

Summer 2006

ALA News

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collection, it could be used by library schools (and librarians) across the SELA area. Any venues for getting information out about the Archives and/or any anecdotal information about these records and about SELA that could help in writing a description or in “selling” the collection to potential users would be appreciated. Contact Deborah Davis at dsdavis@valdosta.edu

ALA NEWS

National Library Week Grant

Libraries across the United States are invited to apply for the \$5,000 Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week Grant, which will be awarded to a single library for the best public awareness campaign incorporating the 2007 National Library Week theme, “Come together @ your library.”

The grant is sponsored by Scholastic Library Publishing, a division of Scholastic, the global children’s publishing, education and media company, and is administered by the Public Awareness Committee of the American Library Association (ALA). This year’s application deadline is October 16, 2006. National Library Week is April 15-21, 2007.

All proposals must use the “Come together @ your library” theme, which incorporates The Campaign for America’s Libraries’ “@ your library” brand, on any and all promotional and publicity material supporting National Library Week activities. Guidelines for using the brand are available on the campaign Web site at <http://www.ala.org/@yourlibrary> under the “download logos” section.

A grant application form and guidelines are available on The Campaign for America’s Libraries Web site at <http://www.ala.org/@yourlibrary/nlwgrant>. Information also is available from the ALA

Public Information Office. Telephone: 800-545-2433, ext. 4020. E-mail: mhumphrey@ala.org.

The winner will be notified and announced at the 2007 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. Information on last year’s winner, the Maricopa County Library District in Phoenix, Ariz., and the winning application can be viewed at <http://www.ala.org/@yourlibrary/nlwgrant>.

Members of the National Library Week subcommittee include Dee Yost, chair, Hastings College Perkins Library (Neb.); Elliot L. Appelbaum, Lexington (Ky.) Public Library; Dr. Gordon Newton Baker, Clayton State University (Ga.); Darlene Basone, school library consultant, Ohio; and Lisa Rice, Bowling Green (Ky.) Public Library.

ALA Resolution on the Taxpayer Bill of Rights

I'm pleased to share this message from the ALA Chapter Relations Office. I'd also like to thank my fellow southern chapter councilors who helped pass the resolution – Ann Hamilton

To the Chapter List:

Thanks to all who supported the adoption of the resolution in opposition of Taxpayer Bill of Rights Laws by ALA.

Below is the resolution.

Michael Dowling
Director
Chapter Relations Office and
American Library Association

Resolution on Taxpayer Bill of Rights Laws (known as TABOR, TEL, SOS, etc.)

Whereas, a number of states are or will be considering passage of the proposed Taxpayer Bill of Rights Laws (TABOR), also know as Taxpayer Expenditure

Limitation (TEL), Stop Over Spending Now (SOS) and other names, through the legislature or by constitutional amendment; and

Whereas, the mission of libraries is to provide to all people the highest quality library and information services and public access to information; and Whereas, the free exchange of and access to information is the cornerstone of our democracy; and

Whereas, the American Library Association believes that libraries are outstanding stewards of the public funds; and

Whereas, the proposed laws or constitutional amendments known as the TABOR, TEL, SOS, etc. threaten to devastate the funding of libraries and limit library boards and communities from deciding how best to spend their resources; and

Whereas, these proposals seek to restrict government through inflexible spending formulas that inadequately address the complexities of providing necessary services; and

Whereas, Colorado, the only state to adopt Taxpayer Bill of Rights amendment so far, saw a decade of striking declines and near paralysis of government services, including library services in school, academic, and public libraries; and

Whereas, due to the disastrous results, Colorado voters passed a referendum in November 2005 suspending the provisions of its TABOR law five years; therefore be it

Resolved, that the American Library Association opposes Taxpayer Bill of Rights Laws (TABOR), also know by other names such as Taxpayer Expenditure Limitation (TEL), Stop Over Spending Now (SOS) and other names, through the state legislatures or by state constitutional amendment; and be it

Resolved, that the American Library Association encourages state and regional

library associations to oppose the passage of these laws, and take steps necessary to defeat such legislation or constitutional amendments.

Adopted By ALA Council
June 27, 2006

Law For Librarians Program

ALA's Office of Intellectual Freedom (OIF) in conjunction with the Chapter Relations Office coordinated a Law for Librarians program, April 4-6 in Chicago, Illinois. According to the email that was sent to participants, the purpose was to "provide librarians information about the legal fundamentals underpinning the First Amendment, intellectual freedom, and privacy in order to help ensure that library policies and practices across the country are consistent with the First Amendment, legal precedent, and the Library Bill of Rights." OIF received a grant from the Ford Foundation and was able to underwrite the cost of the transportation, lodging, and conference tuition for the Intellectual Freedom Committee Chairs of the state and regional library associations. There were eighty five attendees overall. The following eighteen librarians from the southeast attended the program: David Bunnell, Griffin Technical College (GA); Tracy Carr, Mississippi Library Commission (MS); Lauren Christos, Florida International University (FL); Anne Marie Elkins, State Library of North Carolina (NC); Loretta Flowers, State Library and Archives of Florida (FL); Ladonna Guillot, Southeastern Louisiana University (LA); Karen Hiser, West Virginia Library Commission (WV); Kathy Hunt, Arkansas State Library (AR); Steve Johnson, Clemson University Libraries (SC); Karen Kasacavage, Woodford County Library (KY); Janice Keck, Williamson County Public Library (TN); Bettye Fowler Kerns, Central Arkansas Library System (AR); Eric Kidwell, Huntingdon College (AL); Camille McCutcheon, University of South Carolina Upstate (SC); Paul Rittelmeyer, University

of Virginia (VA); Lara Rudolph, Florida State University College of Information (FL); Perveen Rustomfram, University of Memphis (TN); and Teresa Welsh, School of Library and Information Science, University of Southern Mississippi (MS).

During the two and one-half day program, librarians listened to librarians and attorneys address issues concerning intellectual freedom. During the sessions, librarians were able to pose questions and comments about the various topics addressed by the presenters. A stipulation for those librarians who attended the Law for Librarians program is that they are responsible for instituting at least two training sessions on intellectual freedom for their state or regional library associations over the next two years. Some of the presenters spoke about how to plan training sessions on intellectual freedom issues. Catherine Lord, a trainer on intellectual freedom issues in public libraries and an assistant manager of a cluster of three libraries in the King County Library System in Washington, spoke about ways to put together programs on intellectual freedom for state and regional library associations.

The OIF provided attendees useful resources in developing training programs for their state and regional library associations. An electronic mailing list was created for the Law for Librarians attendees, and each librarian received a copy of the seventh edition of the *Intellectual Freedom Manual*, a copy of the *Library Advocate's Handbook*, and a CD-ROM, which contained case law relevant to libraries and intellectual freedom, and other supplemental resources regarding issues that were covered during the program.

Librarians who are interested in intellectual freedom can find additional resources available on the OIF web site, which is accessible through the American Library Association's home page. <http://www.ala.org> There is contact information for the OIF as well as links to select ALA intellectual freedom policies and

ALA resolutions and policies, assistance with challenges, notable First Amendment court cases, and information about privacy, the USA Patriot Act, CIPA, and state legislation and privacy laws. Additionally, there are links to the Freedom to Read Foundation, which leads efforts to stop censorship, and to other select organizations such as the ALA Washington Office, the American Civil Liberties Union, and the National Coalition against Censorship.

Librarians in the southeast who are interested in intellectual freedom issues should note that there will be training programs sponsored by SELA and by the state library associations during the next two years. Please consult the calendars for SELA and your state library association for the dates and times of these upcoming programs. – Camille McCutcheon.

Public Libraries in Louisiana and Mississippi to Receive Major Grants to Support Rebuilding Efforts

On Thursday, June 22, 2006, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, The Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services announced significant investments in public libraries along the Gulf Coast in Louisiana and Mississippi. Despite damage, many Gulf Coast libraries supported thousands of residents impacted by the 2005 hurricanes when other support was unavailable. In some areas, multiple public libraries were destroyed.

The organizations made their announcement at a joint press conference. Participants included Gov. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Lt. Gov. Mitch Landrieu, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation President, Allan Golston, Institute of Museum and Library Services Director, Dr. Anne-Imelda M. Radice, and Leslie Burger, President-elect, American Library Association. The grant announcement coincided with the start of the American Library Association Annual

Conference in New Orleans – the largest since the 2005 hurricanes.

HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) Library Alliance Launches Redesigned Website

The HBCU Library Alliance proudly announces the launch of its redesigned website, www.hbculibraries.org, a comprehensive site that encompasses all of the libraries in the HBCU community and connects HBCU and other librarians with the orientation, goals, and programs of the HBCU Library Alliance.

HBCU libraries serve as unique and indispensable gatekeepers for history, culture, and the African-American experience. The HBCU Library Alliance is a consortium that supports the collaboration of information professionals dedicated to providing leadership and resources designed to strengthen Historically Black Colleges and Universities and their constituents.

Working together, the Alliance members aim to lead in the preservation, access, and dissemination of information that is relevant to the history and mission of Historically Black Colleges and Universities. This newly redesigned site is the latest vehicle for informing and educating others about the role and resources of HBCU libraries.

On the launch of the new website, Loretta Parham, Director of Library at the Atlanta University Center in Georgia and Chair of the HBCU Library Alliance, declared that “This site represents the flowering of our organization and our ability to reach out to with out insight, our goals, and the fruit of our experience to date to the entire HBCU community. We want people to see what we have done and what we can do, and we welcome their feedback.”

HBCULibraries.org features

- Links to the websites of all HBCU libraries

- Information about the Leadership Program, strategic training funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
- Information on the Digital Project, a joint venture with Cornell University Library and supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to lay the foundation for a future collaborative HBCU digital library
- The HBCU Library Alliance Blog, where the public is invited to join the discussion about issues affecting libraries at HBCUs
- And much more.

Created by the deans and directors of the HBCU libraries in 2002, the HBCU Library Alliance seeks to ensure excellence in those libraries through the development, coordination, and promotion of programs and activities to enhance members’ collections and services.

Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC)

JCLC, the Joint Conference of Librarians of Color, will feature over 100 Programs for libraries serving diverse communities, including 'Hot Topics' on Recruitment and Retention, Staff Development, Advocacy, Service Delivery, Gender and Identity, Legacy Recognition, and Literature.

Conference speakers and special events include our APALA award winning Opening General Session speaker Loung Ung; the Conference Opening Reception at the Dallas Public Library; a Legacy Breakfast honoring librarians of color; two Author Lunches featuring motivational speaker Dr. Bertice Berry and award winning native American Cynthia Leitich Smith; our Plenary Session of ALA past-presidents discussing diversity issues; the Caucus Awards Dinner; and a memorable late night Gala (followed by a special “midnight breakfast”). JCLC is sure to be as entertaining as it is educational for you and your colleagues.