

# The School Library System Newsletter

## March 2009



### Pat's Desk Talk

#### Different Perspectives

At the end of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Scout escorts Arthur Radley to his home. She stands on his porch and realizes she has never seen her street from that angle until now. She places herself in front of Arthur's front window and remembers what her father, Atticus, had once said, "You never really know a man until you stand in his shoes and walk around in them." Standing on the Radley porch was enough for Scout. She acquired a new understanding of her neighbor and contemplated the coming-and-goings of their neighborhood through his eyes as she walked home.

Perhaps its time for all of us to try a new perspective. Take a moment to be Scout and go stand at the entrance to your library – looking into the LMC. Put yourself in the "shoes" of your patrons. What do they see, feel, and hear as they enter the LMC? Is it inviting, fun, cluttered, austere, comfortable, cold, over-stimulating or under-stimulating? Or, as Goldilocks would say, is it "Just Right!" If you work with little children, get down to their eye-level...how

different is it from their perspective than yours?

Walk to different areas of your library and look at your library from those angles. What do you see? Do you like what you see? Would you change anything?

Assessments can be big or small, quick or complex but they should be on-going and diverse to get the true picture of your space and your program.

This is the last in the series of articles on assessing your LMC. I hope they have stirred you to action. And, I hope that you found things that delighted you as well as things that you want to adjust. There is always room for improvement or updates. Our programs are ever-evolving and should never become static. Please feel free to call if you need our assistance with any changes you would like to make. We enjoy working with all of you!



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### Notes from Kenn:

#### NOW THEN ... WHERE WAS THAT REQUEST SENT TO?

After submitting an ILL request to a school, knowing what school it was sent to can be difficult to find on the Form Confirmation page as there is no specific line that shows that. While you do fill in the "Holding Library" field with the holding school's code (which should be the school you're sending the request to), if you're a substitute and not familiar with the school codes that isn't very helpful. However, at the bottom of the Form Confirmation page you print, the very last line on the entire page should read as follows:

[http://www.ohmboces.org/\\_vti\\_bin/shtml.dll/sls\\_interlibrary\\_request\\_schoolname.htm](http://www.ohmboces.org/_vti_bin/shtml.dll/sls_interlibrary_request_schoolname.htm)

The school name that appears here should be the name of the school and building (high school, elem. school) that you sent the request to. While it's not in the main part of the request information, it's quick and easy to find at the bottom if you know where to look. Please share this information with your aides and substitutes. Please contact me if you have any questions or are not seeing that

line at the bottom of your Form Confirmation page.

### SCHOOL-TO-SCHOOL ILL STATS

For those wondering when to send your ILL loans report, I will be requesting them in June, at the end of the school year. If you close your library to ILL for the year before I request them, please feel free to send your report along with a note saying you are closed to ILL. The end of the school year will be here before you know it!



### Mary's Notes:

As you know, we have finally received our state funding, and we were extremely pleased to be able to offer a \$400 mini grant to each of your libraries for collection development. This is truly one of the best parts of my job – I love helping share funds!

I do want to remind you about a few things that are critical to this process. **It is essential that you send your records from these books to Anne Nassar, so that they can be entered in the catalog.** This is one of the only requirements we have for the grant; we need to show sharing of resources between districts, and we need your records in order to do

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that. When you send the records from these purchases, please flag them for Anne as mini-grant orders. Make a note on the transmittal slip (big red letters are always helpful) so that she can check off your orders in our database. The other thing we need from you is copies of the packing slips, as the orders arrive. Those should be sent to me, so that I can approve payment of the purchase orders. I also use the packing slips to track the number of books that are purchased, and that is reported to the state.

For both the collection mini grant orders and for CCD orders, please do not request any books that are not yet published. I remove those items from the order sheets; our purchase orders need to be filled and completed in a timely manner, and books that are not yet available are not suitable for this kind of order.

As always, if you have any questions, please just send me an email or give me a call: [mmccormick@oneida-boces.org](mailto:mmccormick@oneida-boces.org) or 793-8505.



### Anne's Notes:

If you do your own cataloging, you may find [biblios.net](http://biblios.net) useful. It's a decent source for free MARC records. To use it, you'll need to create an account and log in. Then, you'll be able to search for an item by keyword, title, author, ISBN or ISSN. Once you've conducted a search, you can limit the results by year or edition. If you find a suitable record, you can export it. Make sure you choose MARC21 as your format. When asked if you'd like to open or save the file, choose save. Then, import the record into Mandarin. While the records are generally consistent, you ought to evaluate each record before you import it.

[Biblios.net](http://Biblios.net) also has a variety of forums you can use to ask other librarians basic or advanced cataloging questions.

[Biblios.net](http://Biblios.net) has a deep, if random, back file. Its records for really old (and by really old, I mean pre-1980's) books are of better quality than Access Pennsylvania's.

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### LOOKING FOR DISCARDED BASEBALL BOOKS

We have a staff member who has a collection of baseball books and would be interested in adding any discarded baseball books you may have to his collection. Any age or grade level would be fine. If you don't have students, faculty or staff that want them, please send them to the SLS and we'll make sure he gets them. Thank you!



### MARCH 2009 SCHOOL LIBRARY SYSTEM PROFESSIONAL COLLECTION ADDITIONS



#### *What's NEW in Young Adult Literature and How to Use it in Your Program: 2008*

By Debby Hipes

In this NEW seminar, Debby Hipes will present the best NEW young adult books, both hardbacks and paperbacks. You'll learn innovative ideas for

utilizing recently published adolescent literature in your classroom or library. In addition, you'll discover practical techniques and strategies for tempting your students with new literature written specifically for middle and high school audiences. Outstanding Strategies that highlight..

- The best newly published books for young adults
- Powerful new novels to incorporate across the curriculum
- “Book bundling” to integrate fiction, nonfiction and more
- Tips for matching the right title to the right teen at the right time
- Secrets for finding time to read
- A variety of recently published books dealing with contemporary teen issues

#### *What's NEW in Children's Literature and How to Use it in Your Program: 2008 (Grades K-6)*

By Peggy Sharp



Peggy Sharp returns with her annual ALL NEW audio program, sharing the best NEW children's books, all of which have been published

in 2007. Peggy will go beyond just familiarizing you with the best of the newly published titles to share highly practical strategies for using these outstanding NEW books in all areas of your curriculum.

You'll learn how to...

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- Use outstanding new books with students of all ages and ALL abilities in your program
- Get the most for your money when purchasing children's books
- Use high-interest new fiction and nonfiction to foster development of strategic lifelong readers
- Learn how to use the best new graphic novels to motivate both your most reluctant readers as well as your most able readers
- Pair new fiction and nonfiction titles to engage learners



### ***The Collaboration Handbook***

Toni Buzzeo

Step up to the plate and hit one out of the park for collaboration! This

concise, heavy-duty, powerpacked volume is filled with the information teachers, librarians, and administrators need to increase levels of collaboration in their schools in order to increase student learning and achievement.

Discover:

- Hands-on tools for moving step-by-step from isolation, to cooperation, to collaboration.
- How to assess your collaboration quotient and raise it to new levels.
- Methods for convincing administrators, teachers, and

librarians of the benefit collaboration has on student learning.

### **Krista's Korner:**

Hello everyone! The beginning of the new year is always an exciting time in children's literature because of the many children's book awards that are announced. Did any of you catch the webcast of the children's book award announcements from ALA Midwinter in January? This year YALSA created a new award, the William C. Morris Award for the best author of a first YA book. The winner was *A Curse Dark as Gold* by Elizabeth C. Bunce, and the honor books were *Madapple* by Christina Meldrum, *Graceling* by Kristin Cashore, *Absolute Brightness* by James Lecesne, and *Me, the Missing, and the Dead* by Jenny Valentine. It's nice to see another award for young adult literature.

Did you know that a local author was one of ALA's 2009 Robert F. Sibert Medal honor books? James M. Deem, whose *Bodies from the Ice: Melting Glaciers and the Recovery of the Past* was one of this year's honor books for best informational children's literature, lived in the area from 1979 to 1984 and worked in what was then the Developmental Studies department at Mohawk Valley Community College. He started writing children's books in 1988. His two other "bodies" books, *Bodies from the Ash (Pompeii)* and *Bodies from the Bog (bog mummies)* are also fascinating.

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Here are some other book awards given out this year.

This year's Charlotte Zolotow Award winner for outstanding writing in a picture book was given to Bob Graham for How to Heal a Broken Wing.

The 2009 Green Earth Book Award, given by the Newton Marasco Foundation are: picture book co-winners: Planting the Trees of Kenya by Claire A. Nivola and Varmints by Helen Ward; juvenile fiction winner: Night of the Spadefoot Toads by Bill Harley; young adult co-winners: Blind Faith Hotel by Pamela Todd and Write Naked by Peter Gould; and non-fiction winner: My Space/Our Planet by the Myspace Community, Jeca Taudte, and Dan Santat.

The 2009 Knickerbocker Award for children's literature, given by the New York Library Association to an author/illustrator living in New York State, went to David A. Adler.

The 2009 Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award for best juvenile poetry books was won by Helen Frost for Diamond Willow, with two honor books: Stitchin' and Pullin' a Gee's Bend Quilt by Patricia C. McKissack and The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom by Margarita Engle.

The 2009 National Council of Teachers of English Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children was given to Lee Bennett Hopkins. The 2009 NCTE

Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children went to Amelia Earhart: the Legend of the Lost Aviator by Shelley Tanaka, with five honor books: George Washington Carver by Tonya Bolden, The Lincolns: a Scrapbook Look at Abraham and Mary by Candace Fleming, Washington at Valley Forge by Russell Freedman, We are the Ship: the Story of Negro League Baseball by Kadir Nelson, and When the Wolves Returned: Restoring Nature's Balance in Yellowstone by Dorothy Hinshaw Patent.

And given out last October, the Jane Addams Children's Book Award for children's books published the preceding year that effectively promote the cause of peace, social justice, world community, and the equality of the sexes and all races as well as meeting conventional standards of excellence; the winners are The Escape of Oney Judge: Martha Washington's Slave Finds Freedom by Emily Arnold McCully and We are One: the Story of Bayard Rustin by Larry Dane Brimner. The honor books are One Thousand Tracings: Healing the Wounds of World War II by Lita Judge, Rickshaw Girl by Mitali Perkins, Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis, and Birmingham 1963 by Carole Weatherford Boston.

I'll keep you posted on other awards as they're given throughout the year. In the meantime, happy reading and happy spring!

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### THE 2009 CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD WINNERS!

**The Caldecott Award** (best American illustrator)

Winner: Beth Krommes, illus. The House in the Night by Susan Marie Swanson.

Honor books: Marla Frazee. A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever. Uri Shulevitz.

How I Learned Geography. Melissa Sweet, illus. A River of Words: the Story of William Carlos Williams by Jen Bryant.

**The Newberry Award** (best American author)

Winner: Neil Gaiman. The Graveyard Book.

Honor books: Margarita Engle. The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom. Ingrid Law. Savvy. Jacqueline Woodson. After Tupac & D Foster. Kathi Appelt. The Underneath. David Small, illus.

**The Coretta Scott King Award** (best Black American author and illustrator)

Winner, Author: Kadir Nelson. For We Are the Ship: the Story of Negro League Baseball.

Honor book, Author: Hope Anita Smith. Keeping the Night Watch. E.B. Lewis, illus. Joyce Carol Thomas. The Blacker the Berry. Floyd Cooper, illus. Carole Boston Weatherford. Becoming Billie Holiday. Floyd Cooper, illus. Jerry Pinkney. The Moon Over Star by Dianna Hutts Aston. Sean Qualls. Before John Was a Jazz Giant: a Song of John Coltrane. by Carole Boston Weatherford.

**The Schneider Family Book Award** (American author of books depicting disabilities)

Picture book: Robert Andrew Parker. Piano Starts Here: the Young Art Tatum. Middle school book: Leslie Connor. Waiting for Normal. Teen/YA book: Jonathan Friesen. Jerk, California.

**The Margaret A. Edwards Award**

(American author – lifetime contribution to books for teens)

Winner: Laurie Halse Anderson.

**The Laura Ingalls Wilder Award** (American author/illustrator—substantial and lasting contribution to children's literature)

Winner: Ashley Bryan

**The Michael L. Printz Award** (best American young adult book)

Winner: Melina Marchetta. Jellicoe Road.

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Honor books: M.T. Anderson. The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to the Nation, v.II: The Kingdom on the Waves. Terry Pratchett. Nation. Margo Lanagan. Tender Morsels. E. Lockhart. The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks.

### **The Pura Belpre Award**

(best Latino/Latina author and illustrator)

Winner, Illustrator: Yuyi Morales. Just in Case: a Trickster Tale and Spanish Alphabet Book. Honor books, Illustrator: Rudy Gutierrez, illus. Papa and Me by Arthur Dorros. Lulu Delacre, illus. The Storyteller's Candle by Lucia Gonzalez. Amy Cordova, illus. What Can You Do With a Rebozo? by Carmen Tafolla  
Winner, Author: Margarita Engle. The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle For Freedom. Honor Books, Author: Yuyi Morales. Just in Case: a Trickster Tale and Spanish Alphabet Book. Francisco Jimenez. Reaching Out. Lucia Gonzalez. The Storyteller's Candle. Lulu Delacre, illus.

### **The Theodore Seuss Geisel Award**

(best American author/illustrator of a beginning reader book)

Winner: Mo Willems. "Are You Ready to Play Outside?". Honor books: Laura Vaccaro Seeger. One Boy. Eleanor Davis. Stinky. Judyann Ackerman Grant. Chicken Said "Cluck!". Sue Truesdell, illus. Sarah C. Campbell. Wolfsnail: a Backyard Predator. Richard Posey Campbell, illus.

### **The Robert F. Sibert Medal**

(best American author of an information book for children)

Winner: Kadir Nelson. We Are the Ship: the Story of Negro League Baseball. Honor books: James M. Deem. Bodies From the Ice: Melting Glaciers and the Recovery of the Past. Barbara Kerley. What to Do About Alice?: How Alice Roosevelt Broke the Rules, Charmed the World, and Drove Her Father Teddy Crazy! Edwin Fotheringham, illus.

### **The William C. Morris Award**

(best first-published author of a young adult book)

Winner: Elizabeth C. Bunce. A Curse Dark As Gold. Honor books: Christina Meldrum. Madapple. Kristin Cashore. Graceling. James Lecesne. Absolute Brightness. Jenny Valentine. Me, the Missing, and the Dead.

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