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November/December  
**2011**

# INSIGHT

## Public library construction grants available

Applications are being accepted for the new Public Library Construction Act Grant Program as well as the annual Live & Learn Public Library Construction Grant Program.

The Public Library Construction Act Grant Program is funded by the sale of state bonds through the Build Illinois Bond Program, and is most appropriate for libraries interested in major construction and remodeling projects. Grant awards will range from no more than 75 percent and no less than 35 percent of the recognized eligible project costs as determined by the Illinois State Library. These awards are based on each individual library's Grant Index, which is calculated using a mathematical formula included in the legislation creating the program. Any remaining project costs will be the responsibility of the award recipient.

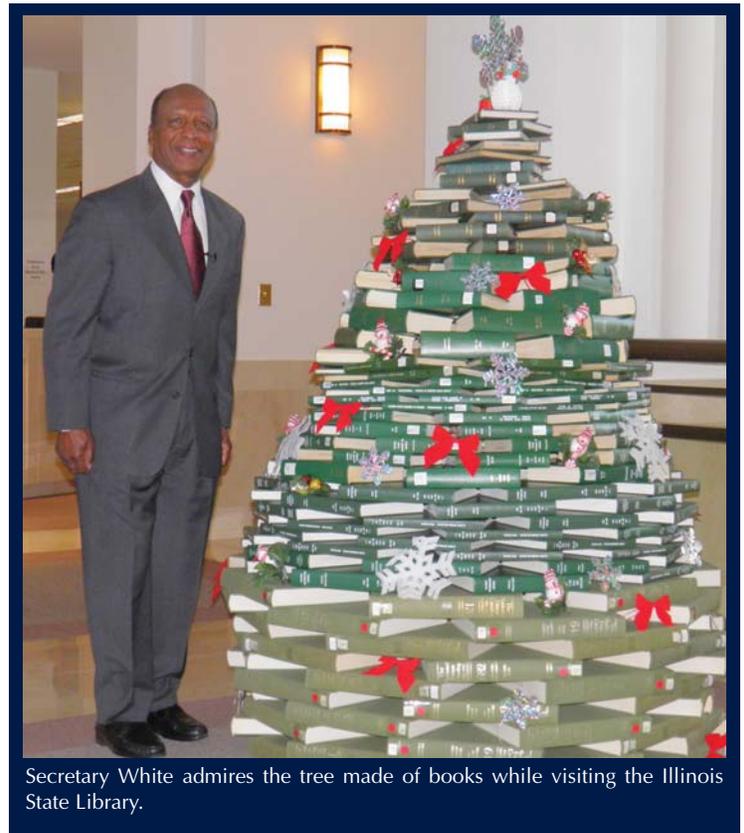
**Public Library Construction Act Grant Program applications are due on April 16, 2012.**

The FY2012 Live & Learn Grant Program is funded by an annual legislative appropriation. Grants are awarded by Secretary of State Jesse White based on recommendations received from a statewide committee following a review process.

This grant offering is appropriate for new construction, remodeling to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, or additions to and/or remodeling of existing buildings. Grant awards and ranges depend upon the program applied for and the match amount, if required.

**FY2012 Live & Learn Construction Grant Program applications are due January 13, 2012.**

Information about both of these construction grant programs is available at [www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/what\\_we\\_do/constructgrants.html](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/what_we_do/constructgrants.html). For questions about either program, contact Mark Shaffer at [mshaffer@ilsos.net](mailto:mshaffer@ilsos.net) or 217-524-4901, or H. Neil Kelley at [nkelley@ilsos.net](mailto:nkelley@ilsos.net), 217-782-1891.



Secretary White admires the tree made of books while visiting the Illinois State Library.

# Regional Library System Boards meet

The Illinois State Library hosted an all-day meeting this fall for the boards of directors of the state's three regional library systems. The meeting was the first opportunity for the boards of the two newly configured regional library systems to learn their responsibilities and meet with State Library staff.



Leslie Bednar (left), director of the new Illinois Heartland Library System, and Michael Piper, interim director of the new Reaching Across Illinois Library System, made presentations on how they plan to provide essential services to member libraries.



Mary Dempsey, commissioner of the Chicago Public Library System, discussed the system's plans for the future.



Among new library system board members attending the meeting were John Chastka, Berwyn Public Library, and Sue Herring, Fondulac District Library.

## ILEAD U Wrap-up

The final session of ILEAD U (Illinois Librarians Explore, Apply and Discover) was held in October at the University of Illinois Springfield. ILEAD U, the 21st Century Technology and Leadership Skills Institute for Librarians, funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, brought together eight teams of librarians from across the state and apprentices from other states to design a Web 2.0 project. Tom Dorst of the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois and Karen McBride of Barrington Public Library were two of the instructors for the event. One of the eight teams of ILEAD U librarians, calling themselves Team Explorers, was comprised of: (left to right) Michelle Schorheide and Robert Jones, Illinois State Library; John Fischer, Bloomington Public Library; Tom Huber and Cheryl Walker, ISL; and Allen Lanham, Booth Library, Eastern Illinois University.



Tom Dorst



Karen McBride



Team Explorers

## "On the Front Lines" – March 12-14

The highly acclaimed "On The Front Lines" conference will return for an eighth year on March 12-14, 2012. The event is designed to equip and enlighten "front-line" library staff members with training, exposure and techniques to enable them to deal effectively and efficiently with their day-to-day activities. Conference sessions will focus on topics of interest to all types of libraries.

## State Library display marks anniversary of U.S. GPO



The Illinois State Library hosted a display this fall marking the 150th anniversary of the opening of the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO). The GPO opened its doors on March 4, 1861, the same day as President Abraham Lincoln's inauguration. Since that time, the GPO has produced countless historic publications for the government as well as a vast range of documents that Americans have used for generations, such as passports, Social Security cards, Census forms and tax forms.

The GPO also administers the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) to ensure that citizens have access to all government publications. The State Library is the Regional Federal Depository Library for the State of Illinois and collects all the materials distributed through the FDLP.

The State Library marked the GPO's 150th anniversary with a display of items from the library's large collection. Some of the more interesting and unusual items in the display included:

- Testimony from a U.S. Senate hearing in 1985 about the contents of music and record lyrics that eventually led to warning labels being placed on CDs and cassettes.
- 2009 game titled, "Space travel hazards: how safely can you travel through space?"
- "Life and morals of Jesus of Nazareth: extracted textually from the Gospels in Greek, Latin, French and English by Thomas Jefferson," printed in 1904.
- "Long hard road: Non Commissioned Officer experiences in Afghanistan and Iraq," printed in 2009.
- Recipes from the Navy-Marine Corps recipe service in World War II.
- Story of Smokey the Bear in English and Spanish, printed in 2009.



## ISLAC update

The Illinois State Library Advisory Committee (ISLAC) met in September at the State Library. **Tina Hubert**, director of the Six Mile Regional Library District, is the new ISLAC chair. **Phyllis Self**, dean of Western Illinois University Libraries, is the new vice chair.

The following new ISLAC members took part in their first meeting:

**Marian Albers**, director, Mascoutah Public Library (public libraries representative);

**Karen Bounds**, Centralia High School Library (school libraries representative);

**Claire Eike**, director, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, John M. Flaxman Library (academic libraries representative);

**Julie Milavec**, director, Plainfield Public Library District (public libraries representative);

**Ellen Popit**, membership development coordinator, Illinois Heartland Library System (library systems representative);

**Susan Singleton**, executive director, CARLI, (academic libraries representative).

Six outgoing ISLAC members were recognized at the meeting for their contributions:

**Betsy Adamowski**, director, Itasca Community Library (public libraries representative);

**Brad Baker**, dean of Libraries and Learning, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago (academic libraries representative);

**Kristine Hammerstrand**, director, CARLI User Services (academic libraries representative);

**Joe Harris**, retired director, Shawnee Library System (library systems representative);

**Chad Raymond**, executive director, Northbrook Public Library (ISLAC chair; public libraries representative);

**Becky Robinson**, Galesburg CUSD #205 (school libraries representative).

# School District Library Grant Program

**Deadline December 30**

Applications are being accepted through **December 30** for FY12 School District Library Program Grants. The School District Library Grant Program provides funds for such things as library materials to support reading for academics and enjoyment, library subscriptions to electronic resources, or improved technology to support student research.

Last year, grants totaling nearly \$1.4 million were made to 679 Illinois public school districts. More than 1.8 million students served by school library media programs benefited from the grants. Illinois was the first state to implement a school district grant program.

Applications and other materials are available at [www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/what\\_we\\_do/schoolpercapgrant.html](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/what_we_do/schoolpercapgrant.html). For questions or comments, contact Robert Jones at [rjones1@ilsos.net](mailto:rjones1@ilsos.net) or 217-785-1168.

## State Library staff news

State Library Map Librarian **Arlyn Booth** is mentioned in an article in the new annual report of the Illinois State Archaeological Survey. Arlyn was involved in an effort to preserve the 1895 Pike County Atlas, and because of her efforts, a CD copy of the atlas is now cataloged and on the WorldCat database. Read the story on page 20 of the annual report at [www.isas.illinois.edu/pdfs/isas\\_annual\\_2010.pdf](http://www.isas.illinois.edu/pdfs/isas_annual_2010.pdf).

The assistance of State Library staff has been acknowledged in a new book co-written by a library patron and former state employee. The book, *Remembering Roadside America: Preserving the Recent Past as Landscape and Place*, by Keith A. Sculle and John A. Jakle, was published by the University of Tennessee Press. The State Library reference, interlibrary loan and map staff members provided assistance to Sculle during his research for the book.

**Mary Downing**, Library Development Group consultant, was recognized at this fall's Reaching Forward South Conference in Springfield for 15 years of outstanding service as a member of the conference planning committee.

**Matt Heninger**, a part-time employee with the Talking Book and Braille Service, has begun a new full-time position as a library technician at the Circulation Desk.

**Taran Ley** has begun work at the State Library as a library specialist in Reference Services. She was previously head librarian for the General Assembly's Legislative Research Unit and has extensive experience with reference work.

*Secretary of State and State Librarian  
Jesse White and the staff of the  
Illinois State Library wish you and yours a joyous  
holiday season and prosperous New Year!*



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