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State Librarian Reports FY10 Library Funding Intact

By Margaret Conroy

Considering the national prevailing economic environment, the Missouri Legislature and Governor have spared public libraries from state budget cuts in FY10. I am pleased to report:

The Missouri Legislature passed House Bill 12, the Secretary of State's annual appropriation, with few changes to the direct funding lines affecting libraries. State Aid/Equalization and REAL Program funding remain stable at the levels appropriated for the current year. For State Aid/Equalization, the amount is \$4,004,456, which will continue to fund a 55 cents per capita grant to qualifying libraries and equalization payments to library districts in greater economic need. The REAL Program funding that pays for public library internet connections and online databases through MOREnet is steady at \$3,109,250. Other library related programs, such as funding for Literacy Investment for Tomorrow (LIFT), also remained untouched.

The Athletes and Entertainers Income Tax appropriation (A&E) will be funded at somewhat less than the Governor's recommendation of \$1.8 million for libraries, the level appropriated (but not fully funded) in FY09. The legislature reduced the amount to \$1,607,500. The A&E funding is distributed to public libraries based on a formula that accounts for a library district's number of public service outlets and its previous year's collection expenditure. A&E funding supports library materials purchases.

Funding for the Secretary of State's Office operating budget was reduced by 5%. This will result in a cut to the Missouri State Library's travel budget as well as to other activities supported by general revenue. The state fiscal year 2010 began July 1, 2009.

You Ask – We Deliver: LSTA Plan’s 2010 Highlights

By Debbie Musselman, LSTA Grants Officer

As State Library staff participated in town hall meetings and attended various regional gatherings, active attendee input identified and directed the focus of Missouri’s LSTA Plan for 2008-2012. For 2010, these particular LSTA priorities will be in the forefront:

- **Technology Funding:** The popular Technology Mini Grant and Technology Ladder grants were retained. Additionally, the Gates Opportunity Online Hardware Grants became available to Missouri and will be managed by the State Library, and has 75 libraries participating. These grants are only open to [public libraries](#).
- **Online Resource Expansion:** A statewide committee is at work identifying online resources appropriate for purchase through a shared cost pool with funding to come from participating libraries and LSTA funds. New databases must allow remote access and be of interest statewide and across institutions. The funding model is in development.
- **Courier Service:** The State Library recently awarded a grant to the Kansas City Metropolitan Library and Information Network to offer courier service for every tax-supported public library in Missouri. Libraries with an existing contract for this service will be able to increase the number of deliveries per week. Providing state funding for the courier service will improve turn-around time for interlibrary loan (ILL) requests, streamline and improve library staff workflows, increase the number of loans and requests, lower the cost for each ILL transaction, and help to equalize access to resources for medium- and small size libraries.
- **New Training Opportunities:** Summer and Winter Institute, Summer Reading Program and Every Child Ready to Read workshops have always been popular. This fiscal year the State Library will be adding staff development workshops on: serving teens, serving adults, identifying your local community to develop or expand library services, and improving your library’s technology infrastructure.
- **Improved Communication Mechanism:** The State Library anticipates creating a Missouri WebJunction portal with content targeting Missouri library projects, access to expanded online courses, a one-stop calendar listing ALL of the Missouri-specific workshops and deadlines, and making use of social networking tools such as RSS feeds, blogs and wikis.

For more information, see Missouri’s online [LSTA FY2010 Project Plan](#).

MOREnet Spring Internet Safety Event Wrap-up

By Anissa Lockett, MOREnet Member Communications and Events Manager

On April 28, MOREnet conducted its spring 2009 Internet safety discussion. April’s “Cyberbullying” topic was one of a series of Internet safety related programs that targets teenagers. More than 1,500 students from 14 states and three countries participated in this discussion session via videoconference or live video stream and were able to interact with both the professional educators of RoundTrips and Lt. Joe Laramie of the Missouri Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. Response to the discussion has been positive, and future events are being planned. The next event will be announced over the summer and posted on the <http://besafe.more.net> Web site.

Whew! 104 LSTA 2009 Grants Awarded \$1,034,717

By Debbie Musselman, LSTA Grants Officer

To date, 104 grant projects totaling \$1,034,717 have been funded in 2009 under Missouri's current LSTA Five-Year Plan (2008-2012). A summary of the grant awards follows:

- **Long-Term Grant Projects, July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010**
There were 11 projects awarded in June 2009 totaling \$274,948.
 - Retrospective Conversion (2) \$75,952
 - Spotlight on Literacy (5) \$44,359
 - Technology Ladder (4) \$154,637
- **Long-Term Grant Projects, February 1, 2009 to January 31, 2010**
There were 12 projects awarded in January 2009 totaling \$162,365.
 - Digital Imaging (5) \$99,813
 - Website Makeover (7) \$62,552
- **Short-Term Grant Projects, April 1, 2009 to August 31, 2009**
There were 40 projects awarded in March 2009 totaling \$214,209.
 - Excellence in Library Service (2) \$ 9,419
 - Programs for Targeted Populations (6) \$ 15,891
 - Spanish That Works (2) \$ 4,792
 - Technology Mini-Grants (30) \$184,107
- **Intermediate Grant Projects, May 1, 2009 to August 31, 2009**
There were 4 projects awarded in April 2009 totaling \$166,287.
 - Technology Ladder
- **Intermediate Grant Projects, February 1, 2009 to August 31, 2009**
There were 37 projects awarded in January 2009 totaling \$216,908.
 - Early Literacy Pilot Project (19) \$66,477
 - Summer Library Program (18) \$150,431

More detail about awarded projects is available on the LSTA grants Web page at www.sos.mo.gov/library/development/grants.asp#lsta.

Leadership Transition Announced for MOREnet

Bill Mitchell, MOREnet's executive director for the past 18 years, announced new leadership will be coming to the organization. David Russell, Chief of Staff to President Forsee, is the lead agent in a search for suitable candidates. Representatives from the MOREnet Council will also be involved in the new director selection process. With the anticipated federal stimulus grants, new opportunities for MOREnet's Next Generation Network and the Cisco Telepresence project are in the offing. The organization can look forward to realigning its operations and key staff positions in a continuing evolution of offered services.

Mitchell will remain on staff as executive director through the recruitment period to shepherd MOREnet's federal stimulus efforts as well as provide assistance during the leadership and operational transition.

MOREnet, guided by Mitchell for nearly two decades, has accomplished many great things under a focused strategic plan. Financially strong, MOREnet has benefitted from the membership's support. The organization and new leadership is poised to expand its network and services through various opportunities offered by the federal broadband stimulus programs.

Did You Know this Census Factoid?

All residents in the U.S. must be counted where they live and sleep most of the year. For the first time, the Census Bureau has a specific plan to contact traveling carnivals, circuses, and fairs to determine where they will be on Census Day 2010 and to make arrangements to distribute census forms to their employees. Traveling workers will be allowed to designate their "usual place of residence" – those who don't will be counted as residents of the city in which their show or event is stationed on Census Day.

Counting Down the Last Months to the 2010 Census

By Katina Jones, Statistical Research Analyst

The 2010 Census is less than a year away and preparations are in full swing for this national effort. The census will cover all 50 states, plus Washington, D.C., American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. It enumerates people of all ages, races and ethnic groups, both citizens and non-citizens, as mandated by the U.S. Constitution. The Census Bureau must count everyone and submit state population totals to the President of the United States by December 31, 2010. Like a snapshot, each 10-year census helps define who we are as a nation.

Responses to the 2010 Census questionnaire are required and protected by law. Each household's responses are kept confidential and combined with responses from other households across the country to provide summary of statistical data that is used by various local, state and federal agencies. The data obtained will determine how many representatives a state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives. Census data is also used to define state legislative districts, school district assignment areas and other important functional areas of local government.

Data about changes in communities are crucial not only to many planning decisions, such as where to provide services for the elderly, where to build new roads and schools or where to locate job training centers, but will also directly affect how more than \$300 billion per year in federal and state funding is allocated to communities for neighborhood improvements, public health, education, transportation and much more. That's more than \$3 trillion over a 10-year period.

Spending just a few minutes to fill out a census form will help ensure each community receives its fair share of federal and state funding. The decennial clock is running: get ready to say, "Count me in!"

2010 Census Timeline: Key Dates

Fall 2008	Recruitment begins for local census jobs for early census operations.
Spring 2009	Census employees go door-to-door to update address list nationwide.
Fall 2009	Recruitment begins for census takers needed for peak workload in 2010.
February-March 2010	Census questionnaires are mailed or delivered to households.
April 1, 2010	Census Day
May-	Census takers visit households that did not return a questionnaire by mail.
July 2010	
December 2010	By law, Census Bureau delivers population counts to President for apportionment.
March 2011	By law, Census Bureau completes delivery of redistricting data to states.

Important Links

2010 Census Web site: <http://2010.census.gov>

Census in Schools Web site: <http://www.census.gov/schools>

MO Libraries to Access New Database Service

By Jeanne Sullivan, MOREnet REAL Program Manager

In May, the Missouri State Library and MOREnet announced that Gale, Cengage Learning™ was awarded the contract for the general periodical, health, business and K-12 online resource databases. These databases, along with K-12 and newspaper subscriptions, are paid for by a state appropriation to the Missouri State Library for the REAL Program. The contracts are required to be bid on periodically. Representatives from academic, public and school libraries spent significant time reviewing the features of all qualified bids, while the University of Missouri Procurement and MOREnet staff evaluated pricing based on the RFP requirements. Please note that these online resources replace the previous database services available from EBSCO.

We hope you will take time to explore these resources, and find ways to present them to your customers. This database package includes new tools to assist business and entrepreneurs, and a Spanish language database, Informe. The Gale databases listed below were made available to all MOREnet members as of July 1, 2009:

- **Business & Company Resource Center**
Business journals, investment reports, company profiles, industry rankings
- **Small Business Resource Center**
Covers starting and operating a business with hundreds of sample business plans
- **Academic OneFile**
More than 5,000 full text titles and 7,300 peer-reviewed journals with a focus on content in major indices like BIOSIS, CINAHL, ERIC, MEDLINE and PsycINFO
- **General OneFile**
Find magazines, newspapers, multimedia through over 7,000 full-text periodical titles and numerous reference sets like Encyclopedia of World Biography and Gale Encyclopedia of Science
- **InfoTrac Collections**
Focused collections on numerous subjects to make it easier for patrons and students to find appropriate content. Collections include "Culinary Arts", "Diversity Studies", "Educator's Reference", "Environmental Studies and Policy", "Fine Arts and Music", "Gardening, Landscape and Horticulture", "General Science", "Home Improvement", "War & Terrorism" and many more!
- **Health & Wellness Resource Center with Alternative Health**
More than 860 full text publications, 550 refereed journals, and reference content including Clinical Reference Systems, Harvard Special Health Reports, PDR Family guides and USPDI, Vol.2: Advice for the Patient, 800 streaming videos from Healthology and custom Drugs and Herbal Remedies search
- **Health Reference Center Academic**
Research journal companion to the Health & Wellness Resource Center; over 700 refereed titles and over 1,000 videos of surgeries
- **Student Edition (InfoTrac) & Junior Edition (InfoTrac)**
Full text journal and reference content geared towards middle school and secondary school students
- **Kids InfoBits**
Aimed for elementary students, it contains full-text age-appropriate magazine and reference content
- **Custom Newspapers (InfoTrac)**
More than 1,000 titles including New York Times, Christian Science Monitor, The Times (London) and St. Louis Post-Dispatch; also contains selective full-text coverage of the Columbia Daily Tribune, Joplin Globe, Kansas City Star, Sedalia Democrat and St. Joseph News-Press

Recycle, Improve the Environment and Collect Greenbacks, too!

In an effort to enhance good stewardship of public funds, Jefferson County Library is committed to paper recycling. And it's paying off! Last year's paper recycling efforts garnered the library \$3,500, a 139% increase over the previous year. Not only were the additional funds a welcome addition to the bottom line, savings were also realized in reduced library trash collection costs as staff recycled cans, plastic and cardboard to reduce the landfill trash stream and better the environment.

- **Informe (Spanish periodical database)**

Provides indexing, images and full text of popular Hispanic magazines, not just translations! Covers popular news magazines, newspapers and scholarly journals

MOREnet worked closely with Gale to ensure the transition to the new resources is as smooth as possible. User training, a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and promotional materials have been developed to assist MOREnet members with a successful transition. We encourage staff to take advantage of the online tutorials available for each resource.

The Gale Discovering Collection, NewsBank and LearningExpress Library continue to be available for use by MOREnet member libraries and institutions. See www.more.net/online for a complete list of the online resources currently available.

Taking Interstate Resource Sharing to a New Level

By Susan Burton, Executive Director of KCMLIN

The Kansas City Metropolitan Library & Information Network (KCMLIN), a consortium serving approximately 200 library systems located in Missouri and Kansas, has entered into a collaborative arrangement with the Colorado Library Consortia (CLIC) to exchange materials between their library network's members. The new service called COKAMO began serving Colorado, Kansas and Missouri libraries on May 1, 2009.

"This is a great example of how libraries can collaborate during these tough economic times to provide expanded services to members that are cost effective and benefit the public," said Susan Burton, Executive Director of KCMLIN. "We anticipate a savings of over \$100,000 for libraries participating in this interlibrary loan and courier delivery service over the next year. These cost savings are a direct result of sending items over the KCMLIN Get Connected courier delivery service instead of mailing them through the postal service. During the first week of operation, 400 items were sent via the new COKAMO connection. If sent via the postal service, this would have cost libraries approximately \$1,600 in postage. However, libraries were able to send these at no additional fee through their Get Connected service with KCMLIN.

KCMLIN has provided interlibrary loan and courier delivery service for libraries in Missouri and Kansas for the past 31 years. It is a multi-type consortium with members from Public, Academic, Health Science, School, Law and Special libraries. The commitment to share resources has created a solid foundation of interlibrary loan in the community.

Last year, over 2 million items were interlibrary loaned and delivered by KCMLIN through Get Connected. KCMLIN has and will continue to look for collaborations to make library services stronger in the Midwest region. These services are fast, efficient and an effective use of library resources. Interlibrary loan opens the shelves of all libraries participating in the service to their customers – the possibilities are endless.

If you would like additional information on joining KCMLIN's Get Connected service, please contact Susan Burton at susanburton@kcmlin.org.

News of 2009's Winter & Summer Institutes

By Brandy Sanchez, Continuing Education Consultant

Nearly 65 participants from over 30 public library districts attended the 2009 Winter Library Skills Institute, which was held February 3-6 at the Best Western in Columbia. These four intensive days offered instruction for library staff without an advanced degree in library science to learn the basics of librarianship or update their library skills. The Winter Institute Program featured one basic skills class and the two advanced-skills classes, cataloging and collection development.

Experienced library professionals from around the state provided their expertise in the introductory basic course. Their individual overviews of library services touched on customer service, reference, youth services, collection development, outreach, and library governance in Missouri.

Erlene Dudley, director of Dulany Library at William Woods University, taught the cataloging advanced course in which she introduced the elements of cataloging, organizational procedures and standards to facilitate access to library materials.

Heather Hill, an instructor from the MU School of Information Science and Learning Technologies, led the collection development advanced course. Hill presented the essential aspects of collection development, such as the principles of collection analysis, community needs assessment, selection, acquisition, maintenance, weeding and policy development.

Overall, the 2009 Winter Institute provided a strong foundation in library science while providing the opportunity for Missouri library staff to exchange ideas. As one participant commented, "The presentations were excellent. There was so much useful information that will be applied immediately. Inspiring!"

The State Library hosted Summer Institute August 11-14 at the Best Western in Columbia. In addition to the always offered basic course, were this Institute's two advance courses: children's services and cataloging. Concurrent with Summer Institute was MOREnet's hosted Library Technology Institute. Participants of this training received an introduction to the Web site management software, Drupal. Registration for both programs began in mid-June and closed mid-July. Please contact Maria Hines, Interim Continuing Education Consultant, with questions or for more information about this or other State Library offered training programs at maria.hines@sos.mo.gov or 800-325-0131, ext. 8.



One fun evening elective session, courtesy of Teen Gaming presenters Angela Scott and Hollis Stoz (Daniel Boone Regional Library), had State Library CE Consultant Brandy Sanchez and Basic class attendee Jonathan Perry (St. Louis Public Library, Carpenter Branch) battling to be acknowledged as the "All Star Gaming Hero."

New Additions to Missouri Digital Heritage Web Site

By Carl Wingo, Technology and Digitization Services Consultant

The following is a linked listing of digital collections recently added to the Missouri Digital Heritage Web site. These collections include photos, maps, state publications plus four video presentations on Missouri history that were processed by the Secretary of State's Web Development team, Archives staff Tom Nield and Erin Sehorn, and State Library staff Haiying Qian and Tricia Walker.

[Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Missouri](#)

The Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Company, established in 1867, compiled and published maps of U.S. cities and towns for the fire insurance industry to assess the risk of insuring a particular property. The maps show location of water mains, fire alarms and fire hydrants. They are color-coded to identify the structure (adobe, frame, brick, stone, iron) of each building.

The [Historic "Blue Book" Photograph Collection](#) is a compilation of images considered for, or published in, the Official Manual of the State of Missouri. Topics covered include historic buildings and sites, academic buildings, parks, bridges, and state government buildings.

[Riches From the Earth](#)

This is a basic introduction to the geological and industrial heritage of the Tri-State Mineral District (SW Missouri, SE Kansas and NE Oklahoma), which was one of the richest mineral districts of the late 19th and early 20th centuries in the U.S. The collection contains photographs, postcards, printed documents and selected text articles.

[Putman Collection](#)

These portraits, agricultural and industrial scenes, and other images document life and buildings in Kansas City.

[Capitol Construction Photographs](#)

Local photographer Thomas Garfield Cooper (1882–1950) photographed the 1913 construction of the current capitol in Jefferson City using a glass-plate camera.

Video presentations with transcripts include:

[Haunted Missouri: A Ghostly Guide to the Show-Me State's Most Spirited Spots](#) is a serious but witty look at Missouri's place in the ghostly realm. Haunted Missouri brings together history, folklore and just enough mystery to intrigue skeptics and delight believers.

[Scoundrels to the Hoosegow and Other Writings of Morley Swingle](#)

Morley Swingle combines actual crimes, legal analysis and humor to recreate his most entertaining stories of villains, heroes and ordinary people from the crime scene to the courtroom.

[Missouri Caves in History and Legend](#)

H. Dwight Weaver takes readers deep underground to describes how caves were used for burial sites, moonshine stills, hideouts for Civil War soldiers and outlaws as well as underground dance parties.

[I Goes to Fight mit Siegel: Missouri's Germans and the Civil War](#)

Dr. Ken Luebbering explores the important role Missouri's German immigrants played in the years prior to and including the Civil War.

Visit www.missouridigitalheritage.com to explore the full range of materials available at this Web site.

Southeast MO Libraries: Dealing with Disaster

By Jean Morrison, Technology and Electronic Services Consultant

Downed power lines due to the devastating ice storm on January 27, 2009 that hit Missouri's southeast corner put nearly everyone out of commission. Local utility companies reported that "125,000 [people] lost connection because an inch or more of accumulating ice ripped down trees and miles of wires from major transmission lines to backyard connections." According to Portageville, MO Police Chief Donnie Adams Sr., the devastation was so widespread "you can drive for miles and not see a single utility pole standing."

Stephanie Bledsoe, director of the Mississippi County Library, called the State Library on February 2 to report that their library was without power for a short time, but electricity had been restored quickly and the library's high-speed Internet connection was the only source available in the area. Emergency services workers and insurance claims service representatives were flocking to the library to provide services for the affected citizens.

Pam Trammell, director of Keller Public Library in Dexter, reported that their library had "lost power and was forced to close for four days. The evening our power was restored, I began receiving calls at my home from anxious citizens inquiring as to whether we had Internet service at the library, and fortunately we did!"

"Although normal Saturday hours are 10:00 am until 2:00 pm, we opened at 8:00 am in order to accommodate the need. People drove to Dexter from as far away as Poplar Bluff and Kennett in order to go online and pay bills, check accounts or assignments, and send emails. We remained open until 5:30 pm to meet the needs of these individuals."

Some of the library's policies regarding fees and usage were relaxed over the next two weeks to accommodate the unavoidable circumstances. While other organizations were working around the clock to provide food and shelter, libraries successfully participated in meeting the needs of people affected by this unprecedented disaster.



Pictures of the ice storm taken by Richard Parsons on January 27.



Check it out – Resources to learn Spanish and for ESL Programs

The Learning Light is a company that provides the products for Spanish that Works. It specializes in educational materials and services, such as Spanish language materials, customized course curriculum, workshops AND links to freebies. Visit their Web site www.thelearninglight.com/.

Successful Library Service to Spanish Speakers

By Ann Roberts, Adult Services Coordinator

Library Outreach to Spanish Speakers workshops were funded by the Gates Foundation through WebJunction with the goal of encouraging the development and provision of services to Spanish speaking populations in both rural and urban areas. The State Library's final Outreach to Spanish Speakers workshop was held in April 2008; a number of grant projects were awarded as a result of these workshops. Successful LSTA funded projects for outreach to Spanish speakers, include:

- "Libros son Nuestros", a project which partnered Rolling Hills Public Library with Triumph Foods, the local pork processing plant in St. Joseph. Spanish language materials were purchased for the library
- Joplin Public translated signage, library flyers, and card applications into Spanish
- And "English Language Learners Family Computer Time" at Wright City Middle School.

At the conclusion of this nationwide project in 2008, WebJunction published Toma's Rivera Policy Institute's Latinos and Public Library Perceptions [www.trpi.org/PDFs/Latinos_& Public Library Perceptions Final.pdf](http://www.trpi.org/PDFs/Latinos_&_Public_Library_Perceptions_Final.pdf). This report, a survey of 2,860 Latino adults, provides the most recent and accurate data to date on Latino library usage. Primary findings show that:

- 54% of Latinos surveyed visited the library within the past year, which is a 5% increase of over previous research results
- 69.1% of the participants stated the main reason for visiting the library was to read or borrow books.
- 93.3% were satisfied with books in English
- But only 74% were satisfied with the selection of Spanish language books
- 76% of those surveyed agreed that having a bilingual staff would better serve the Latino community.

Though the study indicates progress has been made in reaching out to Spanish speakers, it also recommends a number of such accommodations that can increase library usage, such as:

- Advertising the library as a place to learn English
- Hiring bilingual staff, and
- Publicizing library policies regarding record confidentiality, which will encourage library use by more of the Latino population.

Various grant-funded projects targeting services to Spanish speakers continue to be available through the State Library. However, they have been "repackaged" as:

- Programs for Targeted Populations can be used to provide a special program for the local Latino population.
- "Spanish that Works...in the Library", is an eight-week course is built around library terminology to help staff learn basic Spanish library-related vocabulary.
- ¿No Comprendo,? a four-hour training session presented by regional trainers from the National Institute of Libraries of Medicine, is designed to help your staff learn basic Spanish medical terminology, identify reliable Web sites and assist Spanish speaking patrons with online medical research.

Latinos continue to be the largest and fastest growing minority group in the United States. Libraries need to be identified as the access point for education and leisure, Internet and computer access, programming, as well as an opportunity for Spanish speakers to learn about and become a part of their local community. Information about available grant opportunities can be accessed at www.sos.mo.

gov/library/development/grants.asp#Ista. Have questions or need a sounding board? Contact Ann Roberts, Adult Services Consultant, at 800-325-0131, ext. 5, or Ann.Roberts@sos.mo.gov.



Libros Son Nuestrons: Rolling Hills Library



Signage at Joplin Public Library

Spring '09 Yields Youth Services Workshops Galore

By Marge Kudrna, Youth Services Consultant

"Be Creative@ your library" workshops for the childrens' Summer Reading Program, were offered mid-February through early March. These workshop sessions were presented by two three-person teams of Missouri public library staff at six regional sites.

- The eastern-region team consisting of Sharon Anderson (Cape Girardeau Public Library), Janea Coker (Barry-Lawrence Regional Library, Marionville Branch) and Carrie Cline (McDonald County Library) who presented in Jefferson City, Dexter and St. Charles.
- The western-region workshops were held in Springfield, Warrensburg and Gallatin by April Roy (Kansas City Public Library), Heidi Lanz (Barton County Library) and Will Stuck (St. Joseph Public Library).

The team presenters enthusiastically shared their expertise for the summer reading program with nearly 200 participants from public and school libraries. Their suggested programming and craft ideas, cooperation tips and book selection hints were helpful to plan and implement a terrific local summer reading program and very well received by the attendees.

"Express Yourself @ your library" was the corresponding teen summer reading program theme. John House, from The Library Station of the Springfield-Greene County Library District, presented all five of the regional workshops February 23–27 at Springfield, Farmington, St. Charles, Columbia and Carrollton. His contributed ideas, tips and expertise were wonderful aids to planning and implementing successful teen summer reading programming. Not only did the 135 workshop attendees from public and school libraries learn new ways to promote and conduct teen-appropriate summer programming, they also contributed and took away suggestions for future collaborations with each other.

Also offered this spring were two different workshop programs to enhance reading readiness in young children via different pathways.

"Teen Parents Raising Readers" workshops were provided by Maryann Mori in late March in Independence, Springfield, Columbia, Farmington, and St. Charles. Mori, who has presented teen library service programming at national conferences, is the recently appointed director of the Waukee (IA) Public Library. She has acquired a wealth of experience as a teen librarian responsible for extensive outreach programs as well as programming for teen parents.

The teen parents workshops were based on the six pre-reading skills of the Every Child Ready to Read (ECRR) program and are an extension of that program as an effort to reach more library patrons across the state.

These workshops were open to both library staff with previous ECRR training as well as those without training. Workshop attendees left the sessions with either new ideas for using the ECRR skill set, the motivation to plan more outreach services, or excited to participate in other ECRR trainings. Examples of the participants' enthusiastic comments about this programming concept follow:

- "I really enjoyed the workshop; it made me look at what we were doing with teen parents in a totally different way..."
- "I found so much of the information to be helpful. I want to learn more about the ECRR."

The Missouri State Library has offered extensive ECRR training opportunities to library staff since 2006 and will continue to offer these trainings in the foreseeable future. See the report below for the most recent training series that occurred in April 2009.

"Every Child Ready to Read @ your library" trainings were recently provided at Kansas City Public and St. Louis County Library. Susan Bard, a qualified trainer endorsed by the Public Library Association and the Association for Library Service to Children, presented three six-hour workshops under contract with the State Library.

Libraries with staff that complete the basic ECRR workshop are eligible applicants for the Every Child Ready to Read grant program. Awarded projects receive funding to purchase supplies and other resources necessary to conduct a minimum of three parent and/or caregiver workshops in their community.

In addition, The State Library has planned the related workshops, "Storytime Applications" and "Babies and Toddlers Storytimes," for September that build on the six pre-reading skills of the "Every Child Ready to Read @ your Library" program. Stay linked to more news of these ECRR workshops and other upcoming staff training opportunities through *Show Me Express* http://www.sos.mo.gov/library/showme_express/.

Collaborative Summer Library Program Update

By Marge Kudrna, Youth Services Consultant

Libraries across the state and country have recently concluded 2009's summer library programs Be Creative @ Your Library (children), Express Yourself @ Your Library (teen) and Master the Art of Reading (adult).

Forty-four of the current 47 representative member states of the Collaborative Summer Library Program met in Omaha, Nebraska from April 22-24 for their annual meeting. The membership planned for future years' programming by finalizing the 2011 youth summer library program slogans: One World, Many Stories (children), You are Here (teen) and "Novel Destinations" (adult). At this same meeting the 2012 overall theme, Night, was selected. Such extensive advance planning is necessary to ensure professional, attention-grabbing artwork and a planning manual collaboratively developed by the member states' representatives.

Be prepared to put your thinking cap on in anticipation of summer 2010 when the slogans will be, *Make a Splash - READ!* (children), *Make Waves at your Library* (teen) and *Water Your Mind @ Your Library* (adult). NOTE: The 2010 adult program manual will be included in this fall's shipment of the children's and teen manuals.

Missouri's 2009 Letters About Literature Awardees

By Ann Roberts, Adult Services Coordinator

The Missouri Center for the Book (MCB) recently celebrated fifteen years of the annual Letters About Literature contest. Since the first awards ceremony was held in Missouri in 1995, the contest has grown in popularity and Missouri regularly ranks among the top ten states in numbers of student participation. This year almost 1,600 Missouri students, grades 4 through 12 participated in the contest. Each fall the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, in partnership with Target Stores and in cooperation with the state affiliated Centers for the Book, invites readers in grades 4 through 12 to participate in Letters About Literature. Readers write a personal letter to an author, living or dead, from any genre that explains how that author's work changed the student's way of thinking about the world or themselves. Student entries require sponsorship from a teacher or librarian; if a student is participating as an Individual Entry, parental signature is required. State first place winners qualify for judging at the national level. All national level winners are awarded cash prizes for their local school or public library and gift cards from Target

Stores. Missouri's 2009 winning state-level essayists, their home city and their selected author's books are:

LEVEL I (GRADES 4–6)

1st Place: Meredith Manda, Jefferson City 2nd Place: Gretchen Hanlin, East Prairie
Uprising by Margaret Peterson Haddix *Bridge to Terebithia* by Katherine
 Patterson

HONORABLES

Maddie Petersen, Monett, *City of Ember* by Jeanne Dupra
 Cassidy Wheeler, Holts Summit, *Archer's Quest* by Linda Sue Park

LEVEL II (GRADES 7 & 8)

1st Place: Joyce Lin, Ballwin 2nd Place: Kate Kelley, Neosho, *The*
Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë *Well: David's Story* by Mildred D. Taylor

HONORABLES

Jennie Carter, Branson, *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan
 Aneeqa Khan, Manchester, *Crossing the Wire* by Will Hobbs

LEVEL III (GRADES 9 – 12)

1st Place: David Lopez, Columbia, 2nd Place: Melissa Guller, St. Louis,
The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao *Autobiography of a Face* by Lucy Grealy
 by Junot Díaz

HONORABLE

Ariel Merriman, Columbia, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams

The first MCB awards ceremony was hosted by First Lady Jean Carnahan at the Governor's Mansion on March 13, 1995. On April 29, 2009, Secretary of State Robin Carnahan, the daughter of Jean Carnahan, hosted the awards ceremony at the James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center. Secretary Carnahan shared personal family stories about books and reading, and offered praise and encouragement not only to the winners, but also to their supportive families. Student winners were given the opportunity to read their winning essays at the ceremony. At the end of the night, each student received a signed, framed certificate, a cash prize, and other gifts, including a \$50.00 Target gift card for the 1st Place winners. For more information about the contest, visit the MCB Web site at <http://books.missouri.org> or contact Ann Roberts, State Coordinator for MCB, at (573) 751-1821 or ann.roberts@sos.mo.gov.



Front row, left to right: Kate Kelley, Maddie Petersen, Gretchen Hanlin, Joyce Lin, and Jennie Carter. Not pictured: Cassidy Wheeler and Melissa Guller. Back row, left to right: David Lopez, Ariel Merriman, Secretary of State Robin Carnahan, Meredith Manda, Aneeqa Khan, and MCB Board President Mark Tiedemann.

Overview of Recent Public Library Building Projects

Five libraries have completed building or renovation projects to date; one library district with a passed building levy is in the midst of its process:

Cape Girardeau Public Library financed a nearly \$9 million expansion with a voter-approved levy in 2007. The square footage of the building went from 19,000 to 39,000 with the gutting of the old facility on North Clark Avenue and a new addition that includes expanded children's areas, new meeting spaces and more room for computers. Other significant construction upgrades are a new brick and limestone exterior, a tall entryway, a clerestory in the new addition, electrical, mechanical and plumbing systems and a poured concrete parking lot. The new shelving, furniture, WI-FI and state-of-the art technology equipment-plus new collection resources-have truly made the library a destination for all.

The new **Festus Public Library**, now located at 400 West Main Street, has more than tripled the 6,500 square feet of its outdated North Mill Street facility. At a cost of more than \$2 million dollars, the building offers 15,000 square feet of library space that includes conference rooms, a café area, a genealogy room and new computers. Festus city officials consider the new library as a key element in redeveloping their Main Street. The city's charitable Library Foundation continues fundraising to help defray construction costs.

The **Lenora Blackmore Branch of the Henry County Library** has moved from 115 East Benton to 105 West Benton in Windsor. Lenora Blackmore, previously a city library, merged into the county library district in January 2008. Local donations to the Lenora Blackmore Revitalization Fund provided additional funds for facility improvements.

Poplar Bluff Public Library's recent expansion and complete renovation added a redesigned east entrance to the building as well as updating its south wing with a grand circular staircase to the second level children's area. The Children's Library boasts a media desk for staff and youth, a 700 gallon aquarium plus a "cloud" ceiling. Digital signage and timely messages are displayed at the Library's Main Desk, which was designed to reflect the wood and style of their original 1936 oak shelving. New features include a large conference room, a new microfilm room and a computer lab as well as upgraded technology. The building project was funded by the Kay Porter \$1 million gift.

Washington County Library received a two-level addition that provided a main level children's collection plus two meeting rooms and two handicapped-accessible bathrooms on the lower level. A 60-space paved parking area replaced the asphalt surface. Equalization funds were applied to complete this construction project.

Livingston County Library undertakes a \$3.4 million renovation project of its facility with 71% of the voters supporting the sale of general obligation bonds last year. Completion of this project is anticipated for later 2009. The historical features and integrity of the building will be preserved as replacement plumbing and electrical systems are installed, the heating and air-conditioning system updated and a staircase added.

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Staff Changes

Audry Barnhart is the current director of Texas County Library. She comes to the position as an experienced CPA.

Michelle Fagerstone has been named director of the Hamilton Public Library effective August 10. Former director, Kelly Pingleton has accepted a position as a school district technology coordinator.

Neosho Mackey has been named the Dean of **University Libraries at Missouri State University in Springfield**. Her previous experience with Duane G. Meyer Library was as Head of Reference for two years beginning in 1985, followed by 22 years as the Associate Dean of Library Services, during which period she also served as Acting Dean from 1993-1995. She fills the opening left by outgoing Dean Karen Horny in May, who retired after 14-years as the Dean of University Libraries.

Susan Newman replaced retiring director, Tom Sadler, as the new director of **New Madrid County Library**.

Lindy (Sherry) Russell is the new director of **West Plains Public Library**. She fills the position vacated by long

time director Debra Fite who passed away in April after a short illness. Kelly Cook served as Interim Director during Debbie's illness.

Announcements

A reception was held for **Karen Horny**, retiring Dean of **University Libraries at Missouri State University** on Thurs. May 7 at the University's Plaster Student Union. Horny served as the Dean of Duane G. Meyer Library for 14 years and also presided as a past president of the Missouri Library Association.

The **Howard County Library** received a \$10,000 bequest from the estate of long-time Fayette resident, Lloyd Harold Clevenger. The Library Board voted to apply this generous donation to upgrade the library's technology in keeping with the expressed wish that the bequest be used for a specific purpose.

Kirkwood Public Library moved to Station Plaza at 200 S. Kirkwood Road to facilitate renovation of their original library building. They anticipated being located at this temporary site for approximately one year.

Riverside Regional's Main Library has moved and is now located at 1997 East Jackson Blvd.

St. Louis County Library has received a donation of property on Wild Horse Creek Road in Chesterfield from Louis Sachs, library and community benefactor. Preliminary plans are under development for a 40,000 square foot facility that will be a family history genealogy research center. The bulk of this special collection of varied and rare materials is currently housed at the Library Headquarters building in closed stacks. Construction will be entirely dependent upon fundraising: In addition to the stack and research areas, the building will also contain a meeting room, study rooms and other donor-sponsored features.