About libraries ... the current trends plus a look back at ALA annual conference 2010
Celebrate National Library Week, April 8-14, 2012

Follow along during National Library Week:

Follow us on Twitter at #nlw12

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National Library Week events

- April 8 - School Library Month
- Monday, April 9 - 2012 State of America's Report released
- Tuesday, April 10 - National Library Workers Day
- Wednesday, April 11 - National Bookmobile Day
- Thursday, April 12 - Support Teen Literature Day

Not a librarian, but you want to celebrate National Library Week? Visit atyourlibrary.org to see what’s available for library fans during National Library Week.
School Library Month 2012

SCHOOL LIBRARY MONTH
YOU BELONG @your library

You belong @ your library®

What is School Library Month?

School Library Month (SLM) is the American Association of School Librarians’ (AASL) celebration of school librarians and their programs. Every April school librarians are encouraged to create activities to help their school and local community celebrate the essential role that strong school library programs play in a student’s educational career. Read about the history of School Library Month.

The 2012 theme is You belong @ your library®. The AASL School Library Month Committee is busy planning activities and creating resources to help school librarians celebrate. Check back often for new materials.

The You Belong @ Your School Library: Student Video Contest - Encourage your students to create videos detailing how they belong in your school library and submit them via SchoolTube.com by March 29th!
21st century information professionals toolkit

- A library is a quiet place to read
- A place to be educated, where you can find...
- Information about virtually everything
- Kindles; Nooks; e-readers ... those are not books!
- What is digitization?
- What is an app?
- Social media is everywhere
- Serving diverse communities
- Games/gaming @ your library?!
Put Saturday, November 12, 2011, on your calendar now for National Gaming Day @ your library!

America's libraries to host largest family game day in history

Communities across the U.S. (and internationally) are coming together in the spirit of play for the American Library Association's 4th Annual National Gaming Day @ your library, sponsored by FamilyandPartyGames.com. This year's event expects to draw more than 20,000 people at more than 1,200 libraries.
Gaming at libraries ... endorsed by the American Library Association?!

In the 21st century, libraries are about more than just books. The goal of National Gaming day is to reconnect communities through their libraries around the educational, recreational, and social value of all types of games.

National Gaming Day @ Your Library is an annual initiative supported by the American Library Association and corporate partners. In 2011 ALA collaborated with game producer FamilyandPartyGames.com.

http://ilovelibraries.org/gaming/
some comments overheard about the gaming @ libraries activities
http://ilovelibraries.org/gaming/

“There were boys waiting outside for the library to open! ...We had more boys in the library at one time... than I have seen in my eleven years working here.”

“Some of the things I overheard this year: 'I didn't know the library was this cool!', 'Can we do this every month?', 'Do we have to leave?', 'I love my life!' ”
some comments 
overheard about the 
gaming @ libraries 
activities 
http://ilovelibraries.org/gaming/

“Where else would you find such a mix of ages interacting and having a fun time? In a family, of course ...it was just a cross section of the community.”

"We had an 80 year old senior who comes to play Wii bowling with other seniors on Friday mornings. Some teens challenged her to a game of Wii bowling...and she WON!”“This was definitely a thumbs-up day!”
“Given the dynamic feedback on the top 10 negative effects of video games post, I had to write about the flip side. Keep in mind that university studies are just starting to examine the relationships between humans and machines as we interact with them more and more. And that this fascinating look into how our brains and bodies meet is just in its infancy.”
1. The ability to learn teamwork
2. Skill in managing groups
3. Higher levels of problem solving
4. Increased visual acuity (sharpness)
5. Improved visual cognition
6. Accelerated acquisition of motor skills
7. Reduced reaction times and increased speed of activities
8. Enhanced mental rotation skills
9. Better visual and spatial memory,
10. Increased ability to maintain divided attention

http://addictionblog.org/body/top-10-positive-effects-of-video-games-on-children/
About Ask a Librarian
Ask a Librarian provides Florida residents with live virtual reference services via local library customized web sites from 10 a.m. to midnight Sunday through Thursday (EST), and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday (EST).
Participating libraries may also utilize the software to provide local live virtual reference services to their patrons.
An e-mail form is available to patrons 24 hours per day, seven days per week. All e-mail is answered by the user's local library.
Currently, 128 SUS, state college, private college, public, and K-12 Florida libraries participate in Ask a Librarian.
As of March 2010, Ask a Librarian has logged over 208,000 live virtual reference sessions and e-mail questions.
Read more about Ask a Librarian...

What are people asking?
How many species of rabbits are there
Online chat

Many academic libraries provide online chat. A consortium of Florida libraries offers “Ask a Librarian” through 92 libraries throughout the state. The program was launched in 2003, funded initially by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. All Florida residents are eligible for this service.

http://www.askalibrarian.org/info/aboutaskalibrarian.asp
Internet Public Library

IPL is the “first, largest and most recognized free online collection and reference service, available to anyone in the world with an Internet connection.”

This project has dual purposes: to educate Drexel University library and information science schools and to provide “an important public resource.”
Search results for:
Liberia

Liberia Page
A collection of annotated links to online resources about Liberia, covering subject areas such as history, geography, demographics, travel, art, language, journalism, and human rights. From the African Studies Center at the University of Pennsylvania...
http://www.africa.upenn.edu/Country_Specific/Liberia.html

Country Profile: Liberia
This profile of Liberia provides statistics, a timeline of key historical events, an overview of the media (including newspapers, news agencies, and television and radio stations), audio clips (such as the national anthem), and links to news sources...
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/country_profiles/1043500.stm

Africa South of the Sahara: Liberia
http://library.stanford.edu/department/african/iberia.html

Liberia's Uneasy Peace

My dear colleague at U.S. embassy Cotonou, Benin (West Africa) …

my colleague Bienvenu and I discussed his use of IPL to teach university students how to find reliable, scholarly information online. He also uses IPL extensively as a tool when he is doing research for colleagues at the U.S. embassy, Cotonou, during outreach or for clients of his IRC.
Libraries are using 21st century technology in innovative ways

- Electronic interlibrary loan
- Electronic reserve collections
- Serving diverse populations, including immigrants and multicultural populations
- Digital media studios and equipment
- Using social media tools, e.g., Facebook, twitter, tumblr, Bing, to create a mobile library for users on iPhones, smartphones and wifi
Electronic interlibrary loan

Nowadays, many U.S. academic libraries offer online ILL services, which allows users to select the type of material, e.g., book, article or other item.

The Department of State’s Ralph Bunche library offers global ILL services to personnel working in embassies and consulates worldwide.

At Texas Tech University, articles are sent via email. The library also offers a book delivery service, free-of-charge, to faculty.
Adaptive Services

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library

The DC Public Library, through its Adaptive Services Division, helps the deaf community, visually impaired, older adults, veterans and injured service people better use the library.

DC Public Library Accommodation Statement

Upcoming Events: Tech Talk

News worthy: Providing Resources for Parents of Students with Learning Disabilities
A fundraiser to help DC youth with disabilities build leadership skills, on Friday, November 18, 2011, 7-9 p.m., at the Teatro Goldoni restaurant

Recent Events: White House Proclamation

DC Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

- Descriptive Video Collection
- BAAD: Downloading Digital Books and Magazines
- Inside the Beltway: A Newsletter
- Biennial customer survey: Every 2 years, each Regional LBPH conducts a survey of our patrons to help us assess what we are doing and plan for the future. We seek as broad participation as possible, so please take a few minutes to complete this 10-question survey before September 25. Please help us help you by participating!

Library Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Communities

- Deaf and Hard of Hearing Resources
- Free American Sign Language Classes
- Deaf Culture Programs
Many U.S. public libraries serve incredibly diverse populations, e.g., the Brooklyn Public Library in New York City. There are almost 2.6 million people in Brooklyn. 38% (931,800) are foreign born. The top six languages of Brooklyn Public Library patrons:

- English
- Spanish
- Russian
- Chinese
- Yiddish
- French-Creole

The library runs a multilingual center that provides access to materials in over 30 languages.
Serving diverse communities

Austin (Texas) Public Library system - has “new immigrants project” centers at six of its libraries
http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/library/index.cfm?action=newip

District of Columbia Public Library’s Adaptive Services Division helps the deaf community, visually impaired, older adults, veterans and injured service people better use the library.
http://www.dclibrary.org/services/lbph

Queens(borough) Public Library - offers citizenship and immigrant services
Welcome to the Digital Media Studio

TTU Libraries has a multimedia lab called the Digital Media Studio (DMS). We invite you to bring your imagination to the DMS and create a music video, design a website, or edit and screen your own film project. We encourage all students to come use our facilities; all majors are welcome. The DMS is staffed seven days a week, when University Library is open, so is the DMS.

NOTE: To check out any media items in the DMS (e.g., Videos, CDs, audio books) everyone must have either a current Texas Tech picture ID card or a library card, including all students, faculty, and staff. Also, we do not provide tape/mini-DV for any of the cameras.

If a patron shows to be "blocked" in the Library circulation system due to lost or non-returned...
The DMS is a TTU library multimedia lab open to all TTU students. It is a high-tech facility featuring Apple and Windows computers loaded with professional video editing software, music editing and music composition software. The DMS also offers digitizing equipment for analog video recordings, video card readers, hard drives for storage of class projects, keyboards, a large-screen plasma TV, studio for music composition and iPods for loan.
Other trends

• Many university libraries open 18-20 hours daily; 24 hours during finals
• Bibliographic instruction for freshman during summer orientation as well as in their first week of classes to introduce them to library resources
• University libraries eliminating fines to encourage return of materials
• Allowing users to recall overdue materials online
• Amnesty at U.S. public libraries for overdue item(s) – all fines are forgiven on certain announced dates
Committee for the Support of Libraries

Since its beginning in the year 2003, the committee has not only organized an annual highly successful conference. They also have offered more than 40 workshops in the context of the conferences and apart from them. The activities reached more than thousands of librarians and library students representing 120 libraries from all over Greece.

http://www.goethe.de/ins/gr/lp/prj/syn/enindex.htm
late afternoon, Santorini, Greece (April 2010)
Digitization

Digitization is one of the big buzz words in information professions. It has been a focus of many large libraries for more than a decade.

Definition of digitization: Conversion of analog information in any form (text, photographs, voice, etc.) to digital form with suitable electronic devices (such as a scanner or specialized computer chips) so that the information can be processed, stored, and transmitted through digital circuits, equipment, and networks.

http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/digitization.html
Larry Page, Google co-founder and president of products, stated: "Even before we started Google, we dreamed of making the incredible breadth of information that librarians so lovingly organize searchable online ... Our work with libraries further enhances the existing Google Print program, which enables users to find matches within the full text of books, while publishers and authors monetize that information."
is digitization democratic?

The Google digitization initiative has been hailed for its potential to offer unprecedented access to what may become the largest online corpus of human knowledge and promoting the democratization of knowledge, but it has also been criticized for potential copyright violations.

As of March 2012, the number of scanned books was over 20 million, but the scanning process has slowed down. Google estimated in 2010 that there were about 130 million unique books in the world, and stated that it intended to scan all of them by the end of the decade.

my thoughts on digitization – it’s a very good thing for the world!

Digitization allows students and users to access a library’s collections from distant locations.
Digitization gives librarians options to retain old items for future generations
Digitization allows researchers globally to access rare and/or fragile materials which cannot circulate and can only be accessed in person during reading room hours.
Digitization saves precious space.
Other smaller digitization projects

Academic libraries especially have begun to digitize their collections, including special collections items:

- rare books
- personal papers
- theses
- regional literature
- record albums
- old photographs
- unusual non-bibliographic items
Archives & digitization

“Archives likes digitization. It allows access and addressed the preservation issue, even though the digitized signal is not recognized as the long-term solution yet.”

(Dr. Tai Kreidler, archivist/historian, Texas Tech University Libraries)

One of the major issues I have observed as both a librarian and a user is access restrictions that are a necessary part of archives.
Because the collections are rare, containing one-of-a-kind items including personal papers and regional/national historical information, archives require special handling, access is a challenge. Digitization seems to be a panacea, helping to alleviate many of the old issues: access, security of the collection, handling of collection and staffing.
Long-term archival solutions

“… the digitized signal is not recognized as the long-term solution yet.”

Let’s talk about sound recordings for a moment. They pose a particular problem as the technology to play them or turntables, is disappearing. What will happen to important music if there aren’t turntables to play the LPs? Right now there are several initiatives to preserve sound recordings.
what is an “app?”

Application software, also known as an application or an "app", is computer software designed to help the user to perform singular or multiple related specific tasks. It helps to solve problems in the real world. Examples include enterprise software, accounting software, office suites, graphics software, and media players.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Application_software
Australia!

Description

Australia! displays a slideshow of beautiful images from throughout Australia by leading photographers -- you've NEVER seen a collection like this! Some of the renowned photographers include Tim Keegan and Robert Young...

What's New in Version 3.0

New user interface!
* Easy to use menu
* Autorotation support...

Screenshots
Amazon has over 65,000 ebooks in Kindle Owners' Lending Library

The list of borrowable ebooks in Amazon's Kindle Owners' Lending Library has grown to over 65,000 titles. The list includes over 100 current and former New York Times Bestsellers as well.

Amazon has added around 60,000 titles in just under two months. There were around 5,000 ebooks that were available in the Kindle Owners' Lending Library when Amazon launched it on November 3, 2011. That is quite impressive growth over such a short period of time.

Of course, you have to own a Kindle and you have to be an Amazon Prime subscriber to be able to borrow the books, but it's quite a selection of titles. By comparison, the largest public library in the United States, the New York Public Library, has about 23,500 different ebook titles available for its members to borrow.

Kindles and Kindle Fires were very hot items this holiday season. Amazon said they sold about a million of the devices a week leading up to Christmas. It looks like anyone that got a Kindle for Christmas also got a much larger selection of free ebooks to borrow from Amazon as well.
Kindle Loan Program FAQs

The Orcas Island Public Library is committed to staying abreast of current technologies of book, news, and information distribution. The recent donation of a Kindle Reader to the library has enabled us to conduct a trial of ebook reader lending to patrons to let them try out this new format.

Why a Kindle?
The Kindle is just one of several eBook readers on the market in 2010 (others include the Sony Reader, Barnes & Noble's "Nook", and Apple's iPad). The Orcas Island Public Library Kindle loan program makes no endorsement of the Amazon Kindle - there are certainly other options. We just happen to have been given a Kindle by a generous patron, and we hope you enjoy experimenting with it.

What can be read on a Kindle?
Books, newspapers, blogs, some personal documents

Proprietary content you buy from Amazon or elsewhere (e.g. bestsellers, anything still under copyright)

Public domain content, available for free

How the Program Works

Loan Period: 3 weeks. No renewals.

Overdue fines: A fine of $5 per day will be assessed for overdue Kindle Readers. There is no grace period for overdue fines. A Kindle overdue more than one week will be considered "lost". The "lost" replacement cost is $100.

Who may borrow the Kindle Reader?
Borrowers must be at least 14 years of age and a patron of the Orcas Island Public Library in good standing.

Before checking out a Kindle, borrowers must sign a Kindle Agreement in which they acknowledge...
NEW KINDLE POLICIES

Watertown Free Public Library

Kindle Loan Policies

Loan period: 3 weeks for 5 Kindles. Check at Circulation Desk.

No Renewals

Watertown Residents may place a computer generated request (or be put on a waiting list).

Late Fee: $0.10 per day

Replacement Costs:

- Kindle: $130
- Case: $30
- Adapter: $15

Do not remove Kindle from case

Kindle must be charged before returning

DO NOT place in book drop

Must be returned to Watertown Library Circulation Desk.

Please do not add or delete books from the Kindle

JUST CURIOUS ABOUT KINDLES?

Anyone with a MA library card can check out for 2 hours.

We have 1 Kindle for "in building", 2 hour use only.

Check at the Circulation Desk for availability.

Replacement costs and late fees apply.
I attended both a one day pre-conference and the global annual conference that welcomed more than 20,000 librarians, information professionals, vendors and other interested parties to the Washington, D.C. Convention Center for six days. The following slides discuss some of the workshops and other events I attended.
Preconference, Friday 25 June, 2010
“Web 2.0 and Mobile Technology”

This preconference was advertised as “building global connections.” I was very disappointed that the session focused on Europe, U.S. and Asia exclusively (I was living and working in west Africa in June 2010).

The preconference was very interesting. Five speakers talked about

• apps
• user needs
• engaging young people
• “how libraries can fit into our pockets”
Ms Gits was the assistant director of reference at Nova Southeastern University. She gave a great, energetic talk as the 2\textsuperscript{nd} speaker of the web 2.0 preconference.

My favorite quote from Ms Gits’ talk is “how libraries can fit into our pockets.” She is focused on how library services can be offered to students and users who are very active and mobile.
Many library systems are using apps ... even though “libraries are hostile to mobile phones.”

The future of mobile library services:
- Searching library collections from a mobile device
- Text alerts – overdue notices or an upcoming event
- Creating simple mobile card catalogs
- Mobile payments of library fines
- Text a librarian
- Promote mobile database interfaces
Ms Gits’ work is looking at ways to take “traditional” library services mobile. A big issue when developing mobile systems is “to know which operating system is most popular in your region and which devices are most heavily used.”
Hardware – software - cloud

Cloud computing allows access from anywhere with an indefinite retention of data. Cloud computing includes all of the social features/tools and full color. It allows seamless reading between devices. Mr. Badger (spoke at ALA 2010 preconference) also talked about Google products

- Google patents are indexed
- We can build our own collections via “my library”
- EPUB downloads for public domain books
- Google will begin selling books, including to libraries
Google books and cloud computing
Christopher Carlson supervises web services at the LOC. He has a simple strategy:

- **Helping users find more than 150 million items**
- **Portability and sharing** (LOC **needs** its web presence **more** than most libraries because it is a closed stacks institution)
- **Understanding the users’ needs**
LOC material on the web ...

LOC material must be findable on the following ‘channels,’ as they are providing content on all of these web 2.0 tools:

- Google
- Bing
- YouTube
- Facebook
- Flickr (more than 9,100 photos on flickr)
Uses of web 2.0 tools at LOC

- LOC used flickr comments to augment 1,700 MARC records
- LOC’s Facebook pages - digital preservation, books, the folk life center and the law library - received more than 17,000 views
- Carlson was surprised how frequently online LOC content goes “viral”
- Carlson thinks “desktops will be irrelevant in three years; in Japan most research is already being done on smart phones”
What's New in Version 1.0.1

Fixed a bug that could cause a crash when viewing photos on some devices.

iPhone Screenshots

Library of Congress

WELCOME TO THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
VIRTUAL TOUR

The Library of Congress is the world’s largest library and the largest body of knowledge under a single roof. Whether you’re onsite, at home, in a classroom or elsewhere, this application will give you a virtual tour that mirrors the

The Great Hall

When its doors opened to the public in 1897, the Library of Congress represented an unparalleled national achievement, the "largest, costliest, and safest" library in the world. Its elaborately decorated interior,
What is FOREASt.org?

FOREASt is

*Free Open Resources for East Asian Studies,*

collects relevant scholarly resources published on the Internet by individual scholars, academic institutions, cultural institutions (libraries, museums, archives), government agencies, and occasionally commercial entities. Currently FOREASt provides free access to about 300 databases and journals on East Asia published in North America, Europe, Australia and, of course, East Asia.
Teaching & learning top websites

ALA’s American Association of School Librarians’ session on “best websites for teaching and learning” ... www.ala.org/aasl/bestlist

“All chosen websites support inquiry, student learning, critical thinking and are free to educators.”
Best Websites for Teaching and Learning

The Best Websites for Teaching and Learning honors websites, tools, and resources of exceptional value to inquiry-based teaching and learning as embodied in the American Association of School Librarians' Standards for the 21st-Century Learner.

New for 2010, the Top 25 Websites foster the qualities of innovation, creativity, active participation, and collaboration. They are free, web-based sites that are user friendly and encourage a community of learners to explore and discover.

The Landmark Websites are honored due to their exemplary histories of authoritative, dynamic content and curricular relevance. They are free, web-based sites that are user-friendly and encourage a community of learners to explore and discover and provide a foundation to support
AASL’s categories

- Media Sharing
- Digital Storytelling
- Manage and Organize
- Social Networking and Communication
- Curriculum Sharing
- Content Resources: Lesson Plans and More
- Content Collaboration
“are you a programming librarian?”

This session marked the official launch of the Programming Librarian site
http://www.programminglibrarian.org/

A panel of presenters discussed the programming process. Another trend in the U.S. – event and/or programming librarians. As libraries become more proactive about having events, programs and activities, a career path has emerged. This session offered lots of common-sense support to librarians about programs and programming.
Programming librarian discussion points

• If you’re excited about your program, event or activity, that excitement works for you
• Be a risk-taker, “think outside of the box”
• Let your work be about engaging your users, not “refreshments” or receptions or things that cost money/$$
• Create a network, build partnerships – forge a programming community
• A series of events or thematic programs helps users to connect to activities; it also creates a “brand” for the library/the programs
• Connect your community to your programs, even if the program is about a big, national or even global issue
Junot Diaz
writer, university professor, provocateur
Junot Diaz was funny and very cool!

He was born in Santa Domingo, the capital of the Dominican Republic. His family came to New Jersey when he was 5 years old to join his father already in the U.S. working. His first book, a collection of short stories, “Drown,” was published in 1996. His novel “The Brief, Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao” won the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for fiction and has been optioned by a major studio for a feature film.
Reflecting on his experience growing up in America and working his way through college in 2010, Diaz said: "I can safely say I've seen the US from the bottom up...I may be a success story as an individual. But if you adjust the knob and just take it back one setting to the family unit, I would say my family tells a much more complicated story. It tells the story of two kids in prison. It tells the story of enormous poverty, of tremendous difficulty."
"Junot Diaz said about writers: "What we do might be done in solitude and with great desperation, but it tends to produce exactly the opposite. It tends to produce community and in many people hope and joy."

"In order to write the book you want to write, in the end you have to become the person you need to become to write that book."
On Monday 28 June, Mr. Diaz talked about being a writer and English professor at MIT, one of the world’s major science/math/technology universities ... writing in his authentic Dominican American voice ... being true to his artistic self, even if that means his work won’t appeal to or be understood by some readers
Questions ... comments

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