Dr. Marc Aronson, author, and Rutgers University lecturer, energized a group of over 100 area educators at the December 11, 2013, Leatherstocking Conference. Aronson was the keynote speaker at the 28th annual conference, which is sponsored jointly by Oneida/Herkimer BOCES School Library System, Madison-Oneida BOCES School Library System, Jefferson-Lewis BOCES School Library System and the MORIC Model Schools program. One area of Dr. Aronson’s expertise is nonfiction literature in education and teaching.

Due to the increased emphasis on nonfiction under the Common Core standards, it is more critical than ever to connect students to nonfiction reading. Librarians can be the vital link in that process, and Aronson provided tips and strategies on how to become a nonfiction expert, and a resource for both students and teachers. Aronson presented with Sue Bartle, SLS director from Erie 2 BOCES, concerning tools to use in evaluating non-fiction works. Sue also conducted a section on the importance of weeding library collections to be sure collections are relevant.

Cathy Leogrande, associate professor at LeMoyne College, was a featured speaker at the conference. Cathy led three of the breakout sessions, and focused on media literacy and digital citizenship. Cathy’s research focus is adolescent development, new literacies and technology, popular culture, and curriculum development.

Library media specialists from regional schools served as presenters, and shared information on a wide range of topics, all relating to the theme of Common Core: Uncommon Challenge. Special thanks to Emily Gibson, Karen Zaleski, Vicky Greenman, and Katie St. Laurent, from the Oneida/Herkimer SLS, and Jennine Bloomquist, Chris Shaffer, and Tina Laramie from Madison-Oneida SLS, for giving generously of their time and talent as presenters.
FUTURE FOOD

FUTURE FOOD is a highly topical new documentary series that asks how we are going to feed ourselves in the 21st Century, and looks for answers in Peru, Kenya, USA, India, Nigeria and China. From the producers of the popular LIFE series on globalization and its effects on communities and people around the world.

The titles in this new series are:

**DVD2597/DM01673 Old or New? - Peru:** In Lima, Peru, a new generation of top chefs are cooking with traditional ingredients and supporting traditional livelihoods.

**DVD1674/DM01674 Food or Fuel? - Kenya:** Kenyan farmer Moses Shaha journeys through the Tana Delta, where farmers are starting to grow jatropha, a biofuel crop.

**DVD2599/DM01675 Big or Small? - USA:** What’s the best method of growing food for a hungry population of 9.5 billion people: Big, or small?

**DVD2600/DM01676 Fat or Skinny? - India:** The people of India are faced with a choice: indulge in a Western-style fast food diet, or embrace healthy and indigenous alternatives.

**DVD2601/DM01677 Near or Far? - Nigeria:** The Nigerian Minister for Agriculture wants to ensure Nigerians eat food grown in Nigeria.

**DVD2602/DM01678 Stay or Go? - China:** Who will grow China’s food as young people leave the countryside for the cities?
Timely Topics

Martin Luther King Day
This Martin Luther King Day, let Learn360 help you commemorate a true American hero. Bring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. into your classroom to honor his life and his leadership. Watch Dr. King’s famous "I Have a Dream" speech, and experience the civil rights movement through his life and words. Browse through all our content on Dr. King here.

Training
One of our resolutions this year is to help our customers use their subscriptions to the fullest! So it’s no surprise that we have a brand-new Webinar schedule for the new year. Get signed up for our Learn360 basics Webinar below, and help us fulfill our resolution.

Jan. 22 @ 7:00 p.m. EST:

Tip of the Month
We know one of your New Year’s resolutions is to really learn how to use Learn360. Good thing we make it easy with our Learn360 Support Center and our superior video tutorials. Get started by watching our video tutorial on how to search Learn360. Once you’ve mastered the search, move on to some of our more in-depth tutorials.

Featured Titles
1. Nelson Mandela: One Man from Film Ideas
2. The Story of Silk from National Geographic
3. Myths & Legends of Ancient Greece from Colman Communications
4. Great Depression, The (Boom and Bust in America) from Distribution Access Inc.
5. Antarctic Antics from Weston Woods
6. H-2-Oh-No! from Planet Bonehead Studios
7. Lost Colony Of Roanoke from A&E Television Networks
8. Mummies Made in Egypt from Reading Rainbow
9. A Whale Of A Good Time! from Bellum Entertainment/Midori Entertainment
10. No Business Like Snow Business from Skywriter Media & Entertainment Group

New Year, New Ideas For Using BrainPOP

Digital Games and the Common Core, with Classroom, Inc.
Wednesday, January 15 at 4 pm ET

Put BrainPOP in the Mix
Wednesday, January 22 at 3:30 pm ET

The Ins and Outs of My BrainPOP
Wednesday, January 29 at 3:30 pm ET

Pre-register and Join • Event Password: moby

Cooperative Music, Archived Music

Our committee has been busy this past year updating our music collection and eliminating outdated music which we are now archiving. When you are in SNAP go to “advanced search,” select “all fields,” “all words and type in “archived music” in the next box. This will bring up all archived music. You will not be able to order these titles through SNAP. But if you call our office we will be able to book and send the music to you.
The Annual NYLA Conference

No part of my job gets me as fired up as professional development. I love teaching it, and I love getting the chance to learn something new. Every workshop has the potential to revolutionize my practice. On September 25, filled with anticipation, I headed to Niagara Falls, N.Y. for the annual NYLA Conference, and I was not disappointed. This year’s theme was Library Spark Imagination. The sessions I attended emphasized the importance of community engagement, creative leadership and proactive marketing as advocacy.

I attended a panel discussion with a group of librarians from the Pioneer Central School District. They worked as a department to bring in a guest author for a free community reading night, which included talks with the author as well as activity stations based in classrooms through the school. They built support for the event by finding ways to tie all the activities to topics in curriculum, and by creating a fun theme. They received many donations from local businesses, found a few small grants, contracted to hold a book fair at the event (noting that local booksellers may do this – not just Scholastic), and used a BOCES enrichment coser to pay for the author, sharing him with another district. They noted that many of their best-received activities were free – high school students shared a karate demonstration and a magic show. They also partnered with the public library to recruit volunteers and to promote and staff the event.

Sue Kowalski, the outgoing president of SSL, spoke on the topic of leadership along with Lauren Comito of Queens Library. Their message was “Bite off more than you can chew, then chew it.” Although each of us already feels as if we have too much on our plates, they emphasized that there are ways to take control of how you direct your energies. They pointed out that they have both found success in saying yes whenever possible, and even suggesting new projects to tackle, even when the problem to be solved isn’t necessarily a library problem. By finding gaps and stepping up to solve problems outside their libraries, librarians can gain credibility as leaders of change and facilitators of knowledge.

Rebecca Smith Aldrich and Gillian Thorpe co-lead a session called “What’s Your Library’s Reputation?” They shared great advice for managing community perceptions of your library. They talked about keeping a “no log” where they wrote down every time they had to decline a patron request, then used the log as a starting point for new services. As they put it, “you are just the lens to focus the desires and efforts of your community.” They taught their patrons to associate libraries with opening doors, not closing them. These librarians found that when they asked patrons what they wanted, they often asked for services that the library already had! The librarians had to look at the language they were using and make sure that their messages were being received. They also discussed the power of great customer service, and the potential in every transaction to make the patron feel valued. To effectively market your library, they argued, try to see it as someone brand new would see it, using language a non-librarian would understand, and offering even simple services in a confident, proud and friendly way.

This is just a taste of the great information shared at the conference. As always, it was refreshing and inspiring. If you haven’t made it to a conference in a while, consider attending the 2014 Spring SSL Conference, which will be in Syracuse. 

Katie St. Laurent

Technology Glitches Resolved

For those of you who tried unsuccessfully to use the Cavendish Square (formerly Marshall Cavendish) eBooks that we purchased and loaded into your local OPACS, there is good news. They work now! With persistence (some may say pestering) we got it resolved so that the eBooks work as intended. You and your patrons can click on the book title in your catalog and then click on “web-link to more info” and you will go directly into the online book.

Recently Katie Parker, Waterville Elementary LMS, shared this story with me regarding the books, “As I was examining my website to determine what was in need of updating, I noticed that some of the titles of the eBooks recently added to my collection could provide immediate assistance to a research project I was working on with one of the fourth grade teachers at my school. I took a minute to explore the resource, discovered that it was one of a series and, without hesitation, ran down the hallway to share my exciting find. She was ecstatic that she would not have to wait for the ILL that I just ordered. I love that I was able to meet her information needs so efficiently.”

A list of titles was included in your start-of-the-year-packets and in an e-mail. If you can’t find the list contact Mary McCormick. The titles cover a wide range of subjects and grade levels. Please take a look at the collection and share it with your patrons.
School LIBRARY SYSTEM

Making a Bibliography in OPALS

1) Search in the OPAC and select, with one of three options, the items for which you desire a bibliography. i.e., Select individual items or all that were found in the search.

2) As you select the items you will see them counted automatically and a button to access them all at the top of your page. Click the "View Bib" button after you have collected the items you wish from various searches.

3) The Bibliography page has several very handy options.
   - Add a Title,
   - Add personal notes,
   - Format in Official MLA or APA structure
   - Format a ‘Shelf’ list that includes the Call number
   - Include the title’s summary - or not
   - Include your own Notes - or not
   - Sort in a unconventional manner if needed - but conventions are the default
   - Print or Email the Bibliography - or save it as a File on your workstation or Flash drive.

NEWS FROM THE NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY

Research Library Digital Collections are available through ArchivalWare. Collections include born digital documents and items from a variety of formats scanned by the State Library. Historical collections cover a large array of 18th and 19th century materials from many subject areas, including the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, Native Americans, and New York State history and law. Click here to view these collections.

Spotlight on Digital Literacy and gigabit libraries: 2013 is the year of digital inclusion, digital literacy and high-speed broadband. Visit the State Library’s new Digital Literacy webpage to find out more about national and state initiatives and multiple online toolkits and resources designed to help public libraries shine as community anchors and technology hubs. Find information about EveryoneON, ConnecEd, Connect2Compete, DigitalLearn.org, the Edge Initiative, the IMPAVT Survey, US Ignite, and more.
New School-Specific BrainHoney Log-in Pages

The log-in address to access the science content for many of our science kit users is somewhat different. Now, most user accounts will access their home school BrainHoney domain. To assist this transition, the OHM BOCES Science Center has:

1. Created two identities with which you can log in. You can log in to your “Science Center Identity” or your “School Building Identity.”
2. Created a quick link menu for finding your school’s address:

   a. Click “Science Center BrainHoney Logins.”

   b. Click “Science Center BrainHoney Logins.”

   c. Choose the options that will drill to your specific school building.

   d. Click on your school’s BrainHoney link.

   e. Log in with the same username and password that you have used. (If you do not remember your password, please be in touch.)

Why this shift? With the addition of the ELA and Math Common Core resources and increased opportunities for professional development through BrainHoney, it became appropriate to have all users identities located at the building where they are housed, rather than pulling alternate content into a “Science Center locale.”

Why do some schools still direct to the Science Center BrainHoney Log in? All schools that utilize the BrainHoney site for more than science kits have been transitioned to their new log in address. If your school currently uses science kits, but no other service through the BrainHoney Learning Management System, a new school identity has not been created as it is not a necessity yet. Please contact us with any questions.
Thank You, Lance

The Instructional Support Services Division recently bid farewell to a key member of the Science Center team: Lance Croman, who had been with the Science Center since 1988. Lance retired November 22, 2013. Lance was formerly the science courier when we used an old renovated school bus and a used van to deliver and pick up kits. He originally worked out of the old Chadwicks School (later Brookside Academy). He made the transition from many locations to our present setup on Court St. One of Lance’s favorite activities as a member of the Science Center team was going out into the field and demonstrating equipment to teachers and students. Lance also was part of many renovations made to the service. We will miss his knowledge and expertise in the Science Center, but most of all his humor and smiling face. We wish Lance well with his future plans, and thank him for his many years of service to OHM BOCES.

New at the Science Center

The Science Content has been reorganized to replicate the layout of the OHM BOCES Common Core Content. Each kit’s electronic content now includes an “overview documents” folder that includes the full folder of material that traditionally was included in kits, and a new “lessons” folder. This “lessons” folder organizes each lesson individually and includes any student worksheets associated with the lesson as an editable attachment. This further positions the content for future development and reorganization.