



Centennial State Libraries

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Principals Celebrated for Teamwork with School Librarians

Twenty-three school principals were recognized recently for outstanding teamwork with school librarians.

The Colorado Department of Education, Colorado State Library, Colorado Association of School Librarians, Colorado Library Consortium and the University of Denver recently recognized exceptional public school principals who support collaboration between classroom teachers and certified teacher-librarians, thereby leading to improved academic achievement.

The 23 schools received recognition at the Colorado Association of Libraries conference in Denver on Thursday, Nov. 8, at a special program entitled, "Celebrate a Winning Team: Principals and School Librarians; Ingredients for Student Academic Achievement."

Principals who were selected demonstrated qualities of:

- Integrating the school library media program into the curriculum of the school.

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- Impacting student achievement through collaborative, standards-based instruction.
 - Establishing a common vision with school librarians and teachers for integrating 21st century literacy skills into the curriculum.
 - Preparing students for life-long learning through utilization of a diversity of tools and resources for research skills instruction, critical thinking, comprehension, problem-solving, and independent reading.

“The principals selected for this honor know that essential skills for information and communication technologies literacy are taught not in isolation, but within the learning process,” said Jody Howard, independent school library consultant at the Colorado State Library. “A team in which principal, teachers and librarians work collaboratively is the ingredient for student academic achievement.”

The schools and principals who received plaques and professional books as part of their honor, were Kathleen Smith (Cherry Creek High School, Cherry Creek Schools); Carol Peters (Clear Lake Middle School, Adams 12); William Kempzell (Cotton Creek Elementary, Adams 12); Cathy O'Donnell (Erie Elementary School, St. Vrain Schools); Barb Donahue (Foothills Elementary School, Jefferson County Schools); Linda Witulski (Gateway High School, Aurora Public Schools); Kathy Chandler (Green Gables Elementary School, Jefferson County); Joan Watson and her assistant principal, Karla Schriener (Horizon High School, Adams 12); Jeannie Peppel, John F. Kennedy High School, Denver); Richard Sinclair (Kaiser Elementary, Denver); Cathy Nolan (Legacy High School, Adams 12); Terry Miller (Lewis-Palmer Middle School, Lewis-Palmer Schools); Barbara DeSpain (Lois Lenski Elementary School, Littleton); Barbara Bishop (Midland International Elementary School, Colorado Springs District 11); Larry Cutter (Mitchell High School, Colorado Springs District 11); Ann Alfonso (O'Dea Core Knowledge Elementary School, Poudre School District); Wendy Birhanzel (Patriot Elementary School, Fountain-Fort Carson School District); Susan Paulson (Ranch Creek Elementary School, Academy School District 20); Julie Foster (Rudy Elementary School, Colorado Springs District 11); Wendy Pierce (Sabin International Elementary School, Denver); Janette Walters, (Thornton High School, Adams 12); Kerry Buhler (Upper Blue Elementary School, Summit County Schools) and Sandra Bickel (Webber Junior High School, Poudre School District).

The event was funded by a Library Services and Technology Act grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

For more information, contact Bonnie F. McCune, Library Community Programs Consultant, at mccune_b@cde.state.co.us

Return on Investment Resources for Everyone...Really!

Whether you're a public library director or a public library user, there is a return on investment (ROI) resource for you. Check out the...

- Calculators

Personal ROI Calculator www.lrs.org/public/roi/usercalculator.php

This online tool calculates the individual estimated return on investment for the Colorado public library of your choice. Other states have done ROI calculators, but not like this one!

Do you work in a public library? Well, this calculator can be customized for your library's website. See DPL's at:

www.denverlibrary.org/news/dplnews/roi_calculator.html (it is also linked from their homepage). Or if you prefer, it can be a direct link from your library's website. Link to the calculator on the LRS website and your library's name can be pre-filled in the drop-down box. Either way, it can be a fun, yet powerful tool to demonstrate the dollar-and-cents value of your library.

Library ROI Calculator www.lrs.org/public/roi/calculator.php

This tool estimates the ROI for your library using a peer-based return on investment calculator.

- Other Resources

At the 2007 CAL Conference, Zeth Lietzau and Nicolle Steffen did a presentation on the ROI study for public libraries. The PowerPoint presentation and other resources discussed can be found on the ROI page at: www.lrs.org/public/roi/.

Other resources on the ROI page (www.lrs.org/public/roi/) include individual reports for participating libraries, newspaper articles, and links to other studies.

Recently added is a function called "LRS Conversation" so that you can share your comments online about the ROI study or the personal ROI calculator.

Dolores Public Library District Finalist for El Pomar Foundation Award for Excellence in the Community Category

Located in a small town in the Southwest, Dolores Public Library District has been described by its patrons as "the heartbeat of the community," and receives more than 44,000 visits each year. The library offers a range of programming for all

ages, from after-school reading groups and a summer reading program to introductory computer classes for adults and tutoring space for home-schooled students. In 2006, the community came together in support of their library with land, supplies and funding for the construction of a new \$2 million facility, which will ensure that the people of Dolores have a beautiful gathering place and resource center for many years to come.



Awards for Excellence is an El Pomar Foundation Community Stewardship Program established in 1989 to recognize and reward Colorado nonprofit organizations, businesses, and individuals that serve their communities with distinction and excellence.

Honorees do not apply for the awards, but are nominated and selected by the Awards for Excellence Selection Commission. Commission members, appointed by El Pomar Trustees, represent a variety of interests and share a history of leadership throughout the state. At a presentation banquet each fall, honorees receive monetary grants, commemorative awards, and are featured in video presentations that highlight their work and service.

For more information on the El Pomar Awards for Excellence visit:
www.elpomar.org/page.asp?pageid=0|6|38&id=0|awards_for_excellence

Delight in Diversity News

- Grants for Promising Practices by 11/30

To encourage Colorado's libraries to share information about their lessons and successes, a \$100 grant will be given to one library that enters its promising practice on the Special Populations Promising Practices database BY NOVEMBER 30. This is the interactive part of the site. You are the best evaluator of what works. You may be honored for your effort!

Go to www.cde.state.co.us/scripts/cdelibSpecPops/practicemenu.asp to see the site.

Go to www.cde.state.co.us/scripts/cdelibSpecPops/requestaccess.asp to request a password so you can enter a practice.

This can be a project, a service, something old, something new, something ongoing, or even just an idea or a plan. Recently added was the Hispanic Selection, a collection at Las Animas Bent County Library, which provides service to the underserved non English speaking population, allowing them access to information for student achievement, lifelong learning and entertainment.

- Trainings are being scheduled:

CLiC: In cooperation with CLiC, we'll have half-day diversity/inclusivity trainings as well as shorter workshops in February and April.

Summit: A two-day summit is being planned for July or August.

Others: We'll be happy to work with any group to schedule a short or long training tailored to your needs

- "ALLY! The Story of Choices" is a new book available from the Anti-Defamation League (Rocky Mountain)

Created by 20 Colorado high school students who participated in the Anti-Defamation League's 2006 Robert B. Sturm Youth Leadership Mission to Washington, D.C., the children's book, challenge others to become allies against bias. "We decided on bullying as the theme of the book because that was the most prevalent problem when we were in elementary and middle school," Abi Waldman, a senior at Thornton High School and co-author of the book said. "It's not always easy to know what you can do about bullying and we felt it was an issue that hadn't been fully addressed by schools, parents or kids." The 36-page book is being distributed to free to elementary and middle school students and the general public. Copies can be requested by calling ADL at 303-830-7177 ext. 212 or emailing Denver@adl.org.

- Skipping Stones honors 25 exceptional books with the 14th Annual Skipping Stones Honor Awards

Together, these books encourage understanding of the world's diverse cultures, as well as nature and ecological richness. They promote cooperation, nonviolence, respect for differing viewpoints, and close relationships in human societies. See www.skippingstones.org/sample-36.htm#awards. There are also entries from youngsters about their experiences with diversity and inclusivity. Skipping Stones is a nonprofit magazine for youth that encourages communication, cooperation, creativity and celebration of cultural and environmental richness. It provides a playful forum for sharing ideas and experiences among youth from different countries and cultures.

Free Early Literacy Workshop for Parents and Caregivers

The College Hill Library will present a free training for parents, caregivers and anyone interested in children's early literacy on Tuesday, November 27 from 6:30—8:30 p.m.

The event will be held at the College Hill Library on the Front Range Community College campus, 3705 West 112th Ave., in Westminster.

Bonnie McCune, community programs consultant for the Colorado State Library, will teach parents and caregivers how they can help children gain the skills they need to be ready for school.

Specifically, parents and caregivers will learn ways to:

- Build literacy into everyday activities
- Help children love books and reading
- Prepare children to be ready to learn reading in school
- Use resources from public libraries for activities

The training is geared for children seven years old and younger. McCune will also lead fun activities that parents and caregivers can use at home or in childcare settings.

For more information, contact Bonnie McCune at mccune_b@cde.state.co.us or call 303-866-6891.

Erie Community Library Grand Opening

The Board of Trustees and Staff of the Weld Library District are holding a Grand Opening for the Erie Community Library.

Saturday, January 12, 2008
400 Powers Street Erie, CO
80516



The poster features a purple header with the text "Grand OPENING 2008" in a stylized font, with "ERIE COMMUNITY LIBRARY" below it. To the right, it says "SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 2008" and "400 Powers Street Erie, CO 80516". The main body of the poster is white with black text. It reads: "The Board of Trustees and Staff of the Weld Library District cordially invite you and your family to the opening of the Erie Community Library". Below this is a small graphic of three squares. To the right, there are two time slots: "10:00 a.m." with a list of activities: "Guest Speakers", "Lorraine David Children's Room Dedication", and "Ribbon Cutting"; and "10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m." with a list: "Tours, Refreshments and Entertainment". At the bottom, there is a photograph of the Erie Community Library building and the Weld Library District logo with the website "www.MyLibrary.us".

Recently Published Fast Facts from Library Research Service

No. 254 [Challenged Materials in Colorado Public Libraries, 2006](#) by Jennifer French

In 2006, there were 23 public libraries reported receiving formal challenges. The 63 challenges to materials and events are the lowest reported since 2003.

View this and other Fast Facts at www.lrs.org/fastfacts.php

Out & About with CSL Staff

- Diane Walden attended CAL and presented "Out for Life" for attendees.
- Erica MacCreaigh spent eight days visiting seven correctional facility libraries to provide staff training, conduct interviews for two open positions, and review security practices and written policies. She also attended CAL and gave a presentation on providing inclusive library services to diverse populations.
- Diana Reese traveled to Chicago to meet with other members of the ALA-APA Library Support Staff Certification Project Advisory Council. The project is funded through an Institute of Museum and Library Services grant.
- Kris Johnson has been working with DU MLIS students to incorporate them into the AskColorado schedule as volunteer staffers. She gave a lecture on virtual reference to Clara Sitter's reference course and followed-up with a hands-on training session.
- Bonnie McCune presented Every Child Ready to Read @your library at the College Hill Library (Westminster) for a group of licensed home care providers. She also participated at the CAL conference with a preconference on ECRR, a program on volunteer recruitment and retention, a brainstorming session on statewide early literacy, and poster sessions on Special Populations activities and Library People--Friends of Colorado Libraries.
- In November, Sharon Morris visited Arapahoe Library District, Rangeview Library District, and Weld Library District to train and assist with E-rate questions and information. She also held E-rate training at East Morgan County Library District in Brush.
- Teresa Allen provided training and consulted with library staff in four youth correctional facilities in Colorado Springs, Brighton, and Denver. She also visited five libraries within the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind in Colorado Springs.
- Nance Nassar presented a pre-conference at CAL, "Celebrate a Winning Team," to recognize school principals and their librarians. She also presented "Better Library Instruction Using Assessments" workshops in Denver and Westminster. Along with workshops, Nance held Power Libraries Program trainings in Colorado Springs and Westminster.

Survey of Library Cafes

The Survey of Library Cafes presents data from more than forty academic and public libraries about their cafes and other food service operations.

The report gives extensive data on library cafe sales volume, best selling products, impact on library maintenance costs, reasons for starting a cafe, affect on library traffic and many other issues regarding the decision to start and manage a library cafe.

The 60 page report presents data useful in managing a library cafe.

For a complete overview of this report click on:

www.researchandmarkets.com/product/c3647c/survey_of_library_cafes

Library Nostalgia

Just for fun, check out this “virtual museum” of library artifacts

www.heidihoerman.com/museumca/index.html



After taking a tour of the artifacts, Eugene Hainer, Director of the Colorado State Library, added a few thoughts. “Thanks for the visit down memory lane. I've only been doing this since 1977, but have seen or used almost everything depicted here. Saw a few omissions. They reference the 8" floppy disk that predated the 5.25" one, but there were also disk canisters. And punch cards; and (monochrome) dumb terminals. “

“We used a weird little charging thing (name eludes me) at CU whereby you punched a bookcard along the edge and filed alphabetically. Daily one ran an ice pick through the slips. Everything that fell out was OD. Renewals were made by closing the old hole w/ a sliver of tape. High tech stuff. Start taking those photos now so in 2037 you can show the young-uns what a "Dell flat screen" looked like.”

Bibliography of Favorite Family Holiday Books

Based on feedback from librarians around the state, the Colorado State Library has created a bibliography of favorite family holiday books. To see the bibliography, visit www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/download/pdf/HolidayFunBibliography.pdf