDE does not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or age in access to, employment in, or in the provision of any of CDE's programs, benefits, or activities.

marks, stickers, Web site.

·An outreach effort to schools to ensure that all interested students learn about their local Summer Reading Programs.

The SRP is presented by the Colorado Center for the Book each year, with the

assistance of the Colorado State Library, private sponsors, and the Advisory Committee. Many of the state's public libraries use these materials. Reading experts agree that children who read recreationally during the summer maintain and increase their reading skills.

Early-bird cost for a kit, which includes 3 posters, program manual, master

copy of reading log, master copy of certificate, and pack of 10 bookmarks, is \$16 plus \$5 handling. Materials will be shipped no later than February 2000. The Colorado Center for the Book is a statewide non-profit organization affiliated with the Library of Congress. The Center's mission is to promote a love of reading and literacy. For information about the SRP or Colorado Center for the Book, call 303/839.3320, visit the Web site at <<http://www.aclin.org/~ccftb/>>, or contact Bonnie McCune, 303/866.6891, email <mccune_b@cde.state.co.us>. An order form can be faxed to you.



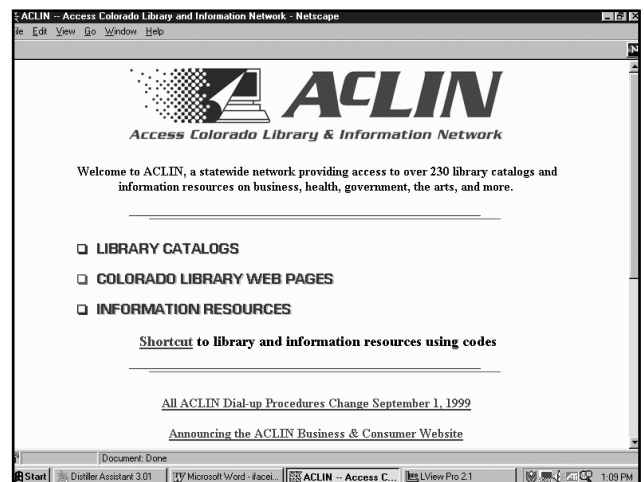
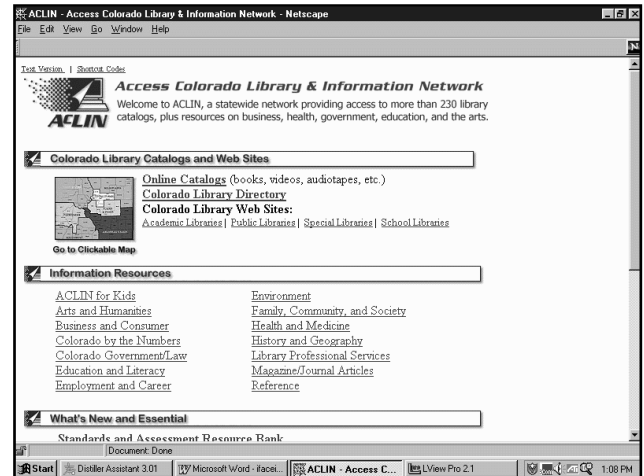
ACLIN Update

by Mary McCarthy, ACLIN Staff Librarian, <marymc@sni.net>

New Frontpage Interface Debuts ACLIN has a new look! We have redesigned the ACLIN frontpage to make the interface more intuitive and accessible for a variety of users. Volunteer evaluators representing various library types from each of the Regional Library Services Systems took part in the redesign. These two groups of volunteers tested and discussed the interface designs, and their suggestions were incorporated into the final design.

The interface redesign examined several points, including accessibility, functionality, and aesthetic quality in different graphical browsers, as well as text browser capabilities. Reviewers were encouraged to evaluate the new design in a variety of browser environments, including lynx browsers, using the ACLIN dial-up numbers. The final design was then checked by a staff member at Colorado Assisted Technology to ensure the interface would be accessible to all.

Thanks to the many volunteer reviewers who took so much time to help us create a more appealing interface. Their hard work, suggestions, and lively discussions make our interface stronger.



Grants Coming to Colorado Public Libraries

by Rose Nelson, Technology Consultant, <nelson_r@cde.state.co.us>

The Colorado State Library received news from the Gates Library Initiative (GLI) that the statewide application for computer grants has been accepted by the GLI. Denver Public Library, Jefferson County Public Library, and the Pikes Peak Library District libraries serving populations over 300,000 will be the first candidates in Colorado eligible to apply for Gates grants through a new accelerated program. This program quickens the process of receiving grant awards while giving large libraries the flexibility of receiving

cash awards instead of a specific computer model and bundled software packs. These libraries will be able to apply for computer labs as well.

The GLI has already awarded two rounds of grant funding to states with the highest poverty levels. Colorado is part of a third round to receive grant funding. Implementation of round three grants, targeted towards libraries serving a population of 300,000 or less, begins in February 2001.

The Gates Library Initiative is a non-profit organization founded by Bill and Melinda Gates to award \$200 million to

11,000 libraries in the US and Canada for public access computers and staff training for low income populations. To date, the GLI has funded over 1,300 libraries in 28 states. Libraries serving a population with 10-percent poverty rating as defined by the 1990 U.S. census bureau are eligible for funding.

The purpose of the GLI is to assist public libraries in providing public access computing and digital information to people in low-income communities and those who do not have ready access to the Internet. The GLI also provides grant workshops, training, and technical support to library staff to sustain computer

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Grants Coming to Colorado Public Libraries (Continued from page 6)

access over time. Libraries must also be committed to sustaining the grants by providing in house computer support and purchasing computer upgrades or new computers.

The number of computers a library in a 10-percent poverty area receives depends on the total population of the service area. A library serving a population of 5,000 people is eligible to receive one stand alone PC, one printer, and Internet connecting hardware. A library serving a population of 100,000 or greater is eligible for a Web server, a router, and a full training lab.

For more information about the Gates Library Initiative, check out the Web site at <<http://www.gli.org/GLI/>>. For information specific to Colorado Gates grants contact Rose Nelson at the Colorado State Library 303/866-6946 or email <nelson_r@cde.state.co.us>.

Colorado State Library's Library Research Director Keith Curry Lance attended and presented at the third International Conference on Performance Measurement in Library and Information Services. The event, sponsored by the University of Northumbria at Newcastle library

school, took place at Longhirst Hall near Newcastle, England, from August 27 to September 1, 1999.

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Library News

The Bemis Public Library (Littleton) celebrated the beginning of a new millennium by burying a time capsule in September on the library grounds. The day's festivities included music and food, storytelling, and a costume show featuring outfits worn by women in Colorado's history. Over 200 entries with suggestions of items to be placed in the time capsule were received in a contest held in April. Eighty-five items were selected, and winners of the contest ranged in age from six to seventy-seven. Items included a Beanie Baby, current money, electronic games, local newspaper, bus schedule, Bronco shirt, Barbie doll, best-selling books such as *The Century* by Peter Jennings, a telephone book, a pager, and a cellphone. The time capsule will be opened in 100 years. For additional information, contact the library at 303/795-3961.

The Denver Public Library showcases an important link between pioneering photographs and ground breaking art in *The Original Motion Picture Show: The Photography of Eadweard Muybridge*. In conjunction with the Denver Art Museum's Impressionism exhibit, 15 sequences of Muybridge photographs will be on display in the Central Library's fifth floor Western Art Gallery (14th Ave. & Broadway) through December 12. Muybridge was the first photographer to actually freeze motion, allowing the viewer to examine the series of movements that comprise a gesture. The exhibit is free and open to the public during regular library hours. For more information, phone 303/640-6377.

The latest edition, and first online version, of the *Colorado Library Association Intellectual Freedom Handbook* is now available on the CLA Web site: <<http://cla-web.org/if.htm>>.

The CLA Intellectual Freedom Committee considers the handbook to be a work-in-progress, as individual pieces, parts, and sections will be continually added, deleted, and/or revised by the committee to maintain the document's relevancy. Current "missing" sections include examples of related forms, letters, and policies which will be added in the coming months. Initially, these will be able to be printed out and used in hard copy format only. Eventually, however, to committee plans to enable people to complete and submit forms, surveys, etc. online, with the resulting information available to whomever may need it. The online manual also contains links to other agencies and/or documents related to the issue of intellectual freedom.

Thanks to all past and current committee members for their hard work to make this possible.

Joanie Howland has been named director of the Cortez Public Library. Joanie left the Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Library in Towaoc to take the Cortez job. She is a graduate of the Emporia in the Rockies program and worked at the Cortez Public Library prior to entering library school.

Janet Swan Hill, Associate Director for Technical Services, **University of Colorado Libraries** (Boulder) and **Elayne S. Walstedter**, Outreach & Instruction Librarian, **Fort Lewis College** (Durango), were appointed to the American Library Association Core Values Task Force. The task force will draft a statement identifying and clarifying core values of the library profession. Clarification was a major recommendation of the Congress on Professional Education hosted by ALA in May 1999. The recommendation is available on the ALA Web site at <<http://www.ala.org/congress/>>.

Notes to Note

The 14th annual **Technology in Education (TIE) Conference** will take place in Snowmass June 24-27, 2000. This conference will model the use of technology integration into the classroom. Last year's conference offered over 200 different workshops by 140 different presenters, mostly classroom teachers, and most sessions take a hands-on approach. Dr. David Thornburg will be the keynote speaker on Sunday evening June 25th. The full four day package is \$295 or the two day conference is \$200. Both conference packages include daily lunches, the keynote banquet and the party. Lodging is not included with registration. Call the Snowmass Resort Association 800/598-2004 after February 1 for Lodging Reservations at special rates. Visit the TIE Web site at <<http://www.tie-online.org>> for information.

A free 27-page **executive summary of the National Evaluation of Library Power**, based at the University of Wisconsin, is available. Library Power worked through local education funds in 19 urban and poor rural districts around the country to revitalize school libraries as centers for learning. Findings describe changes in library facilities and collection development, student access, and professional collaboration for resource-based curriculum and instruction. The summary also identifies school reform dilemmas revealed in the evaluation. Request copies directly from <DWRD@wal-

lacefunds.org>. Library Power is a program of the DeWitt Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund.

The **31st Annual Colorado Interlibrary Loan Conference** will take place April 27-28, 2000 at the Denver Public Library. Conference agenda, along with information on speakers and registration fees will be available in late February. To receive a registration packet, send your name and address to: Franca Rosen, <frosen@jefferson.lib.co.us>, 303/275-2223.

The American Library Association will award 50 **Spectrum Scholarships** to library school students of color. The deadline for applications is April 1, 2000. The Spectrum Initiative provides scholarships, mentoring and leadership training to people of color who wish to become librarians. It is designed to increase recruitment from four population groups: African Americans, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Latinos/Hispanics, and Native Americans/American Indians from the US and Canada. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree. A list of library schools, a scholarship application, and requirements is online at <<http://www.ala.org/spectrum/>>. Contributions to the Spectrum Scholarship Endowment may be sent to the American Library Association, Spectrum, The Fund for America's Libraries, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

Centennial

STATE LIBRARIES

Centennial State Libraries is published monthly by the Colorado State Library, Colorado Department of Education; Kathleen D. Sagee, Editor; phone 303/866-6900; fax 303/866-6940; email <Sagee_K@cde.state.co.us>.

COLORADO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, SEATED JANUARY 1999: Clair Orr, Chair, 4th Congressional District, Kersey; Patricia M. Chlouber, Vice Chair, 3rd Congressional District, Leadville; Ben L. Alexander, Member-at-Large, Montrose; John Burnett, 5th Congressional District, Colorado Springs; Randy Dehoff, 6th Congressional District, Littleton; Patti Johnson, 2nd Congressional District, Broomfield; Gully Stanford, 1st Congressional District, Denver.
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Federal funds from Library Services and Technology Act/CFDA 45.310 are financing 100% of the costs of this publication.

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