Conference Keynotes Will Captivate You!

This fall’s conference is already shaping up to be an exciting time. The Conference Planning Committee has selected three nationally known speakers for keynote sessions.

Robin Oliveira, is the author of the 2015 All Iowa Reads book, My Name is Mary Sutter. It was awarded the 2011 Shaara Prize for Excellence in Civil War Fiction. She is looking forward to coming to Iowa to talk about writing this compelling novel at the Friday luncheon, and is also planning a number of visits to libraries across the state.

Thursday’s keynote speaker, Jamie LaRue, is well known in the library world as a forward thinker. He is also currently a candidate for ALA President. On Jamie’s website he says, “Welcome to the most exciting time in the history, not just of libraries and publishing, not just of community development, but in the history of our species.” A dynamic and engaging speaker, you may want to attend his concurrent session, as well.

Ben Bizzle, Friday’s keynote speaker and concurrent session presenter, was honored with the 2013 Library Journal Movers and Shakers Award and is the author of the recently published Start a Revolution: Stop Acting Like a Library. He frequently speaks at conferences on technology, marketing, and social media, and has a number of articles published on the topics. Ben is also the creator of his library’s YouTube Comedy series. It might be an indication that his talk, besides being educational, will also be fun.

Future issues of the Catalyst will give more detail about these talks, and also much more information about the many educational concurrent sessions that we have planned.
Message From The ILA President

Dear fellow ILA members, I want to start with a thank you to all of you who participated in our Lobby from Home Days, February 24 and 25, and the ILA Legislative Day at the state capitol on March 18th. Your stories are still the best way to advocate for Iowa libraries. Our conference planning committee has been meeting and coming up with some great conference ideas—appetizers and trivia a contest rather than a formal banquet, a mentoring and career area where potential employers and interviewees can talk, and of course recognition of ILAs 125th anniversary!

To date the legislative front has been fairly quiet. Now that the first funnel has passed we should be seeing more substantive discussion of the education budget as well as other issues of importance to ILA. So stay tuned for legislative alerts from Christine Sturgeon and the Governmental Affairs Committee and keep up with legislative news through our lobbyists’ online newsletter. With the guidance of Nancy Trask, ILA treasurer and meeting facilitator extraordinaire, the ILA Executive Board has begun a two tracked project to review and redefine ILAs mission statement, fundamental goals, and how the Iowa Library Association can best serve its members in today’s rapidly changing environment.

In addition to thinking deeply about ILA in the long term, the Board is looking at concrete steps that ILA can take to better communicate with you and to benefit from the skills and experience each member contributes. We held our first online Board meeting through Google Hangout in February and have adopted a more flexible plan for scheduling Board meetings to allow all members to participate fully. ILA/ACRL volunteered to test an online conference app at their Spring Conference which we hope to use at the ILA Annual Conference this October. The Catalyst will also be more accessible beginning with the next issue. As always ILA depends on the hard work and commitment of our members, especially those who volunteer, run for office, and advocate for our library community.

Duncan Stewart
ILA President

Look For An Exciting Change At This Year’s Conference!

Get ready for fun on Thursday night when, rather than a banquet and keynote speaker, ILA will host a Trivia Contest. Teams will be formed, questions will be asked, and the competition will be fierce. How could it not be with a room full of librarians!

Food will be involved, more to come on that later. Maybe you and your colleagues will create a team ahead of time…Costumes? A clever name? The sky’s the limit.

Stay tuned for further information on this fun event.
2015 ILA Committees

Awards Committee
Mary Heinzman, St. Ambrose University Library, Chair
Sarah Willeford, Iowa Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, ILA Past President
Laura Blaker, Independence Public Library
Ed Goedeke, Iowa State University
Karen Lampe, Danville & New London CSD
Jodie Morin, Buena Vista University

Bylaws & Organizational Manual Committee
Louise Alcorn, West Des Moines Public Library, Chair
Sandy Long, Whittemore Public Library

Conference Planning Committee
Duncan Stewart, University of Iowa Libraries, ILA President, Co-Chair
Sarah Willeford, Iowa Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, ILA Past-President, Co-Chair
Linda Adams, Fayette Community & Arlington Public Libraries
Barbara Corson, Iowa Library Services, ILAF Rep.
Stacy Goodhue, Carlisle Public Library
Jan Grandgeorge, Eagle Grove Memorial Library
Becky Johnson, Jefferson High School, Cedar Rapids
Kim Kietzman, Altoona Public Library
Larry Marquardt, Iowa Commission of Libraries
Amy McGraw, Independence Public Library
Nancy Medema, Iowa Library Services
Kathy Rieger, Council Bluffs Public Library
Don Ruby, Koch Brothers
Jillian Rutledge, Waverly Public Library
Jill Sanders, Bondurant Community Library

Communications Committee
Barbara Corson, Iowa Library Services, Co-Chair
Samantha Helmick, Burlington Public Library, Co-Chair
Cynthia Dyer, Simpson College
Ryan Gjerde, Luther College
Frankie Hamann, Missouri Valley Public Library

Finance Committee
Paula Brown, Spencer Public Library
Frankie Hamann, Missouri Valley Public Library
Thomas Kessler, University of Northern Iowa
Jeffrey Kushkowski, Iowa State University
Duncan Stewart, University of Iowa Libraries, ILA President
Nancy Trask, Winterset Public Library, ILA Treasurer
Sarah Willeford, Iowa Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, ILA Past-President

Governmental Affairs Committee
Christine Sturgeon, Manson Northwest Webster School, Chair
Alison Ames Galstad, Coralville Public Library, ILA VP/President-Elect
Cassandra Elton, Antelope Lending Library Bookmobile
Sonja Ferrell, Ottumwa Public Library
Andrew Fuerste-Henry, Carnegie-Stout Public Library, Dubuque
Rebecca Funke, Des Moines Community College
Jan Grandgeorge, Eagle Grove Memorial Library
Andrew Hoppmann, Lied Public Library, Clarinda
Kim Keitzman, Altoona Public Library
Michael Scott, Iowa Library Services, Advisor
Duncan Stewart, University of Iowa Libraries, President
Sarah Willeford, Iowa Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, ILA Past-President

Intellectual Freedom Committee
Michael Wright, Dubuque County Library District, Chair
Justin Armbruster, Ames Public Library
Nancy Bird Luikart, Muscatine Community College
Paula Brown, Spencer Public Library
Nathan Clark, Emmetsburg Public Library
Darryl Eschete, West Des Moines Public Library
Andrew Fuerste-Henry, Carnegie-Stout Public Library, Dubuque
Pat Lienemann, Williamsburg Public Library
Nicole Lindstrom, Newton Public Library
Lisa Martinick, University of Iowa Libraries
Molly Mauer, Klin Memorial Library, Grundy Center
Cara Stone, Grand View University

Leadership Development Committee
Susan Mannix, Bettendorf Public Library, Chair
Sandy Long, Whittemore Public Library
Nancy Medema, Iowa Library Services
Devon Murphy-Petersen, Waukee Public Library
Mary Murphy, Perry Public Library
Holly Sealine, Norwalk Easter Public Library

Membership Committee
Emily O'Sheridan-Tabor, North Liberty Community Library, Chair
Gretchen Carolan, Decorah Public Library
Marie Harms, Iowa Library Services
Elaine Hayes, North Liberty Community Library
Sarah Latcham, Van Allen Elementary, Iowa City Schools
Duncan Stewart, University of Iowa Libraries, ILA President

2015 ILA Committees continued on page 4.
Get To Know Chelsea Sims,
ILA Member at Large And IASL Advocacy Committee Chair

Chelsea Sims is a teacher librarian at South East Junior High and Hills Elementary in Iowa City. Chelsea grew up traveling with her military family, mainly living in Virginia, Illinois, and finally in Glenwood, Iowa. From a young age, Chelsea loved school and she loved libraries. Although she considered careers ranging from Supreme Court Justice to interior designer, she always went back to teaching. A love of literature led her to 7-12th grade English, and eventually to school librarianship. And now, as a teacher librarian, she can combine her love of teaching, books, crafts and design, and even arguments!

Since graduating from Cornell College (where her librarian was Jean Donham) in 2006 with a B.A. in English and Secondary Education, Chelsea has taught high school language arts and creative writing, coached a high school speech team, and worked with students in special education. In 2010, she entered the School Library Studies program at UNI (again lead by Jean Donham) while simultaneously beginning her career as a teacher librarian in Iowa City. She earned her MA in 2012.

In Iowa City, Chelsea is fortunate to work with students both at the elementary level and the junior high level. While being half-time in two buildings is hardly ideal, the position does provide a better understanding of student learning at various grade levels. The Iowa City School District also provides their teacher librarians amazing opportunities to collaborate with each other, share great ideas, and expand professional growth. Chelsea is a part of several district level committees and takes pride in helping to provide professional development opportunities focusing on technology and research to her fellow teachers.

Due in large part to her connection with Jean Donham, Chelsea has been an active member of ILA and IASL since she began at UNI in 2010. She has served as the chair for the IASL Advocacy Committee since 2012. In this role, she has written posts for the IASL blog, connected members and non-members via social media, created graphics and videos, and worked to form connections with lobbyists and legislators. She has had several letters to the editor published around the state, and stays active on Twitter to keep up on important issues and ideas. Chelsea attended the IASL/ABC-CLIO Leadership Academy in 2013, and the ILA Leadership Conference in 2014. This October, she was elected Member at Large for the ILA Executive Board.

As an enthusiastic advocate for K-12 students and the benefits a school library provides them, Chelsea is passionate about increasing teacher librarian collaboration with other types of libraries in our state. Together, librarians can ensure that patrons receive the best possible service throughout their lifetimes. As a new member of the board, Chelsea is excited for the opportunity to help the organization move forward and to work with the amazing professionals who lead it.

Follow Chelsea on Twitter @MsSimsICCSD and @SEJHLibrary

2015 ILA Committees continued from page 3.

Nominating Committee
Mary Heinzman, St. Ambrose University Library, Chair
Leo Clougherty, U of I Sciences Library
Kimberly Mashek, Iowa Library Services
Kris Moser, Sioux City Community School District
Devon Murphy-Petersen, Waukee Public Library

Strategic Planning Committee
Karen Davidson, Northeast Iowa Community College, Chair
 Lynne Carey, Ames Public Library
 Sarah Clendineng, Ft. Madison Public Library
 Sam Garchik, Ottumwa High School
 Andrew Hoppmann, Lied Public Library, Clarinda
 Jet Kofoot, Iowa Library Services - NC District
 Duncan Stewart, University of Iowa Libraries, ILA President

4 - March/April 2015 Catalyst
Calendar of Events

April
School Library Month
April 10  IHSLA Spring Conference – Hardin Library for the Health Sciences, University of Iowa, Iowa City
April 12 - 13  IASL Spring Conference – Ramada Tropics Resort, Des Moines
April 12 - 18  National Library Week
April 21  ILA Executive Board Meeting

May
May 4 - 5  ALA National Library Legislative Day – Washington, DC
May 8  Catalyst deadline for May/June issue

June
June 12  ILA Executive Board Meeting
June 12  ILAF Board Meeting
June 25 - 30  ALA Annual Conference & Exhibition – San Francisco, CA

2015 ILA Subdivision Officers

Community College Librarians Roundtable
Chair: Cheryl Talbert, Indian Hills Community College Library
Vice Chair: Mara Eggerman, Marshalltown Community College
Sec/Treasurer: Judy Mitchell, Hawkeye Community College

Government Documents Roundtable
Chair: Kristen Smith, Loras College Library
Vice Chair: Leighton Christiansen, Iowa Department of Transportation Library
Sec/Treasurer: Timothy Skeers, Iowa Library Services

Information Technology Forum
Chair: Janet Lubben, North Liberty Community Library
Secretary: Brian Thompson, University of Iowa Libraries

Iowa Association of School Librarians
Chair: Dixie Forcht, South Tama County Schools
Vice Chair: Kathrine Rogers, Muscatine Community School District
Sec/Treasurer: Sue Inhelder, Marshalltown High School

ILA/ACRL
Chair: Anne Marie Gruber, University of Dubuque
Vice Chair: Sara Scheib, University of Iowa
Sec/Treasurer: Kristy Raine, Mt. Mercy University

Iowa Health Sciences Library Association
Chair: Nichole Jenkins, University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics
Vice Chair: Elizabeth Kiscaden, University of Iowa
Secretary: Jill Edgerton, Des Moines University

Iowa Library Trustees Association
Chair: TBD
Vice Chair: TBD
Secretary: TBD

Iowa Small Libraries Association
Chair: Cynthia Davis, Spirit Lake Public Library
Vice Chair: Paula Brown, Spencer Public Library
Secretary: Jennifer Bledsoe, Toledo Public Library
Treasurer: Sandy Long, Whitemore Public Library

Did you know?
The Iowa Reading Research Center offers high quality online resources for educators and families to help support literacy learning at home.

Videos
Activities
Articles
Parent Guides
Web Links
And Much More!

Building Iowa’s Home for Literacy
iowareadingresearch.org

2015 ILA Subdivision Officers continued on page 6.

March/April 2015 Catalyst - 5
Library Leadership & Management Association
Chair: Darryl Eschete, West Des Moines Public Library
Vice Chair: Nicole Morgan, Clive Public Library
Sec/Treasurer: Elizabeth Williams, Nevada Public Library

Local History and Genealogy
Chair: Nathan Clark, Emmetsburg Public Library

Public Library Forum
Chair: Samantha Helmick, Burlington Public Library
Vice Chair: Debbie Stanton, Washington Public Library
Secretary: Liz Anderson, Oskaloosa Public Library

Readers Advisory Roundtable
Chair: Sarah Smith, Carnegie-Stout Public Library, Dubuque
Vice Chair: Olivia Petersen, Ericson Public Library, Boone
Secretary: Amy Muchmore, Carnegie-Stout Public Library, Dubuque
Treasurer: Jillian Rutledge, Waverly Public Library

Resources & Technical Services Forum
Chair: Jonathan Helmke, University of Dubuque

Storytellers’ Roundtable
Chair: Duffy DeFrance, Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre Company
Vice Chair: Zachary Stier, Ericson Public Library, Boone
Secretary: Cathy Van Brocklin, Ames Public Library

Student Subdivision
Co-Chair: Kassie McLaughlin, University of Iowa
Co-Chair: Shawna Fredrickson, University of Iowa

Support Personnel
Chair: Paul Bethke, Iowa City Public Library
Vice Chair: Elaine Hayes, North Liberty Community Library
Treasurer: Sarah Andrews, University of Iowa Libraries

Youth Services Subdivision
Chair: Angela Pilkington, Burlington Public Library
Vice Chair: Erin Silva, Kalona Public Library
Secretary: Anna Hartmann, Council Bluffs Public Library

I Can Help
If you’d like to get involved on one of ILA’s Committees or Subdivisions, or know someone else that would be a good fit, please fill out the I Can Help form on the ILA website. Send it back to the ILA office and our current leadership will contact you!


Where Can I Find…
Financial Statements, Executive Board Minutes, And More Are Available On The ILA Website

To see the Executive Board’s meeting minutes go to ILA’s website at www.iowalibraryassociation.org, search Board Minutes and they’ll pop right up! Same for the search term Financial Statements – what could be easier?

Or go to the website and click on the Membership tab and choose Member Central. There you will find these documents and much more information about ILA, including a link to past issues of the Catalyst.
The new look.

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Spotlight On Iowa Libraries

Name/Age of Library: The Whittemore Public Library was established in 1941 in the old town hall. In 1964, the town purchased the old Lutheran School building and the library was moved to that location. A new 40’x80’ library was built at the east end of the main street, and the library moved in on April 8, 1985. Many improvements have been and continue to be made to keep up with ever changing technology and the needs of our patrons. We are making plans for our 75th Anniversary Celebration in April 2016. The library has been accredited since 1987.

Staff: Sandy Long began working in the library in 1986 as a substitute librarian, became the assistant librarian in 1988, and director in 2000. Joy Metzger was hired in 2003 as the assistant director and also takes care of the children’s activities. Judy Erdman was hired in 2004 as the library clerk. We have a small staff but work very well together.

Hours & Location: Whittemore is located in NC Iowa on the west border of Kossuth County, 30 miles from the Minnesota border. Population 504; size B; open 30 hours per week, six days a week.

Volunteers: About 45 volunteers throughout the year. This includes our Friends of the Library and helpers with: Storytime, Summer Reading Program, various programs throughout the year, lawn care, and building care. There’s always someone willing to help out.

Programs: We have a Book Discussion Group that is going strong, and can really have some lively discussions. We usually have 15 books on hand and sometimes need to order more. New members are always encouraged. Storytime is offered throughout the year and is well attended. Once a month during the school year we have early out movies with popcorn and juice. The popcorn is donated and popped by Whittemore’s MaxYield Elevator. We also offer movies during Christmas vacation and other days when school is not in session.

A monthly craft is usually available in the Tony Lane Children’s Room. The LEGO collection is very popular and lots of interesting items are created. Games, puzzles, toys, and a kitchen center are also located in the children’s room and are all very well used and enjoyed. Several times a year we have a LEGO Build event that draws quite a few kids. During our Summer Reading Program we schedule weekly storytime, movies, crafts, and other events. In July and August we offer other activities to keep the children interested and coming in, and we end the summer with a back to school event.

Throughout the year we offer lots of other programs for all ages like special coffee times, author visits, Mystery Theatres, crafts for all ages, and a puzzle set up for patrons.

Community Support: Our Friends group is a wonderful help! They have two main fundraisers each year: a Pork Pattie BBQ & Monster Cookies during Garage Sale Days and an Election Night Soup Supper. Most of the supplies are donated by members of our community. Both events bring in quite a large amount of money. The Soup Supper profit this year was used to purchase an AWE Computer for the children’s room, and the kids love it! The Friends have provided us with so many items including computers, books, summer reading program supplies, snacks for programs, special shelving, craft and art supplies, office supplies, and so much more! We appreciate all of their work and dedication!

“The best thing about having a library in a small town is all of the community support we get. The community organizations and the community members are always there for us.”

8 - March/April 2015 Catalyst
ALA Councilor Enjoys The Weather AND The Sessions At Midwinter Meeting

During the last week of January, I had the pleasure of attending ALAs Midwinter Meeting in Chicago. If you think back to that week, you might remember quite a bit of snow around the Midwest. Chicago wasn’t spared any of it, and I got some very dramatic photos out of hotel and convention center windows. But, fun fact, a convention is a great place to be in a blizzard! You spend all your time indoors, usually in rooms that don’t even have windows. At the end of the day, when you take the large and relentless tour bus back to your hotel, you’re too tired to venture out anyway.

Because Midwinter is (or tries to be) a business meeting rather than a conference, it’s always a little quieter than Annual. There are fewer flashy programs and more opportunities to chat with other librarians or try out a new database. There may not be quite as many exciting authors on hand, but the lines are shorter for those who make it (I got a book, a print, and a little inflatable Fone Bone from Jeff Smith, author of Bone!). It’s all nicely approachable, and I strongly recommend it to anyone interested in getting involved in ALA but a little put-off by the size of the annual conference.

Of course a lot of my time was taken up with Council sessions. Councilors all joke about how formal and deliberative these meetings can be, but there are always bright spots where we really accomplish something with a positive impact for our fellow librarians. For me, the highlight of this meeting was the strategic planning session, in which we worked in small groups to tease out specific ways ALA could work to support libraries and librarians around the country. I always enjoy the chance to speak to folks from different types of libraries and different parts of the country, both appreciating their differing perspective and bonding over common experiences.

As we discussed the opportunities ALA offers for professional growth and development, we kept returning to a theme very familiar from discussions within ILA: all of our members have something to offer, but they don’t always know it. Serving on a committee requires experience and good judgement, but those are traits librarians have in spades. Some of the best, most exciting, and most useful sessions I’ve attended at conferences have been presented by folks who still don’t believe they’re doing anything special.

But we all have something to teach and we all have insights to offer. If you’ve been waiting for an invitation to get involved in ALA, here it is. Join a committee or round table and help support other librarians. Sign up for an Ignite Session and present for just five minutes about whatever you’re most excited about. Come to Boston for Midwinter 2016 and we can hang out in the convention center, watching next year’s blizzard fall.

Andrew Fuerste-Henry
ALA Councilor
ILA Legislative Day Gives Iowa Librarians
An Opportunity For Advocacy

Librarians, trustees, and legislators enjoyed great discussions in the Law Library at the annual ILA Legislative Reception, held on March 18th at the beautiful Law Library in the State Capitol.

Twenty-seven senators and 28 representatives took time out of their busy schedules to come to the Law Library to hear from librarians and library advocates about important issues facing Iowa libraries. Unfortunate timing meant that the House had already gavelled out much earlier in the day, and so the number of Representatives who attended was fairly low compared to previous years, but those who did attend were very receptive to librarians and their message.

If you were unable to attend, please take a moment to contact your Legislators via phone, email, or at a Legislative Coffee.

*Thanks to all of the Iowa librarians, trustees, and library advocates who participated in this important event, and to those who have contacted their legislators on these important issues. Please continue to share your library’s story with your legislators.*

*ILA Lobbyist, Craig Patterson, gives a legislative update to the librarians before the reception*

*ILA GAC Chair, Christine Sturgeon; ILA President, Duncan Stewart; State Librarian, Michael Scott and Rep. Mike Sexton*

*ILA GAC Chair, Christine Sturgeon and Sen. Bill Dix*

*Becky Bilby, Connie Mataloni and Rep. John Wills*
ISLA 2015 Spring Meeting & Program

PANEL PRESENTATION:

STEM AND MAKER PROGRAMMING
IN SMALL LIBRARIES

Friday, May 1, 2015
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

$5 fee for ISLA members, $10 for non-ISLA and $15 non-ILA/non-ISLA

A panel of librarians serving small libraries including Tena Hanson from the Estherville Public Library, Aimee Clark from the Spencer Public Library, and Jet Kofoot, the North Central District Consultant for Iowa Library Services will discuss how they plan and implement STEM and Maker programming on a budget. Topics covered will include:

- RESOURCES
- GRANT OPPORTUNITIES
- AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS
- MAKER SPACES
- COMMUNITY COLLABORATION
- MAKER SPACE WITH NO SPACE

There will be a question and answer session at the end of the presentation.

Get 2 C.E. credit hours for attending the ISLA Spring Program!

New Format This Year
This program will be presented online at 25 sites across Iowa using WebEx video conferencing software.
Watch for news about locations closer to your library in the weeks to come!

Don’t miss the Spring Meeting for your chance to win a scholarship to the ILA Conference in October 2015!
Must be present to win.
For more details, see article in the ISLA Spring Newsletter.
Location: This year, the ISLA Executive Committee has decided to utilize ILA’s WebEx contract to present the spring meeting at 25 sites across Iowa instead of the ICN Network. 25 libraries will be selected to host this program based on the locations of registrants. Please indicate if you would be willing to host this program in your library and have a meeting room with access to the internet and a webcam.

Yes, I will host the program in my library______ Name of hosting library: _______________________

No, I need to attend at another library close to me ______

Please note: Feel free to continue the conversation at lunch. You can plan to go out as a group from your respective sites if you wish but the program will end at 12:30 p.m. Each site host should be able to provide you with ideas for where to eat in the community.

Registration Cost:

ILA/ISLA Member $5
ILA/Non-ISLA Member $10
Non-ILA/Non-ISLA Member $15

Credit Card: ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ AmEx

Card #: ____________________ Exp Date: __________

Signature: _______________________

Three easy payment options:

1. Mail your completed registration form and payment* to:
   Iowa Library Association
   6919 Vista Drive
   West Des Moines, IA 50266

* When you provide a check as payment, you authorize us either to use the information from your check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your account or to process the payment as a check transaction.

2. Phone registration with a credit card: (800)452-5507 (Following your phone registration, please send in your completed form for ILA records).

3. Fax registration with credit card information: 515-282-9117

Questions: Contact Cindy Davis, ISLA 2015 President at (712)336-2667 or admin@spirtlake.lib.ia.us.