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ILLAD USA
University of Illinois Springfield

August 5-7
“On the Front Lines” Conference
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August 8
Project Next Generation Picnic
State Library

September 2-7
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New IL Strategic Directions

Saved for today

New Talking Book Outreach Center

A Newsletter from the Illinois State Library — Jesse White, Secretary of State & State Librarian
New Talking Book Outreach Center to begin operations July 1

On July 1, the Mid-Illinois Talking Book Center in East Peoria and the Voices of Vision Talking Book Center in Geneva are consolidating their services to become the new Illinois Talking Book Outreach Center. The new Center will operate from the Reaching Across Illinois Library System building in Burr Ridge.

The new email address for staff at the Illinois Talking Book Outreach will be info@illinoistalkingbooks.org. Patrons may contact staff and reader advisors at 800-426-0709. The Center will serve the entire state outside the city of Chicago, whose patrons will continue to use the Chicago Public Library Talking Book Center.

There will be a new user-friendly website — illinoistalkingbooks.org — to offer more connections to databases, related service providers, various help links, book lists and news items. Patrons will continue to receive materials as they do now, and will still be able to interact with reader advisors.

Rose Chenoweth, director of the Mid-Illinois Talking Book Center, will be moving from East Peoria to Burr Ridge to serve as director of the new Illinois Talking Book Outreach Center. Karen Olden, the longtime director of the Voices of Vision Talking Book Center, is retiring.

Registration open for “On the Front Lines” conference

“On the Front Lines,” a highly acclaimed continuing education opportunity sponsored by the State Library for frontline library staff, returns for a ninth time to the University of Illinois Springfield on August 5-7. Participants from public, academic, school and special libraries are eligible to attend. Registration is open through L2 at www.librarylearning.info/events/?eventID=14610.

“On the Front Lines” is designed to equip and enlighten frontline staff with training, exposure and the latest technology tools and techniques that will enable them to effectively and efficiently meet the needs of their patrons. There will be approximately 40 concurrent sessions. Topics will include emerging trends related to social media and libraries, e-books, 3D printers, using digital media labs, common core education standards, library apps and using sign language to promote literacy.

The registration fee is $15 per person, which covers all programs and conferences, supplied meals. Scholarships will be awarded to 30 applicants to help defray the costs of attending the conference, including the registration fee and a two-night hotel stay. Travel and other incidentals are not covered by the scholarships.

Read for a Lifetime 2013-14

Read for a Lifetime is the Illinois State Library’s popular reading program for high school students. Participants receive a list of 25 book titles representing a mix of classic and contemporary literature. Each student who reads at least four titles from the reading list during the school year will receive a Certificate of Achievement from Secretary of State Jesse White. The list and more information about the program is available at <http://www.cyberdrivelibraries.org/departments/library/public/rlf.html>.

More public library grants awarded

Per Capita and Equalization Grants

Secretary of State Jesse White has awarded fiscal year 2013 Illinois Public Library Per Capita and Equalization Aid Grants totaling $11.9 million to 611 public libraries serving nearly 12 million patrons.

“I am extremely proud of the outstanding service Illinois’ public libraries provide to our communities,” said Secretary White. “Our libraries are the best and most reliable information resource available to citizens, and I am pleased to be able to provide these grants each year.”

Per Capita Grant funding is authorized under Illinois library law and helps ensure that public libraries have some of the resources they need for such things as materials, personnel, equipment, electronic access, telecommunications and technology. Equalization Aid Grants help public libraries with low library tax bases and ensures a minimum level of funding for library services.


Live & Learn Construction Grants

A total of $620,800 in FY13 Live & Learn Construction Grants has been awarded by Secretary of State Jesse White to help 17 public libraries pay for essential capital improvements.

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Libraries receiving grants are:

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Speakers and participants at the ILEAD USA March sessions included tech consultant Travis Good (center) Jim Fulbright, executive director of the Six Rivers Regional Library District, Ganes Harrison of the Illinois State Library, and Mary S_VARS, executive director of the Three Rivers Public Library District, and (bottom) presenter Sarah Sagenius of the UI at Springfield.
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EMERGING WRITERS COMPETITION

Emerging Writers Competition

Deadline to enter is June 30

Secretary of State Jesse White has announced that entry forms are available for the ninth annual Illinois Emerging Writers Competition. Coordinated by Poetry Award. Illinois residents age 18 and over are eligible to enter, and entries must be postmarked by June 30, 2013.

"We created the Illinois Emerging Writers Competition to promote creative writing and provide a new outlet for talented, unpublished writers," said Secretary White. "Great poems have the ability to enrich and enhance our lives, and I am looking forward to discovering talented, new poets with this year’s competition."

The competition is named in honor of the late Pulitzer Prize-winning Illinois Poet Laureate Gwendolyn Brooks, and is co-sponsored by the Illinois Center for the Book, and Kevin Stein, who succeeded Brooks as Illinois Poet Laureate. Cash prizes will be awarded for first ($500), second ($300) and third-place ($100), and winning poems will be submitted for possible publication in the Ninth Letter, RHINO and Quiddity magazines and Poetic License Press publications. Winners will read their poems and receive their prizes at a ceremony later this year at the State Library in Springfield.

Forms and more information about the contest are available at <http://illinoistalkingbooks.org/projects/projectsb.html>.

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