President's Notes

OK. It is only August, but it really is time to start thinking about the ILA Annual Conference, October 3-5 at the DoubleTree by Hilton / Cedar Rapids Convention Complex. You can register online now and a brochure should be arriving in your mailbox soon, if it hasn’t already. And don’t forget to make your hotel reservations. Details are also on the conference section of the website. ILA has a block of rooms reserved at a discounted rate. Be sure and mention ILA when making your reservation.

I am looking forward to the conference. We have two terrific keynote speakers: PC Sweeney, the political director of the nonprofit advocacy group EveryLibrary, will talk about moving from library advocacy to library activism on Thursday. Then on Friday morning Miguel Figueroa, head of ALA’s Center for the Future of Libraries, discusses emerging trends relevant to libraries, librarians, and the communities we serve. Friday’s lunch speaker will be Dan Berry, author of the All Iowa Reads selection The Boys in the Bunkhouse.

In addition to our truly impressive keynote speakers note the pre-conferences on Wednesday, and literally dozens of concurrent conference sessions Thursday and Friday. None of us will have trouble finding something of interest.

And switching over to advocacy, this is an election year and that makes it an especially good time to invite your state legislators into the library and to talk to them about your services and the great investment in Iowa communities that comes with Enrich Iowa funding. Legislators get lots of invitations in election years, so you may need to be gently persistent (offering a photo-op with kids is a good enticement). Be sure to mention Learning Express and its immense value to our citizens.

Best to all!
Michael Wright - ILA President
Important Links for the 2018 Conference

Annual Conference Main Page
Online Registration
Download a Conference Registration Form
Detailed Conference Sessions and Agenda: PDF
Detailed Conference Sessions and Agenda: Sched

Plan to Arrive for the 2018 Conference on Wednesday Afternoon

Be sure to arrive to the conference in time to attend the Grand Opening of Exhibits on Wednesday from 3 – 6 p.m. Visit with exhibitors and meet eastern Iowa authors during the Author Fair. Each attendee will receive one free drink ticket and a cash bar and hors d’oeuvres will be served. There will be an exhibit hall scavenger hunt for attendees with a chance to win a Visa cash card. Don’t miss this event to kick off the conference!

Our exhibitors play an important role in the success of our conference. We encourage everyone to make time to visit with them and learn about their products and services. The Exhibit Hall will also be open Thursday from 7:30 – 11:45 a.m. and 1 – 5 p.m.

Explore Access, Connection, Action with Conference Keynote Speakers

This year’s conference keynote speakers will address taking action to secure the future of libraries.
Thursday Morning: PC Sweeney
PC Sweeney is the political director of EveryLibrary, the first and only organization that works to create, renew, and protect public library funding at a local level. Learn how to move the discussion from advocating for libraries to creating activists for libraries in order to build the public support that libraries need to survive. Sweeney will explore the strategies and tactics used by some of the best community organizers, political action committees, and politicians to build real actionable support from networks of change through community organizing and political action. He will emphasize the resources and skills that librarians and library staff need to develop if they want to have the political and community support that they need in order to increase support and funding.

Friday Morning: Miguel Figueroa
Miguel Figueroa is the director of the American Library Association's Center for the Future of Libraries. Miguel's talk is titled "Signals for the Future -- Trends, Signals, and Values for the Library of the Future." This keynote will explore the emerging trends relevant to libraries and the communities they serve.

Sweeney and Figueroa Concurrent Sessions
PC and Miguel will present concurrent sessions on the same day they present their keynote addresses. PC's session is titled “Creating Effective Messages” and will share many strategies for libraries to use to create messages to gain support and overcome opposition. The session will also touch on some of best and most advanced platforms and methods for distributing messaging to the public.

Miguel's concurrent session is titled “Building Your Forecast for the Library of the Future” and will expand on his keynote by helping libraries understand trends and their possible impact on future operations.

Friday Lunch: Dan Barry
This year’s All Iowa Reads selection is The Boys in the Bunkhouse: Servitude and Salvation in the Heartland by Dan Barry. Dan will talk about his book, which tells the harrowing yet uplifting story of the exploitation and abuse of a resilient group of men with intellectual disabilities, and the heroic efforts of those who helped them to find justice and reclaim their lives. The Iowa Center for the Book describes the book as "A luminous work of
social justice, told with compassion and compelling detail, *The Boys in the Bunkhouse* is more than just inspired storytelling. It is a clarion call for a vigilance that ensures inclusion and dignity for all."

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### Attend a Pre-Conference Session at the 2018 Conference

Three pre-conference sessions will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 3 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Extend your conference learning by joining us for one of these sessions.

**Intellectual Freedom in the Age of Trigger Warnings**

Trigger warnings are intended to alert readers that certain materials might "trigger" strong responses in those who had previously experienced trauma. This preconference session will cover a wide range of issues related to trigger warnings, including the relationship between intellectual freedom and trigger warnings, especially as it relates to labeling collection materials. After a brief introductory talk that provides context for understanding trigger warnings, attendees will discuss whether or not trigger warnings are a form of censorship and best practices related to potentially traumatic material.

This pre-conference session is presented by Emily Knox, an associate professor in the School of Information Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She recently edited *Trigger Warnings: History, Theory, Context*, published by Rowman & Littlefield.

**Bedbugs and Biohazards**

This preconference shares information about biohazards, bedbugs and other pests, and how to handle them. Participants will also learn simple first aid. Presenters include Dawn Cline, outreach services coordinator at the Marion Public Library, Marion Fire Chief Deb Krebill, and Allie McGee from Orkin Pest Control.

**Pay It Forward: Improving Today’s Work and Tomorrow’s Worklife**

Like any other organization, libraries need to plan for staffing transitions. *Pay It Forward* suggests practical workplace approaches that help pave the way for new employees and ease the learning curve. Attendees will work through a "transition readiness checklist" that will help light the path for new staff. Library boards should work on their own brand of transition planning. *Pay It Forward* talks about that, too!

*Pay It Forward* is presented by Bonnie McKewon and Becky Heil, who are both consultants with the State Library of Iowa. Bonnie is stationed in the northwest district and Becky serves the
Participate in One of Two Events on Thursday Night at the Conference

Choose from one of two events on Thursday night at this year’s conference. Trivia Night returns and a new Speed Mentoring event will be held. Pre-registration is required to participate in either of these events. Registration includes dinner and costs $33. See the other article in this issue of Catalyst for the menu. A cash bar will be available. Information about Trivia Night is below. See the graphic for information about Speed Mentoring.

Trivia Night
Pit your wits against fellow librarians! Dan Wardell is returning as the emcee and this year’s questions are shaping up to be challenging yet fun. (Sample: “In Sweet Home Alabama, big wheels keep on turning to do what?”).

Teams of eight will compete for prizes and bragging rights in this friendly competition.

To reserve a table for your team, send an email to Nancy Medema (Nancy.Medema@iowa.gov) with a list of team players; you will be the contact for any further information. If you don’t have a team, don’t worry! You will be grouped with others looking for a team.

Mulligans (free answers) will again be available for purchase at $10 for 10 (limit 10 per team). Double Downs, which double your score for that round, will also be available for purchase at $5 for one (limit one per team). Bring some spending cash as these are great ways to increase your score! Proceeds will go to the San Francisco Oller Library, ILA’s adopted library in Puerto Rico.
Conference Meals

The menus for the conference meals are listed below. Vegetarian options will be available, and we will accommodate other dietary requirements. Please let us know about your dietary need when you register.

**Thursday Awards Luncheon**
Roasted turkey sandwich on whole wheat with lettuce, tomato, onion, and cranberry aioli. Served with a pickle slice, pasta salad, and potato chips. Assorted dessert bars will also be served, along with iced tea and coffee.

**Thursday Dinner (Served at Trivia Night and Speed Mentoring)**
The starter will be the DoubleTree Signature Salad (California greens with red wine poached pears, gorgonzola cheese, toasted pistachio nuts, sundried cranberries, and raspberry vinaigrette) and warm rolls. The main course will be a grilled pork loin with apple brandy glaze, parsley red potatoes, and citrus glazed carrots.

**Friday Lunch**
An entrée-style cobb salad with grilled chicken, tomato, egg, bacon, blue cheese, mixed greens, and honey mustard or ranch dressing will be served with breadsticks. Assorted cookies and iced tea and coffee will also be served.
Iowa Library Association Foundation Scholarships Available for Conference

The Iowa Library Association Foundation announces six $250 scholarships for ILA members to attend the ILA Conference: four from the Susan Lerdal Fund and two from Biblionix.

In addition to being ILA members, applicants must meet one of the following criteria:

- Be attending their first ILA Fall Conference
- Have worked in an Iowa library for fewer than three years
- Be a library science student

Additionally, Biblionix scholarship applicants must work at a small public library. Previous scholarship recipients are not eligible.

Please turn in applications by September 1. Scholarship application forms and instructions for applying are available at https://www.iowalibraryassociation.org/index.php/foundation.

ACRL Scholarships Available for the Conference

ILA/ACRL will once again sponsor a scholarship to attend the ILA Conference. The scholarship will cover the registration fee and up to $150 in travel, hotel, and meal expenses. Eligible applicants will fall into one of the following categories:

1. Paid members of ILA/ACRL, working full-time in an Iowa academic or research library, and either: attending their first Iowa Library Association Conference, or have worked in an Iowa academic or research library for fewer than three years.
2. Library science students.
3. Support staff working in an Iowa academic or research library.

Student and support staff do not have to be paid members of ILA/ACRL to apply. Previous ILA Conference scholarship recipients are not eligible.

Please watch the ILA/ACRL blog and social media for the application and information about the deadline to apply.
ILA Foundation Announces

2018 Raffle and Silent Auction

At Cedar Rapids, IA

Raffle Options

Native Wood Sleeping Cat
Donated by Mary Bunn, ILAF Board Member, Dennis Schulte, and Bob Chattenston

Cosmo, AI toy Robot

2000 ILA Continental Quilt
Donated by Sandra Phelps (Raffle Winner)

Visit the Exhibit Hall to buy Raffle Tickets or bid on the Silent Auction items donated by Exhibitors and ILA members.

Auction items are needed: Handcrafted items, theme baskets or ....

Complete the ILAF Auction Donation form at:
https://www.iowalibraryassociation.org/index.php/foundation

All proceeds support Iowa Libraries and Librarians! ILAF at work for you!
ILA’s Awards Committee is now accepting nominations for ILA annual awards. Each year during the Annual Conference, ILA recognizes individuals who have provided exceptional and meaningful contributions to the Iowa library community.

To better celebrate all the work and successes accomplished in support of Iowa libraries, there are some new awards being introduced this year. We need your help in identifying worthy recipients. Please consider submitting a nomination for the following awards:

- Distinguished Leadership Award (formerly Member of the Year Award)
- Distinguished Career Award - NEW
- Citation of Merit
- Outstanding Library Advocate Award (formerly Ted Anderson Award)
- Emerging Leader Award - NEW
- Library Philanthropy Award – NEW
- Lifetime Membership Award

Nomination Process: **deadline for nominations is August 3, 2018.** Before submitting nominations, please be sure to carefully review award descriptions. The Awards Committee will review nominations based on award descriptions and/or criteria. Contact Rebecca Funke at rsfunke@dmacc.edu with any questions.

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**August 13 - Building Relationships: An Advocacy Webinar**

Government Affairs Committee member and ILA Executive Board member Sonja Ferrell teams up with Iowa Senator Bob Dvorsky (37th District) and ILA lobbyist Amy Campbell to talk about building relationships with your lawmakers. This is a great opportunity to hear directly from a sitting senator and our lobbyist about how best to reach out to our representatives. Sonya will speak from her perspective of advocacy as both a library director and as a staffer for 13 years to a South Dakota congressman.

**Date:** August 13, 2018  
**Time:** 2 p.m.  
**Location:** Online  
**Cost:** $0 ILA member; $10 non-member  
**Registration:** [https://www.iowalibraryassociation.org/index.php/advocacy/ila-advocacy-webinar?eventId=64&controller=event&task=individualRegister](https://www.iowalibraryassociation.org/index.php/advocacy/ila-advocacy-webinar?eventId=64&controller=event&task=individualRegister)

Connection information for the event will be sent in August. Registration is required. Contact Melissa Primus with questions at mprimus@iowalibraryassociation.org. This webinar is sponsored by ILA Governmental Affairs Committee (GAC).
Adopt-A-Library Update

Libraries are off and raising money for the Francisco Oller Library, but we still need your help! Our **goal is $15,000** to help the Francisco Oller library recover from the severe damage they suffered last year, and we still have a ways to go!

Need ideas about raising money? Check out what other libraries are doing:

- Coin/cash jar = sit out a jar and invite others to donate
- Link to ILA site = put a link to our Adopt-a-Library site and invite patrons to donate
- Proceed Sharing = ILA is donating proceeds from this year’s Trivia Night (purchase of mulligans and double-downs)
- Pay to Play = library staff pay to wear jeans to work
- Ice Cream Floats = great summertime treat and proceeds go to Francisco Oller
- Bake/Book Sale = proceeds go to Francisco Oller

Cara Stone created a [great, 30 second video](https://mailchi.mp/765638d03235/catalyst-your-iowa-library-association-member-newsletter) that walks you through the donation process and ILA’s Adopt-a-Library site! And, don’t forget about the friendly competition we have happening; winners receive some great PR for your library! The campaign goes through **Labor Day**.

Continue to share your stories with us!

Rebecca Funke and Cara Stone

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Landmark Learning and Connecting during the 2018 Iowa Reading Association and Iowa Association of School Librarians Conference

By Sheryl Dales, IASL Conference Co-Chairperson

Summer is a great time to network, learn, and renew passions. How fortunate we are that there are so many different avenues available for lifelong learners to take advantage of these days.

Thank you to everyone that attended the first joint Iowa Reading and Iowa Association of School Librarians Conference on June 26-27, 2018. This conference had my mind spinning with ideas, strategies, and possibilities. I was thrilled to encounter numerous authors such as Barry Lyga,
Jerry Pallotta, Chris Grabenstein, Jenny Moyer, Susan Maupin Schmid, Robert Kinderman, and more. The sessions I attended included information on brain research, source sets, executive functions skills, online literacy resources, family literacy events, breakouts, and more. I enjoyed attending sessions with such a diverse crowd. The comments, questions, and discussions during sessions and meals came from a wide range of perspectives. I listened to reading teachers, instructional coaches, special education teachers, talented and gifted teachers, teacher librarians, retirees, and college students. What rich conversations we had as we united with similar concerns for learning and our students. The vendor breaks left me filling my bags with catalogs for future orders, books signed by authors, t-shirts promoting my love for books, and swag galore. From door prizes to vendor sponsored receptions, this conference was just plain fun!

So, whether you browse Pinterest, attend an online webinar, sign up for a PD class from your local AEA, or attend a conference, I challenge you to continue learning. Share your experiences with others, practice and learn new skills, strengthen connections with all areas of the curriculum, and continue to be passionate!

Save the date for next year's joint event, June 25-26, 2019 in Ames, Iowa.

Zachary Stier, Children’s Library, Ericson Public Library  
Paula Spoo, Library Coordinator, Estherville Public Library

Ericson Public Library and Estherville Public Library were awarded the NASA@ My Library grant led by the National Center for Interactive Learning at the Space Science Institute in May 2018. They were two out of 75 libraries chosen, out of more than 500 applications from forty-nine states. The NASA@ My Library program is a STEM education initiative to increase and enhance STEM learning opportunities for library patrons throughout the nation, including geographic areas and populations currently underserved in STEM education.

**Ericson Public Library**

The library launched its program in August by celebrating the solar eclipse. It launched their NASA Academy after school program in September. This program offers elementary children
exposure to new STEM opportunities including meeting NASA Ambassadors and experiencing the world of drones and NASA tools. Some of our other top programs were Space Alive!, a program where children and adults with special “abilities” created art projects based on their interpretation of space and Stories Alive!, a three-story space program where twenty partners provided space activities including virtual reality of a full-size planetarium. The first year has been successful with an attendance reaching close to 1,000 individuals.

**Estherville Public Library**

One of our most memorable programs was the 2017 Solar Eclipse. The weather put a damper on any outside viewing. Patrons celebrated by making shoebox viewers, viewing a live stream in English and Spanish, traveling to the moon via a green screen and app, feeling and seeing the eclipse through a tactile book, and listening to a presentation by a local middle school science teacher. Another big hit was our Star Parties. We told constellation and star stories, demonstrated how to use a night sky chart and pointed out various stars and constellations. With the help of local astronomy enthusiasts, patrons were able to view stars and other highlights through the library telescope. Programs have been offered on and off site and included patrons of all ages, ethnic backgrounds, and economic status. Patron feedback has been overwhelmingly positive and the community support has been amazing.

**Community Dialogue**

Each library is required to complete a community dialogue. The focus of the community dialogue is to discuss the importance STEM plays in the community. Ericson Public Library, had twenty community and state leaders attend. We also had a special visit from Governor Kim Reynolds and Lt. Governor Adam Gregg who spoke on STEM in Iowa and the important role libraries play in STEM learning.

**Denver Training**

Each library attended a three-day comprehensive training in Denver. Hands-on training with an infrared thermal camera, apps, telescopes, rocks, and activities from a manual were provided. Time was also spent on networking and brainstorming. Both librarians became certified by the Johnson Space Center to handle both rocks and meteorites. Due to security, we are only able to provide this resource to our respective libraries. Additional resources include an online community and Facebook group and webinars.
Are You Needing Help With STEM - MakerSpace Plans?

We are your consultant and solution provider! We help you with MakerSpace equipment, software, training and support. Contact us to add a community innovation space to your library: info@mw3ds.com.

Contact Us - Experts with over 18 years of 3D printing experience!

Mobile STEM Labs with FREE curriculum for grade levels K-12.

Computerized Woodworking Routers

- Engrave - Mark - Cut ....lots of materials with one machine!

Mid-West 3D Solutions - 888.509.0690 - www.MW3DS.com

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Where imagination takes flight!