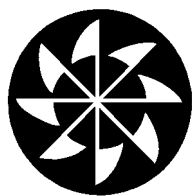


For
Librarians in
New Mexico



Hitchhiker

July 25, 2005

HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE ARRIVES IN NM

In a sweepstakes in which more than 9,000 public libraries nationwide vied for a chance to win a signed copy of the new Harry Potter book, Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince, Belen Public Library won a special-bound edition of J.K. Rowling's sixth book with a bookplate signed by the author. The first author-signed copy was awarded to the West Asheville Branch Library in North Carolina, the grand-prize winner of the Company's nationwide public library sweepstakes. Morna A. Childers, Children's Specialist at the West Asheville Branch Library, took possession to travel back to North Carolina, while 49 other libraries – including Belen Public – from each of the other 49 United States (in addition to North Carolina) were announced as winners of special library-bound editions with signed bookplates placed inside. (See a complete list at <http://www.scholastic.com>.) You can read all about it on the Web at <http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/050715/nyf045.html?v=13>.

In the final hours before the biggest book launch in history, Scholastic, the U.S. publisher of Harry Potter, unveiled the first author-signed American copy and kicked-off the final countdown to the midnight release. After a transatlantic journey in a locked steamer trunk aboard the Queen Mary 2, the signed book arrived at Scholastic's "Harry Potter Place" in New York City under tight security to be presented to the winner of Scholastic's nationwide public library sweepstakes. Scholastic's Chairman, President and CEO, Dick Robinson, and the ten student winners of Scholastic's "Why I Love Reading Harry Potter" essay contest (see *HH* #1599) unlocked the giant trunk, revealing the book which is inscribed "To those who love reading and libraries as

much as I do" signed J.K. Rowling.

Scholastic is printing an initial unprecedented 10.8 million copies of Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince, an all-time United States publishing record. The fastest-selling book in history, Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix, J.K. Rowling's fifth Harry Potter book, was released on June 21, 2003 and sold 5 million copies in the first 24 hours.

Harry Potter swept 24-hour sales records by selling more than nine million copies worldwide on its first day. The only book in publishing history to open nearly as well was Rowling's previous book in the series, Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix. In the United States, the new Harry Potter sold 6.9 million copies in its first day, averaging better than 250,000 sales per hour and easily outpacing the debut of Order of the Phoenix, which came out in 2003 and sold 5 million copies. Acknowledging that two years ago some stores quickly ran out of books, the U.S. publisher, Scholastic Children's Books, has already increased the print run for Half-Blood Prince from 10.8 million copies to 13.5 million.

"Typically, a good book will take about four to six months to go gold, and very few books reach platinum in their first year of publication. Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince achieved platinum in less than one day," said Richard Knight, managing director of Nielsen BookScan, which Monday reported just more than 2 million sales in Britain.

Audiobook sales also broke records, with more than 165,000 copies sold the first weekend. Audio sales were 20 percent higher than the launch of Order of the Phoenix, according to Random House Inc.'s Listening Library. Narrated by Grammy winner Jim Dale, the audiobook runs 19 hours, filling 18 CDs or 12 cassettes, with a cost of \$50 for the cassettes and \$75 for the CDs. Unlike most blockbusters, Half-Blood Prince is also

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>.

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a hit with critics, at least in the United States, getting raves from the *New York Times*, the *Seattle Times*, the *Associated Press* and others. Many found it to be Rowling's deepest, most accomplished work, with a tragic conclusion that left even reviewers in tears.

One thumbs up came from the author herself. In an interview on NBC's Today, she acknowledged picking up a finished copy of the book and being so engaged that she had trouble putting it down. "It's really rather exciting," she said. "But generally speaking ... I would never pick up one of my own books and read it."

BRIEFINGS

GO Bond info. GO Bond Information is available on the New Mexico State Library web site. A FAQ can be found at: http://www.stlib.state.nm.us/for_libraries_more.php?id=427_0_14_0_M47. A breakdown of all the allocations can be found at http://www.stlib.state.nm.us/files/2004_GO_Bond_Distribution.pdf. If you need additional help, contact Geri Hutchins, the Federal Programs Coordinator at the New Mexico State Library at (505)76-9727 or toll-free at 1-800-340-3890; e-mail geraldine.hutchins@state.nm.us.

Cook book fest. In celebration of the Albuquerque Tri-centennial Agriculture and Cuisine Month, the Albuquerque Public Library's Special Collections Library will present "Home of Good Eats; Best Recipes of Albuquerque's Cooks." This is an exhibit of locally-produced cookbooks over the past sixty years, including a sampler of distinct recipes. It will be on display from July 30 through September 3.

Over the past sixty years the Library has acquired a diverse collection of cookbooks produced by Albuquerque groups and individuals. You can see cookbooks written by local authors like Erna Fergusson, Jane Butel, and Millie Santillanes, and illustrated by artists like Betty Sabo, Kay M. Wiese, and Li Browne. Other books have been done by groups such as the Junior League of Albuquerque, Very Special Arts, Albuquerque Boy's Choir, San Felipe de Neri Home & School Association, Slavic International Club, Sandia Base Woman's Club, and St. Margaret's Guild; St. John's Episcopal Church, etc.

The Special Collections Library, is located at

423 Central Ave. NE, Corner of Edith & Central; for information call (505)76-1376. Library hours are 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Library cats. Candace Jordan Russell of the Roswell Museum and Art Center Library sent a paws up from "Frederick the Literate" for *HH's* treatment in the June 27 issue of book loving felines, who may at times feel stigmatized for their arcane purrsuits, though they are in excellent company (cf. the late Vanity; and Macavity and the Rum Tum Tiger, of T.S. Eliot fame). Frederick, like Bonnie, likes libraries and is depicted on the large pocket of the canvas bag obtained some years ago from Demco. In that image Frederick is curled around a group of books in the stacks, situated above a shelf supporting additional sedate tomes and a wise wooden owl.

Frederick has often been quoted as saying that the only thing that could top a good catnap, or tantalizing catnip, would be an erudite "catalog."

"He claims no intellectual property rights, even for a paw print on the books he reviews," Candace says, "and were this piece to be publicized, he would send greetings to all like-minded feline Fredericks, wise or not, who fancy being 'in print'."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WJ tab editor wanted. WebJunction New Mexico is looking for a Tab Editor to manage the Community Center Tab on the WebJunction New Mexico web site (see <http://nm.webjunction.org>). The duties of this Tab Editor includes oversight of all the content that is included on the Community Center pages, such as the "Featured NM Librarian," Community Forums, the discussions that WJ members may carry on online, and any articles on WebJunction Main that are pertinent to New Mexico's librarians for inclusion in WJ NM. This is a function that has great potential for creativity and development. Contact Jonathan Duran, WJ NM System Administrator and Team Lead at the New Mexico State Library, (505)76-9706 or e-mail jonathan.duran@state.nm.us.

Have any difficult patrons? Patron behavior issues have a big impact on all areas of public library practice, so in the month of August WebJunction will be focusing



on “Dealing with Difficult Patron Behavior.” WJ will assemble a set of best practices from the WebJunction community on this crucial topic.

Though you doubtless have plenty of entertaining stories about problematic patrons, WJ hopes to focus on paths to success. They would like to know how you’ve addressed particular problem situations, developed and implemented policies, and provided staff support that enabled your library to deliver its services in a safe and comfortable environment, while respecting all of your patrons’ needs.

You can contribute your stories by posting a message to the All Aboard forum or by sending an e-mail to content@webjunction.org.

Librarian certification. The Librarian Certification Guide has been updated and is now again available on the New Mexico State Library website. Information on certification as well as the application form and study guide can be found at http://www.stlib.state.nm.us/for_libraries_more.php?id=242_0_14_0_M30.

Librarian certification is directed toward public library directors. It is, however, available to those persons other than the library director should they wish it. The certification examination is given twice each year. The next exam will be given Friday, October 28: times and locations to be determined. Application forms and fees (\$10) for the October exam are due September 26. Those signing up will be notified the first week of October of the times and locations for the exam.

Cassandra Osterloh, the Continuing Education Coordinator for Library Development Services Bureau at the New Mexico State Library, is in the process of arranging two or three half-day workshops to help test-takers prepare for the exam. These will be posted next week. The exam preparation workshops are not a requirement for certification.

If you are planning to take the exam in October, get your application forms and checks in, start studying, and contact Cassandra with your questions. She may be reached at (505)76-9724 or toll-free 1-800-340-3890; e-mail cassandra.osterloh@state.nm.us.

JOBS

Curator. The University of New Mexico Libraries has an opening for a Curator of Latin American and Iberian Studies. This is a full-time, 12 month faculty position in either tenure-track or tenured status. The reporting lines are a joint appointment responsible to the Assistant Dean for Public & Research Services and to the Director of the Collection Management & Resource Acquisitions Department. The desired start date is January 2006. The faculty rank and tenure status are negotiable appropriate to qualifications and experience. The salary is negotiable from a minimum of \$50,000. Minimum qualifications include a Master’s degree from an ALA-accredited Library/Information Science program or international equivalent; fluency in Spanish and/or Portuguese; fluency in English; five years experience in an academic or research library; experience in collection management of Latin American and Iberian materials; and experience in reference and instruction. Preferred qualifications include a second advanced degree in Latin American studies or a closely related field; experience in grant writing; experience in donor relations; demonstrated ability to plan and organize projects and/or activities; demonstrated excellent verbal and written communication skills, including the languages required under the minimum qualifications listed above; demonstrated leadership experience; and demonstrated experience with technological advances in scholarly publishing and libraries. Duties for this position are to develop, manage, and promote the Latin American and Iberian collections in all formats. The collection management responsibilities include selecting materials, working with approval plans, working with vendors, allocating the budget, working with technical services to set priorities for processing and preservation of materials, and coordinating the activities of other selectors working with these collections. Public services responsibilities include providing library instruction and reference for these areas. Other duties include working with the Latin American and Iberian Institute (LAI) and other Latin American studies units to plan and carry

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out activities for campus and community outreach. The successful candidate will work with donors in cooperation with the Libraries' Development Office to write grants and develop exhibits. The successful candidate will serve on the Collection Management Team, on the Public Services Management Committee, and on the Management Committee of the Division of Iberian and Latin American Resources and Services (DILARES). For more information on the libraries, please visit the website at <http://elibrary.unm.edu>. To apply submit résumé, names, and contact information of three references, and a signed letter of interest addressing your experience related to the primary duties of the job. Additional materials may be requested later in the search process. Submit via e-mail, mail, or fax to Linda Skye, Search Administrative Support, University of New Mexico Libraries, MSC05 3020, 1 University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM, 87131-0001; e-mail lskye@unm.edu, Fax: (505) 277-7196. The search will remain open until the position is filled; for best consideration, applications should be received no later than August 26, 2005. The University of New Mexico is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer and Educator.

Two positions. Vista Grande Public Library, a non-profit public library in southeast Santa Fe County, has two positions open.

✓ Volunteer Coordinator. Computer literate person with writing skills to document volunteer program on part-time, temporary basis. Write document policies and procedures, and recruit and train volunteers. Experience with volunteers desirable.

✓ Youth Services position. Develop and coordinate youth programs 20 hours/week. Must have experience working with children. Library experience desirable but college and work experience will be considered.

Contact Susan Sheldon, Library Director at (505) 466-7323 or e-mail read@vglibrary.org for more details.