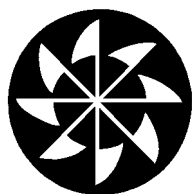


For  
Librarians in  
New Mexico



# Hitchhiker

January 31, 2005

## CHILDREN AND THE INTERNET

The week of January 24 saw an interesting exchange of comments, ideas, and information on the New Mexico Youth Services Information Swap online discussion group. It began with a question from Cassandra Arnold, the Children's Librarian at Carlsbad Public Library, who wanted some reliable, experienced-backed suggestions for an Internet filter to go on her library's children's computers. She quickly got several replies.

Marian Elzi from Las Cruces wrote: "Filtering is unreliable and leaves out much of value. Parents are often misled to believe that filters will protect their children from objectionable sites. I have no recommendations for filtering systems."

Another observation from Randi Northrop of Tularosa Public Library, followed, indicative of the experience many librarians seem to share. "I am the filtering system at our library," she commented.

Marla Sturdy of Kirtland AFB weighed in with the opinion, "Just don't get net nanny - it's a major pain. No filtering system will catch everything, and all of them will catch stuff you don't want caught. But, reality-ville: parents expect children's computers to have them, and will raise huge stinks if they don't."

Melissa Mackey of Mesa Public Library in Los Alamos, offered the information, "Ours are not filtered. We ask parents to sign a permission card (at our desk, so there're no shennanigans) and give them our Internet brochure. To my knowledge, patrons are happy with this situation. I checked with two fellow Youth Services librarians and we could only come up with one incident in which a parent was angry that we had no filters, and that was because their unsupervised child had been deliberately looking at porn. That's a parenting problem!" she

stated. She explained further, with this offer, "I tried to attach the brochure, but the list parameters won't allow that much info in one email. If anyone would like to see it, you may email me at [mackeym@lac.losalamos.nm.us](mailto:mackeym@lac.losalamos.nm.us) and I will send it on."

Consultants from the New Mexico State Library made several suggestions for online sources of information. "WebJunction New Mexico also has a good page on the issues surrounding filtering and includes a link to filtering software options," suggests Valerie Nye, the Public Libraries Consultant. "To access the site go to <http://nm.webjunction.org>. If you haven't already registered, register with a username and password and then click on 'CIPA and Filtering' on the left side of the homepage screen."

Geri Hutchins, the Federal Programs Coordinator, added, "Here are some sources for reviews and information on the various filtering software. Public Library Association -- <http://www.ala.org/ala/pla/pla-pubs/technotes/internetfiltering.htm>; First Monday -- [http://www.firstmonday.org/issues/issue2\\_10/bastian](http://www.firstmonday.org/issues/issue2_10/bastian); and Texas Internet Service Providers (in compliance with Texas Law) have put together a site geared to parents, but it has some useful links to other resources at <http://www.tispa.org/info/kinnaman/filtering.htm>."

Kathy Barco, who is the Children and Youth Services consultant, offered an online resource from ALA, "Children and the Internet: Policies that Work. It includes articles, guidelines, and links to sample policies on the Web at <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/alsc-pubs/childrentheinternetpolicieshatwork/ChildrenInternetPolicies.htm>. To quote that site, *Children and the Internet: Policies that Work* is successor to *Children and the Internet: Guidelines for Developing Public Library Policy*, published in 1998 by the American Library Trustee Association (ALTA), the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), and the Public

The Hitchhiker is available upon request on computer disc, cassette tape, in braille, or in large print. It may also be seen on the State Library WEB site: <http://www.stlib.state.nm.us>.

The **HITCHHIKER** is published weekly by the New Mexico State Library, a division of the Office of Cultural Affairs, 1209 Camino Carlos Rey, Santa Fe, NM 87505. Send news items to Robert Upton, EDITOR. ☎ 505-476-9764, FAX 505-476-9761.

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Library Association (PLA). The original publication provided guidance and food for thought to librarians charged with drafting policy for children's access to the Internet. With growing community concern over children's safety on the Internet, continual debate about the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and Internet filtering software, and the constant advancement of technology, the time had come to update the publication with new information and resources. ALSC and PLA are pleased to present *Children and the Internet: Policies that Work*, edited by Linda Braun of LEO: Librarians & Educators Online. This new publication was created in electronic format to allow for the timely and efficient revision of information on this ever-evolving topic."

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Grant opportunity for public libraries.** Libraries for the Future, with support from the MetLife Foundation, has announced a national book and film discussion series for teenagers and families that will take place in public libraries. The program is designed to use literature, film, and the neutral ground of the library to stimulate discussion that positively affects the relationship between the generations, especially those of new immigrant families.

Libraries for the Future will select fifteen libraries nationwide for the program. Applications are encouraged from public libraries of all sizes as well as libraries that have not previously engaged in systematic outreach to newcomer families. Applicant libraries must work with one or more community organizations as partners. Libraries selected to participate in the program will receive a cash grant of \$5,000 to help initiate the program and cover their expenses.

Information on the Reading America Program and the complete RFP are available from the Libraries for the Future Web site at [http://www.lff.org/news/RA05\\_rfp.html](http://www.lff.org/news/RA05_rfp.html). Deadline is March 4.

**Project Athena scholarships.** Project Athena is a recruitment program for doctoral students. It is funded by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency. The project focuses on recruiting and educating doctoral students who will make up

the next generation of Library and Information Studies faculty.

The Florida State University, the University of Illinois, the University of Washington, and the University of North Carolina are collaborating to develop the program and its recruitment model. The four schools offer varied curricula that reflect the flowering of the LIS field in the digital age. If your interests lean toward a traditional library focus, a more technological approach to providing information or to a mixture of the two, these schools can meet your need. Their programs provide a diverse range of opportunities for research, teaching, and service.

Scholarships of \$1,000 each will be offered to the first twelve students who are recruited through Project Athena and are accepted into a Ph.D. program at a school of their choice. These scholarships are not limited to the four partner schools, but will be available for enrollment in any Library and Information Studies Ph.D. program in the United States.

Project Athena is particularly interested in recruiting students who will serve as role models for underserved populations. Individuals from culturally diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply. For more information contact Sheri Webber, Project Athena Fellow, e-mail [slw04f@fsu.edu](mailto:slw04f@fsu.edu). See the Project Athena website at <http://www.projectathena.lis.fsu.edu>.

**Online reference course.** The American Library Association is offering an online class on "The Reference Interview." The course focuses on the methods of evaluating reference service, behavioral aspects of reference service, and the different types of questions that can be used to help patrons identify what they need. Using images, audio, and video, the course covers everything from the approachability of the librarian to how to follow up with a patron. Scheduled chat sessions will model interviewing techniques using sample dialogues.

The Reference Interview is a distance education, Web-based course tailored for support staff, library technicians, newly hired reference librarians, and those librarians who want to brush up on their skills. The topics covered are introductory in nature. Class segments are geared to cover issues of interest to staff in all types of libraries. Upcoming classes are scheduled for February 7 through March 4, and April 25 through May 20. Registration fees are \$130 for RUSA members; \$160 for



ALA members; \$190 for non-ALA members; and \$100 for students/retirees.

For more information visit the website at <http://www.ala.org/ala/rusa/rusaevents/onlinereferenceinterviewcourse/refinterview.htm>.

### **Health Information outreach to special populations.**

Want to reach people with quality, effective health information? Have you been looking to provide more programming to minority populations? The National Network of Libraries of Medicine South Central Region (NN/LMSCR) announces the Health Information Outreach to Special Populations funding opportunity. This award is designed to improve access to and utilization of health information resources among special populations.

Award recipients will provide consumers and/or professionals (e.g., health professionals, social workers, teachers, and clergy) with timely, convenient, reliable, and culturally and linguistically appropriate access to the online health information resources. Potential projects could include technology and training on Internet health Web sites. Two subcontracts of up to \$25,000 each will be awarded.

To be eligible, you must be an NN/LM SCR Network member in Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, or Texas. However, Network membership is free and open to any organization interested in providing health information. To apply for membership, go to the website at <http://nnlm.gov/scr/netwk/member.htm>. Deadline is February 18.

### **The MetLife Foundation Reading America Program.**

Libraries for the Future, with support from MetLife Foundation, is sponsoring a national book and film discussion series for teenagers and families that will take place in public libraries. Public libraries are invited to submit proposals for participation. The program is designed to use literature, film, and the neutral ground of the library to stimulate discussion that positively affects the relationship between the generations, especially those of new immigrant families. Fifteen libraries

will be selected for The MetLife Foundation Reading America Program. Winners will receive a cash grant of \$5,000. The deadline for proposals is March 4.

The RFP and application packet are posted on Libraries for the Future's website at [http://www.lff.org/news/RA05\\_rfp.html](http://www.lff.org/news/RA05_rfp.html). If you have any questions, please contact Elissa Young or Dina Sherman, toll-free at 1-800-542-1918; e-mail [eyoung@lff.org](mailto:eyoung@lff.org) or [dsherman@lff.org](mailto:dsherman@lff.org) respectively.

## **PEOPLE NOTES**

Edgewood has a new library director. Her name is **Carol Ann Bowman** and she will have a staff of nine volunteers whose duties she will oversee. Carol has worked in two other libraries, for four years with the San Bernadino Library System, and two years as the elementary school librarian in the Needles, California Unified School District. While working in the elementary school, she converted the library from a manual to an automated system and processed 10,000 books from the San Bernadino Library System into the school library. She received her Library Certification I from the State Library in June, 2004.

## **JOBS**

**Assistant.** The International Institute of the Americas junior college is looking for a Learning Resource Center Assistant to staff the LRC Monday through Thursday, 5-9 p.m. Duties include enforcing the rules, checking out books, and assisting students with computers. Contact Rebekah Sanchez, (505) 880-2877, 4201 Central Ave NW #J, Albuquerque, NM; e-mail [nmlrccoord@iaa.edu](mailto:nmlrccoord@iaa.edu).

**Librarian.** Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado, is seeking applications for Collection Management Acquisitions Librarian. This is a full-time, tenure-track faculty position at the status of Instructor/Assistant Professor, beginning July 2005. The Collection Manage-

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ment Librarian (Acquisitions) position currently has the responsibility for managing acquisitions of library serial materials within the Collection Management department including supervision of 1.5 Library Technician II classified staff members. This position will be evolving to include acquisitions management for all library collections. The librarian coordinates and provides leadership within a collaborative environment in establishing and implementing department procedures and setting department goals and priorities. Requires an ALA-accredited Master's degree in Library or Information Science; demonstrated experience in working independently and as part of a team; excellent oral, written, and interpersonal communication skills; experience demonstrating organizational and problem-solving skills; and knowledge of automated integrated library systems. Preferred qualifications include OCLC experience; serial and acquisitions experience; Innovative Interfaces (III) experience; minimum of one year library experience; and supervisory experience. Salary is \$31,000-34,000 depending on qualifications; benefits of medical, dental, and retirement plans are the same as faculty. There are a variety of medical and retirement plans available. Full consideration given to applications received by March 1. Send cover letter addressing all of the required qualifications, c-v, and three professional references to Committee Chair, Acquisitions Librarian Search Committee, Reed Library, Fort Lewis College, 1000 Rim Dr., Durango, CO 81301; URL <http://library.fortlewis.edu>. Fort Lewis College is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from under-represented groups.