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A Newsletter from the Illinois State Library — Jesse White, Secretary of State & State Librarian

July/August  
2012

# INSIGHT

## State Library receives grant to expand ILEAD U

The State Library has hosted two very successful continuing education initiatives called ILEAD U — Illinois Libraries Explore, Apply and Discover. ILEAD U was designed to help library staff understand and respond to user needs through the application of participatory technology tools and the creation of an easy-to-replicate model program. While the first year was limited to Illinois library staff, this year librarians from other states traveled to Springfield to take part in ILEAD U.

The State Library has recently been awarded a \$470,000 Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to expand ILEAD U nationwide. Next year, **ILEAD U becomes ILEAD USA**. Twenty-eight five-member teams in Illinois, Colorado, Iowa, Ohio and Utah

will attend three three-day, in-person sessions over the course of nine months.

ILEAD USA will be held **March 25–28, June 17–20, and October 21–24, 2013**. The sessions will be held simultaneously in each of the five states, with plenary sessions broadcast live on streaming video. In-person sessions, virtual meetings and activities will allow participants to hone their newly acquired skills; experiment with participatory technology tools; and continue communication with the ILEAD USA network of participants.

*The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. Through grant making, policy development and research, IMLS communities and individuals thrive through broad public access to knowledge, cultural heritage and lifelong learning. For more information about IMLS, visit [www.ims.gov](http://www.ims.gov).*

## “Eliminate the Digital Divide” grants awarded

Secretary of State Jesse White has announced that 15 public libraries will share in a nearly \$400,000 grant awarded to the Illinois State Library to enhance broadband computer access to citizens across Illinois.

“The digital divide prevents many low-income citizens from having access to important technology and educational programs that can greatly enrich their

lives,” said Secretary White. “Having access to information allows citizens to engage in lifelong learning, and these grants will allow libraries and other providers to offer critical services that will hopefully allow more Illinoisans to lead better, more productive lives.”

The grant is being awarded by the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic

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### CHICAGO TALKING BOOK CENTER WINS AWARD

The Chicago Public Library Talking Book Center, a member of the Illinois Network of Talking Book and Braille Libraries, was named winner of the 2011 Network Subregional Library Award by the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS). Director Debbie Taylor accepted the award at a luncheon in Washington, D.C., in June. The Illinois Network of Talking Book and Braille Libraries also includes the Illinois State Library Talking Book and Braille Service, the Mid-Illinois Talking Book Center and the Voices of Vision Talking Book Center. In 2005, the State Library Talking Book and Braille Service received the Network Library of the Year Award from NLS.

# Read for a Lifetime wrap-up

Read for a Lifetime is the State Library's popular reading program designed for high school students. Here is a wrap-up of the 2011-12 school year:

- 993 readers from 76 high schools and public libraries participated.
- 5,356 books were read.
- 42 seniors received certificates for participating all four years of high school.
- 24 students read all 25 titles on the reading list.
- The Top 5 most read books were *The Great Gatsby*; *Willow*; *What Happened to Goodbye*; *Because I Am Furniture* and *Rules of Attraction*.

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## 2012-13 Read for a Lifetime Booklist

*Across the Universe*, by Beth Revis  
*Angela's Ashes*, by Frank McCourt  
*The Art of Racing In The Rain*, by Garth Stein  
*Before I Die*, by Jenny Downham  
*Beneath a Meth Moon*, by Jacqueline Woodson  
*Between Shades of Gray*, by Ruta Sepetys  
*Bootleg: Murder, Moonshine, and the Lawless Years of Prohibition*, by Karen Blumenthal  
*Butterfly Clues*, by Kate Ellison  
*Chain Reaction*, by Simone Elkeles  
*Chime*, by Fanny Billingsley  
*Dash and Lily's Book of Dares*, by Rachel Cohn and David Levithan  
*The Fault in Our Stars*, by John Green  
*Heaven is For Real*, by Todd Burpo  
*Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*, by Ransom Riggs  
*The Night Circus*, by Erin Morgenstern  
*Paper Covers Rock*, by Jenny Hubbard  
*Perfect*, by Ellen Hopkins  
*Pick-up Game: A Full Day of Full Court*, by Marc Aronson  
*Playing With the Enemy*, by Gary W. Moore  
*A Prayer for Owen Meany*, by John Irving  
*The Running Dream*, by Wendelin Van Draanen  
*Scorpio Races*, by Maggie Stiefvater  
*Unwind*, by Neal Shusterman  
*Where Things Come Back*, by John Corey Whaley  
*Why We Broke Up*, by Daniel Handler



## Ray Bradbury — An Illinois literary legend

August 22, 1920 – June 5, 2012

Legendary science-fiction author Ray Bradbury, a Waukegan native, died in June at age 91 at his home in California. Bradbury's acclaimed works include *Fahrenheit 451*, *The Martian Chronicles*, *The*

*Illustrated Man*, *Dandelion Wine* and *Something Wicked This Way Comes*.

Bradbury was the final living author of the 35 authors whose names are inscribed on the fourth-floor frieze of the Illinois State Library, Gwendolyn Brooks Building in Springfield (see below). In 2008, Bradbury received the Illinois Center for the Book's Illinois Literary Heritage Award during central Illinois' "The Big Read" campaign, for which *Fahrenheit 451* was the featured reading selection.

For more information about Ray Bradbury, visit the Illinois Authors Wiki at [www.illinoisauthors.org/authors/Ray\\_Bradbury](http://www.illinoisauthors.org/authors/Ray_Bradbury).

### Illinois authors' names on the Illinois State Library

Jane Addams	Finley Peter Dunne	Abraham Lincoln
George Ade	Eliza Farnham	Vachel Lindsay
Nelson Algren	James T. Farrell	Edgar Lee Masters
Sherwood Anderson	Edna Ferber	William Maxwell
Paul Angle	Henry Blake Fuller	Frank Norris
L. Frank Baum	Hamlin Garland	Donald Culross Peattie
Saul Bellow	Lorraine Hansberry	Elia Wilkinson Peattie
Black Hawk	Ben Hecht	Carl Sandburg
Ray Bradbury	Ernest Hemingway	Upton Sinclair
Gwendolyn Brooks	Robert Herrick	(Louis) Studs Terkel
Cyrus Colter	James Jones	Richard Wright
Theodore Dreiser	Ring Lardner	

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### Eliminate the Digital Divide (continued from page 1)

Opportunity (DCEO) to provide equipment, training and services for broadband-delivered education, employment and reading services to the unemployed, children, seniors, minorities, persons with disabilities and others. Libraries may purchase equipment such as computers, software, scanners, electronic book readers and printers, and may host technology workshops or hire instructors to teach patrons basic computer skills, résumé writing, social networking and other technology-related skills.

#### **Libraries receiving grants are:**

Bourbonnais Public Library  
Bunker Hill Public Library  
Cahokia Public Library  
Chenoa Public Library  
Creve Coeur Public Library  
Dolton Public Library District  
Eldorado Memorial Public Library  
Flossmoor Public Library  
Hillsboro Public Library  
LaMoille-Clarion District Library  
Lansing Public Library  
Nokomis Public Library  
North Riverside Public Library  
Odell Public Library District  
Sterling Public Library

## CARLI approves digitization project

The Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI) has partnered with the Open Content Alliance on the digitization of key materials from research libraries. The project will include the State Library's collection from the legislative, executive and judicial branches of Illinois government and include such documents as *The Annual Report of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (1978-2010)*; *The Executive Orders of the Governors (1990-2010)*; and *The Annual Report of the Illinois Courts: Administrative Summary (1991-2010)*. These materials will be useful to government officials and staffs, students and historians who are researching trends and separation of powers issues in state government since adoption of the 1970 Illinois Constitution.

## Computer literacy training grant for WebJunction

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has announced a \$250,000 grant for WebJunction to help libraries plan and deliver computer literacy training, as well as to identify model approaches for partnerships with libraries to meet public demand for training. WebJunction will work with the Illinois State Library, state libraries in Mississippi and West Virginia, federal policy makers and Connect2Compete, a national nonprofit organization with an ambitious goal to "harness digital opportunity for all Americans." During the past year, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced major commitments from the private sector, foundations and individuals to work with Connect2Compete.



### LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE WINNERS

Illinois winners of the 2012 Letters About Literature contest were honored at a ceremony in Springfield recently. The national reading and writing competition for students is sponsored by the Illinois Center for the Book, an affiliate of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, and offered in partnership with Target Corporation. Winners are (left to right): Nadeen Shaban of Orland Park, Level III-grades 9-12; Ben Gachpar of Northbrook, Level I-grades 4-6; and Kate Wardenburg of Frankfort, Level II-grades 7-8. For the fifth year in a row, Illinois had more entries than any other state with nearly 6,000 students participating. Winning essays can be read at [illinoiscenterforthebook.org/projects/projectse.html](http://illinoiscenterforthebook.org/projects/projectse.html).



## Annual Conference

October 9-11

The Illinois Library Association will hold its annual conference October 9-11 at the Peoria Civic Center. The theme this year is "Bouncing Higher," with a red rubber ball as a symbol of resiliency and momentum as well as the playful, fun aspects of librarianship. The State Library will be represented at the following programs and seminars:

- **Illinois Authors' Cocktail Hour & Dinner, October 9, 6:30-9 p.m.** — The Illinois Center for the Book is sponsoring Illinois State Archives Director David Joens, author of *From Slave to State Legislator: John W. E. Thomas, Illinois' First African American Lawmaker*.
- **"Take Technology to the Next Level," October 10, 9-10 a.m.** — Reference librarian Sandra Fritz is part of a panel that will discuss innovative ideas and approaches using participatory technologies to increase opportunities for creative library programs.
- **"Resource Sharing: Strategic Directions Statewide," October 10, 2-3:30 p.m.** — State Library Director Anne Craig is part of a panel that will discuss the changing climate and future of resource sharing. Joining Craig will be Leslie Bednar, Illinois Heartland Library System director; Jane Plass, Reaching Across Illinois Library System interim director; and Susan Singleton, director of the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI).
- **"There's a Stat for That: The Importance of Data Collection in Your Library," October 11, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.** — State Library data coordinator Robert Jones will speak about how good data collection is more important now than ever before, and explore how statistics define our existence and help shape our future.

For more information, visit [www.ila.org](http://www.ila.org).



The State Library will once again be represented at the Illinois State Fair in Springfield, which runs August 9-19. Look for the State Library booth in Secretary of State Jesse White's tent near the Ethnic Village, as well as the Talking Book and Braille Service booth in the air-conditioned Illinois Building (Senior Building), where visitors can sign up and obtain information about the program.

## SAVE THE DATE

**August 9-19**  
Illinois State Fair  
Springfield

**September 6**  
Illinois State Library Advisory Committee meeting  
State Library

**October 9-11**  
Illinois Library Association  
Annual Conference  
Peoria

The Illinois State Library will be closed the following state holidays:

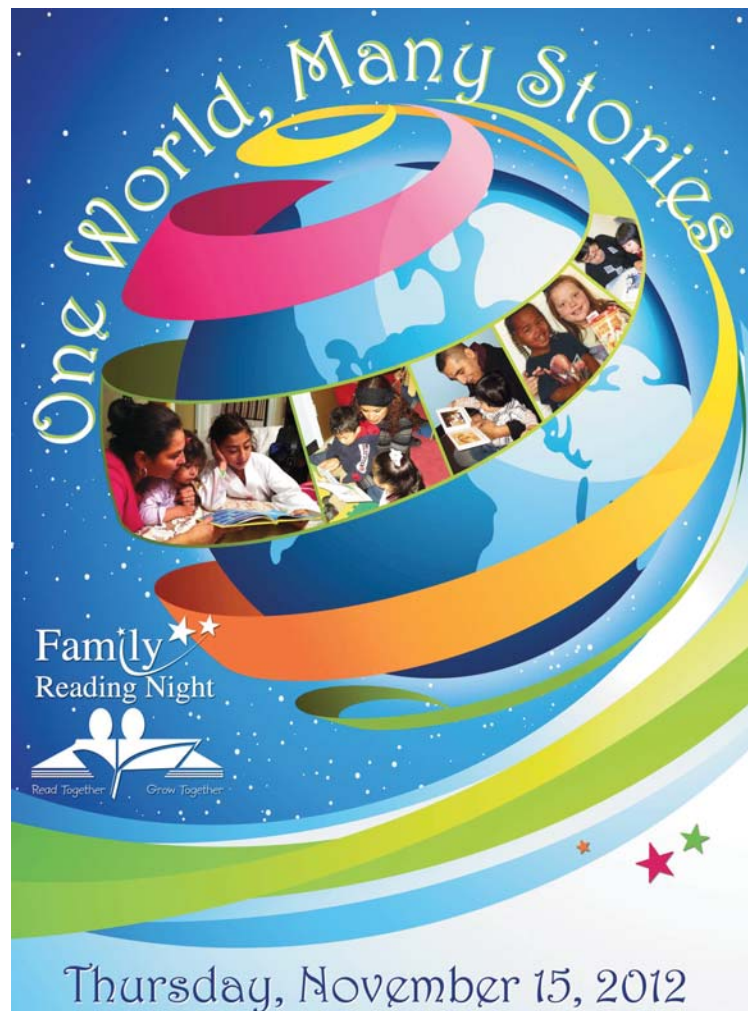
**Labor Day: Monday, September 3**  
**Columbus Day: Monday, October 8**

## State Library staff news

The 2012 Summer Associates from the **Mortenson Center for International Library Programs** at the University of Illinois at Urbana visited the State Library for a two-day digitization-training workshop. The workshop was presented by State Library Digital Imaging Program manager Alyce Scott. The Mortenson associates included librarians from Barbados, Bulgaria, Egypt, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyz Republic, Nigeria and South Africa.

**Larry Weyhrich**, a reader advisor with the Talking Book and Braille Service, retired in June following 37 years of service at the State Library.

Map librarian **Arlyn Booth** wrapped up 40 years of service at the State Library in June.



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Insight  
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