Welcome to the Newsletter
The Iowa Library Association is experimenting with a new type of newsletter using the service TinyLetter. Our goal here is to deliver content directly to your inbox with fresh stories, events, and links to all types of new material around the state of Iowa. Please be patient with us as we adjust to the new format.
We encourage you to send us your stories, events, programs, awards, and all other great accomplishments from your libraries, staff members, and patrons. You can drop us a note any time you like with this link: http://bit.ly/ShareILANews.
We also encourage you to help us think of a name for this new newsletter. The Catalyst served us well for many years, but we are open to the idea of renaming our publication. Send in your ideas to any member of the Executive Board or contact a member of the ILA Communications Committee. You can also make a suggestion via our http://bit.ly/ShareILANews link as well.
Plus you can always find us on Facebook and on Twitter.
President’s Piece

A new year and a new look for the Catalyst! This is just one of the exciting changes ILA’s
committees and Executive Board bring in 2017! January ushered in renewed excitement and energy for libraries and the work we do and we can’t wait to get movin’!

2016 was a year of continued efforts to move ILA forward into its next 125 years. As you know, past two years, under the leadership of Alison Ames Galstad and Duncan Stewart, the Executive Board and ILA members have been busy reviewing and revitalizing the mission of ILA. Here is a look at some of our accomplishments:

- New! Mission and Vision statements
- Executive Board members now serve as committee chairs, creating greater communication, transparency, and energy
- Term limits for committees, allowing for greater member participation
- Communication Committee formed by the merger of Public Relations and Editorial Committees
- Nomination process was opened to included self-nominations for elected positions
- Conference session ideas were gathered from the membership at large
- New! An adhoc committee on Diversity and Inclusion has been established!
  - And we aren’t done yet! This year we will continue our work to better engage and support members and the communities we serve. 2017 will see some new initiatives, as well as our important annual activities.
- New! Catalyst has a new look and feel!
- New! Leadership Development Committee looks to offer 2 new spring symposiums
- New! A Call for Conference Proposals has already gone out, to encourage members (and non-members) to submit their conference presentation for consideration. The Conference Planning Committee will review proposals later this spring.
- New! Video testimonials are coming! A great tool to share with stakeholders!
- Continue: Craig Patterson and Amy Campbell continue to keep us apprised of issues concerning legislative funding. We will be following this closely and will communicate any concerns or needs to the membership as warranted.
- Continue: Lobby from Home Day (February 15, 2017) and Legislative Day (March 15, 2017)
- Continue: Annual Conference – October 18-20 – Coralville, IA
  
  There will be more to come, no doubt, as the year unfolds! The work we do is vital to creating communities of inclusion, understanding, and awareness. My hope for the year, is that we each chose to live intentionally; creating a more focused, engaged, and celebrated association, workplace, community, and life. Thank you for your commitment to your work of improving lives of Iowan, and to ILA! We make a difference!

Rebecca Funke
ILA President

What’s Happening in Iowa Libraries?

This section of the newsletter is dedicated to all different kinds of news stories from our different library communities. Feel free to send us information about what’s happening in your library and we’ll post it in the newsletter. We encourage short stories, achievements, awards, events, or any other special topic you want to share with the membership.

General News Stories
KidsFirst books Kelly Barnhill who just won the Newbery Award for *The Girl Who Drank the Moon*. This is an amazing opportunity for Iowa Librarians. Merri Monks at the State Library of Iowa will make registration dates and info available.

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This is a new project that I worked with recently as a member of the Iowa World War I Centennial Committee. The State Historical Society had all of these posters in storage and I encouraged them to create a traveling exhibit to share with libraries and museums. I would like to see more libraries participate in the project.
Larry Marquardt, Iowa World War I Centennial Committee

Academic Libraries

The Kirkwood Community College Iowa City Campus Library recently completed an expansion and total remodel of the Library space. One wall was removed in order to expand the Library space and combine Library and Computer Lab spaces into one. We gained 3 new small group study rooms, converted two old study rooms into multimedia conference rooms, and also received new paint, all new carpeting, furniture, and shelving. The interior was designed by OPN Architects, and their choice of gray with red accents gives the space a lively and warm feel that seems to be very inviting to students.

Kate Hess, Library Coordinator, Kirkwood Community College Iowa City Campus

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Billy the Library Kid began as a joke among our library staff after we joined Mobius and started to use the big blue book totes (Totes McGoats). He then morphed into Billy the Library Kid who came to visit our library. One of our student assistants take photos of Billy as he wanders around the library. Enjoy his travels by following us on Instagram or twitter. #FindItAtRod #BillyTheLibraryKid #ILoveRodLibrary

**Melinda Beland, Rod Library, University of Northern Iowa**

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Within the last few years, librarians and library staff at Grinnell College have transitioned a sunny study area into Burling Lounge, now a popular space for campus events. This spring Grinnell’s Libraries will host a post-election discussion, book talks by faculty members, presentations during the student research symposium, a creative writing awards ceremony, plus our biannual study breaks held during finals week. And we are already planning events for fall 2017! This photo is from the Global Engagement Fall Forum on September 23rd. It was organized by the Institute of Global Engagement.
**Public Libraries**

Our library has partnered with the State Historical Society and the Iowa World War I Centennial Committee to be the first library in Iowa to host the World War I propaganda posters. They are currently displayed on our second floor and will be here until the end of April. [Here is a link to an article that was in our local paper.]

**Kathy Rieger, Director, Council Bluffs Public Library**

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Among other items we started the General N.B. Baker Distinguished Speaker Series. The monthly series focuses on humanities and so far the speakers include authors, historians, college professors and more.

**Daniel Ray Wetherell, General N.B. Baker Library, Sutherland, Iowa,**

[https://www.facebook.com/nbblibrary/](https://www.facebook.com/nbblibrary/)

**School Libraries**

Chelsea Sims at Southeast Junior High School library has been doing some great projects with her colleagues. [Check out her website that contains lots of updates about what’s happening in her neck of the woods.]

**Legislative Update**

Craig and Amy have been very busy working on our behalf at the Capitol. Here’s a segment of their most recent legislative update. [Read their most recent full report here.]

“Advocates for libraries are going to need to be showing up and making their voices heard!! The deappropriations bill amounted to a cut of $115,390 to the State Library (leaving it at $2,599,673) and a cut of $109,405 to Enrich Iowa (leaving it at $2,464,823), with more possibly..."
on the way as the Department of Management determines how to allocate an additional $11.5 million cut across all of state government.

Years of cuts and frozen budgets at the State Library have taken their toll, and we should not stand by silently and watch the level of funding from the deappropriations bill become the level allocated for the next two years.

Call or email your legislators today, and tell them to increase funding for the State Library and Enrich Iowa!”

**Spring Symposiums**

The Leadership Development Committee is excited to announce Spring Symposiums taking place in April! A similar event has taken place in Mason City for the last several years. We intend to remain true to the intent of the original event and expand to include an alternate location. You are invited to “Build a Better Library World”!

Day 1 will focus on programming. The morning keynote speaker will be a STEM hub regional manager sharing ways that librarians can work with their local STEM hubs to gain access to resources they may not know are available to them. After lunch, breakout sessions on programming topics will be available.

Day 2 will have a broader focus on library services. The morning keynote speaker will be a member of the Humanities Iowa Speakers Bureau. After lunch, breakout sessions on a variety of topics will be available.

Would you like to join us? By attending, you will receive CE credits and the opportunity to network with other librarians. You have your choice of attending the Spring Symposium in Atlantic on April 6 and 7 or Mason City on April 20 and 21. You can attend one day or both! Registration is available online at the Iowa Library Association website. There is information on the main page of the website, and you can also click on the Membership tab to access the link to online registration. Lunch is included in the cost of the event. If you have questions regarding this event, please contact Misty Gray at misty.gray@iowa.gov.

Registration Form
Upcoming Events

Lobby from Home Day is February 15th. The Communications Committee of ILA has put together a folder of materials that may be helpful to you as you lobby your legislators this Wednesday. The folder linked below contains talking points and graphics showing why libraries are important to communities. You will also find a blank Publisher file and a blank graphics file in case you want to build your own graphic to send to your legislators. Remember, you don’t need to cover all the talking points with your legislators. Pick 1-2 important things that you can tell a story about.

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The ILA Foundation is having a meeting on Friday March 10th. Contact a member of the Foundation Board if you have questions or issues you want brought up at the meeting.

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Legislative Day at the Iowa Capitol building is Wednesday March 15th starting at 11:00 AM. We’ll have more details coming soon, including another report from Craig and Amy.

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IASL will be having a conference at the West Des Moines Marriott on Monday April 3rd. [Find more information about their event here.]

**Iowa Library Association Video Project**

In an effort to showcase the stories of Iowa libraries, librarians, and their patrons, ILA is encouraging the membership to get involved with our newest video project. Any library is welcome to submit video(s). Here’s what we’re looking for:

Tell your story of how your library makes an impact in the daily lives of your patrons. You can do it any way you wish. It could be interviewing a patron, showing library staff doing their jobs at the desk or behind the scenes, showing the impact of a story time with children, helping a patron submit a resume, or any of the other countless things we do, day in and day out. We want the state of Iowa, and especially our legislators, to see the work that we do and how it impacts the communities we serve. So no matter if you are a public, academic, or school library, consider creating a video and submitting it.

You can focus on anything that you like but keep in mind that there are programs that rely on state funding so you might want to consider something like funds from the State Library of Iowa, interlibrary loan programs, summer reading programs, the use of Learning Express, the use of EBSCO databases, or any other program that you do or resource that you use that is made possible by state funding.

Suggestions:
- Time limit (2:00 or less)
- To answer a question(s) or state a clear purpose right up front
- Clearly identify your library in the video so the viewer knows exactly where and who is involved
- To focus on a particular program, resource, or need. This is a good hook for the legislators.
- Quality sound. We need to be able to hear you so don’t hold your camera far away.
- Ideas from ALA’s “Libraries Transform” campaign
- Need inspiration? Cedar Rapids Public Library and Iowans with Disabilities in Action made videos for a similar purpose.
- Have anyone in the videos sign a permission form and make it abundantly clear that they will be featured in an ILA video on YouTube
- Consider the ILA Legislative Agenda to see if you can link an idea there with what you’re doing at your library
- Use YouTube Editor to make your video even better
- Your video should be in an .AVI, .MP4, or .WMA format for best compatibility with YouTube.
- When your video is finished, please contact Dan Chibnall (dan.chibnall@drake.edu) via [https://www.wetransfer.com/](https://www.wetransfer.com/). This service is free and will allow you to send your video file easily (up to 2 GB).

If you need any help, please feel free to contact any member of the Communications Committee.
Proposals for Spring ILA-ACRL Conference

Looking in, reaching out: Whom do we serve?
ILA/ACRL Spring Conference
Friday, May 19, 2017
Grand View University
Des Moines, IA

College and research libraries often struggle to adequately serve all constituencies. Many libraries have created extensive outreach programs to help bolster efforts to reconnect with users. Consequently, the ways in which libraries serve these users has changed in recent years. How does your library respond to changing demands? How does your library programming reflect an ethos of openness and inclusion? What steps has your library taken to ensure that users will continue to have access to services well into the future. The 2017 ILA-ACRL Spring conference will focus on ways in which libraries are preparing to sustainably serve users in an environment of respect for all.

The planning committee will be evaluating the proposals based on relevance to the conference theme, interest to the academic library community, uniqueness, organization and clarity, adaptability to other libraries, and demonstrated knowledge of the subject. The committee is particularly interested in sessions that address any of the following aspects, though other topics are also of value:

- **Embracing diversity and inclusion!** How has your library created a culture of hospitality?
- **Outreach!** How do you as an individual or your library as a whole, establish connections outside the library?
- **Organizational innovation!** How has your library adapted to the shifting roles of librarians in the larger community?
- **Proving worth!** How has your library demonstrated its value to outside constituencies?
- **Preparing for the future!** What steps has your library taken to increase resource sustainability, both human and economic?

For more details and the submission application, click here.

Proposals for Fall ILA Conference
Do you have a presentation you would like to make at the next ILA Conference? Please submit specifics about your session here! You are welcome to submit more than one application.

Information needed to complete this form:
* Name, Email, and Short Biography for Presenter(s)
* Session Title & Description
* Equipment needed

Deadline: March 1, 2017

Questions?? Contact ILA Office Manager, Melissa Primus at 515-282-8192 or admin@iowalibraryassociation.org