



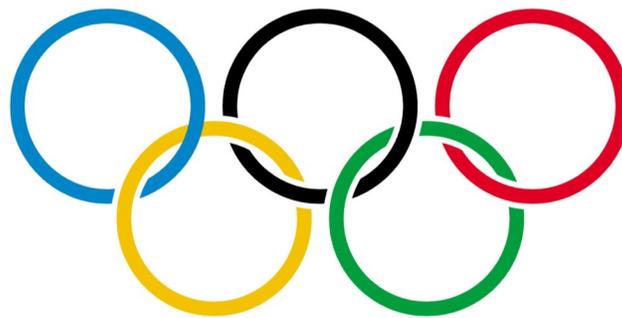
# Utah Libraries News

FEBRUARY 2014

## ULA President's Message

By Trish Hull

Watching the excitement and fun of the Olympics has me thinking about our libraries. Some of the things I enjoy about watching the Olympics are learning about a foreign city and country, watching sports I rarely get to see, learning about the challenges and triumphs of the athletes, opening my horizons to new ideas, and sharing a worldwide experience with others.



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We are like a continual Olympics. How, you ask? This experience is exactly what we offer our customers every day. We can transport them to a new world, fictional or not. We can read or watch different sports with books and DVDs. We can read about the challenges and triumphs of athletes and others. There is always something new at the library to open our horizons and we can share community experiences through programming.

If they gave medals for community service, growth, and importance, I am sure each of our libraries would get the gold! We actually go one step beyond the Olympics. Although they are a wonderful thing to watch and increase our sense of community, the Olympics are not critical in the lives of our customers. I had the opportunity recently to hear stories from customers of how a library is of great importance in the daily business of living and succeeding.

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We offer computer access to those who have none and desperately need it. We offer resources and references to those who can't afford them and we offer a place for families to improve literacy and help their children learn and develop. We offer students services to help with their educational goals and provide help in sorting through billions of pieces of data. In a world driven by information, we are truly the guide through this murky terrain.

I hope everyone has had an opportunity to read and sign the "Declaration for the Right to Libraries." It

is an empowering document and should make you very proud of the work you do every day.

Please make sure you take the opportunity to post the Declaration in your library and encourage your customers to sign it. The preface to the title is very accurate: "Libraries Change Lives." I know they have changed my life, both as a customer and as a librarian. I wake up grateful every day for the opportunity I have to be a librarian and work in a library.

Stay warm and go for the gold!

## Announcements

### UVU Library Website Recognized

Utah Valley University Library's website was recently recognized as a "vital university library website" by [OnlinePhdPrograms.org](http://OnlinePhdPrograms.org). The list names 101 libraries from around the United States. For more, read UVU's [press release](#).

### 2014 ULA Annual Conference

Early registration for ULA's annual conference (to be held April 30—May 2 at the South Towne Expo Center in Sandy) is now open. This year's theme is "Explore! Enrich! Engage! The Future is Here." We are excited to have Joan Frye Williams, an independent consultant focused on re-imagining libraries for a changing environment, as our keynote speaker.

The conference will also feature Nathan Hale, the author and illustrator of many exciting graphic nov-



Joan Frye Williams.  
Photo Credit: [JFWilliams.com](http://JFWilliams.com)

els and picture books for children, including the Eisner-nominated graphic novel *Rapunzel's Revenge* and its sequel, *Calamity Jack*, as our lunch speaker.

To register, visit <http://ow.ly/tBakz>.

## Book a Librarian

*By Jennifer Fay, Kearns Library*

Today's technology-focused world creates a need for more intense training for patrons on an individual level. Helping someone set up their mobile device to use eBooks, use electronic databases for research, or create a resume often takes more than the five to ten minutes a librarian can spend with one person while covering the information desk.

To give the individualized service library patrons need, libraries around the country are beginning to offer "Book a Librarian" services, a way for a library card holder to make an appointment and work with a reference librarian one-on-one for 30 minutes or more.

Services vary by library, but generally librarians will help with any kind of research or technolo-

gy assistance: using a specific database, searching for an ancestor, viewing and checking out electronic holdings, assistance with job searching, or creating a resume. Program specifics can vary, but usually the customer fills out an online form describing the help needed and a range of dates and times available for the appointment, the library responds with a specific date and time.

Salt Lake County Library Services will be implementing a "Book a Librarian" program in the near future, matching their individual patrons to a librarian in their system. To find out more about this service, attend the RASRT-sponsored "Repackaging Reference" session at the upcoming ULA Conference in May.

### WHAT'S ON AT YOUR LIBRARY?

The staff of *Utah Libraries News* are happy to publish announcements of library-related exhibits, lectures, open houses, tours, and other events.

Send announcements to [ulasubmissions@gmail.com](mailto:ulasubmissions@gmail.com). We publish issues in September, November, February, and April (Annual Conference Issue).

## Public Screenings of *War Child*

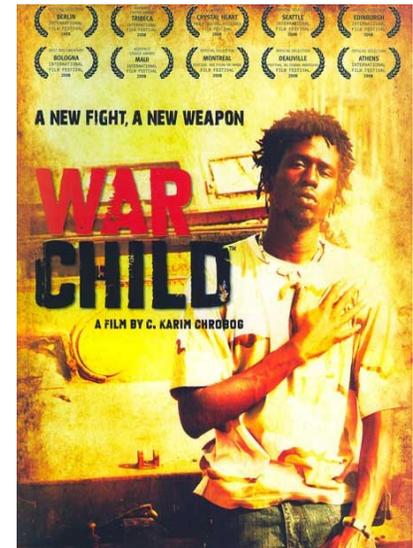
By Nyssa Fleig, Whitmore Library

Salt Lake County Library Services is excited to be partnering with the English Skills Learning Center (ESLC) in welcoming Emmanuel Jal to Utah to help create awareness, foster hope, increase educational opportunities, and engage the community through music, poetry, and spoken word as special guest of the Global Community Summit.

The Global Community Summit is the brainchild of Beth Garstka of ESLC, and Felecia Maxfield, formerly with the Utah Refugee Coalition. Salt Lake County Library Services is proud to be one of the many community partners coming together to create this event. The Summit addresses global issues that impact Utah through events that engage our community in thoughtful dialogue and active listening to challenge traditional thinking, stimulate questions, and deepen the understanding of these global issues. The 2014 Global Community Summit topic is education, tackling questions such as: how does the lack of education in the world impact refugees and immigrants in accessing educational opportunities in Utah? How does this issue affect Utah's economy? How do we as a community create accessible educational opportunities for refugees and immigrants to strengthen Utah overall?

Emmanuel Jal was chosen as the special guest of this event because of his ties to the Salt Lake Sudanese community and his commitment to education and peace. Jal left home at the age of seven to become a child soldier. He carried an AK-47 and fought in Sudan's civil war. Receiving help from a humanitarian aid worker, Jal left Sudan and found a gift for sharing his brutal experiences through his lyrics. His music and message share the bitter reality of a young man who was "forced to sin" but determined

to "never give up and never give in." Jal is now an internationally renowned recording artist who has collaborated with Peter Gabriel and Alicia Keys, and has toured the world spreading his message of peace and reconciliation.



To increase awareness of the Global Community Summit, and help spread Jal's message, the Salt Lake County Library is hosting public screenings of Jal's documentary, *War Child*.

### Screenings of *War Child*

- February 27 at 7:00 PM at Viridian Center
- March 22 at 3:00 PM at Whitmore Library

A complete list of Global Community Summit events can be found at

[www.globalcommunityut.com](http://www.globalcommunityut.com).

Funds raised from the Global Community Summit support educational opportunities to refugees and immigrants affected by war and genocide who have resettled in Utah. These opportunities include GED/high school diploma, scholarships, vocational training, certifications, and English instruction.

If you would like more information, please contact Nyssa Fleig at (801) 944-7536, [nfleig@slcolibrary.org](mailto:nfleig@slcolibrary.org) or Beth Garstka at (801) 328-5608, [b.garstka@eslcenter.org](mailto:b.garstka@eslcenter.org).

## Creative Libraries Utah

By Dustin Fife, San Juan County Libraries

### Creative Libraries

Utah is a website designed specifically for librarians in Utah. It began as an ILEAD USA project and is overseen by three Utah librarians. This site, inspired by Creative Commons, provides a standardized way for libraries across Utah to share library created content. Public, school, special, and academic libraries can increase their productivity and realize their full potential by pooling uniquely created materials (e.g. reading lists, successful programming ideas, programming outlines, Spanish language translations, and so much more). More than anything, the goal of this site is to enable creativity through resource sharing.



Each day, I spend five or ten minutes on library websites and there are some truly brilliant things happening in Utah. At the same time, it feels like many libraries are reinventing the wheel. Why on earth are so many different public libraries creating book lists? Why aren't academic libraries sharing instruction guides? Is there any justification for these redundancies, especially when most of these institutions are publically funded? For example, Salt Lake County has some of the best book lists I have ever seen (<http://ow.ly/tBaYn>). If I had my way, no one else would ever work on book lists. They are already done. Yes, we should refine them and make them fit our communities, but no one should start from scratch. I'm not saying that we

should count on other libraries to do our work for us, but if we take something from Salt Lake County or Provo or any other library, then we should turn around and try to create something that they will want to take from us.

Creative Libraries Utah is asking libraries to share. We will publish just about anything your library is doing. With large donations from sage librarians in Washington and Salt Lake counties, we are off to a good start. We are beginning to archive materials and ideas as we build Creative-LibrariesUtah.org. We also spend time each week highlighting good ideas in blog posts and links to other websites and libraries. But this is not enough. We need large-scale buy in from librarians in Utah to really make this work.

Creative Libraries Utah also features a weekly podcast. We interview librarians across the state, and sometimes beyond. We have had conversations with Trish Hull (ULA president), Jim Cooper (SLCO library director), and Kim Fong (Murray library director). This podcast is about the community of librarians and the great things we can do when we work together.

Please check out the website, listen to the podcast, and share your materials by sending them to [creativelibrariesutah@gmail.com](mailto:creativelibrariesutah@gmail.com). We can do so much together.

## Special Libraries Presentations at 2014 ULA Conference

### Special Library Spotlight Session

Back by popular demand, the Special Libraries Section is spotlighting more delightful and unique special libraries. This program will provide information about the libraries, their digital collections, and services they provide.

Joanne Vandestreek will speak about programs and collections at the State of Utah Law Library, located in the Scott Matheson Courthouse.

Sarah LeMire will speak about

[TRAIL: Technical Report Archive](#)

[and Image Library](#). TRAIL is a coordinated effort by over 35 member institutions in North America who have been digitizing and making historical federal technical reports freely available.

Members are collecting, organizing, and cataloging technical reports and loaded onto servers. Over 40,000 reports are now freely accessible.

Special Libraries Section vice-chair, Marie Erickson, will share what has recently been digitized from the LDS Church History Library collections, how to access them, and what upcoming collections are being targeted in the coming months.



### Librarians' Choice Awards: Utah Librarians' Favorite Websites

You've watched the Academy awards, the Grammy awards, and the People's Choice awards. Now there is the "Librarians' Choice Awards: Utah Librarians' Favorite Websites." You won't want to miss this fast-paced session where you will discover websites that have been voted as favorite/most useful by librarians throughout Utah. Attendees will discover sites used by academic, public, and special librarians and why librarians find them useful. You won't have to take many notes; a list will be compiled and shared.

This fun-filled and informative session is being presented by the Special Libraries Section on Friday, May 2, 2014, at 9:30 AM.

*Presenters:* Michael Whitchurch from BYU, Tyson Thorpe and Shelley Neville from the Church History Library.

### WANTED: FEATURES EDITOR

Have opinions about what's happening in Utah libraries? Good at spotting library trends? We want you to come write for us as our new Features Editor!

Please send inquiries to Annie Smith, General Editor, at [ulasubmissions@gmail.com](mailto:ulasubmissions@gmail.com).

## How Do You Solve a Problem Like Government Documents?

By Brian Peters, Academic Libraries Section Editor

Rooting through Weber State University's Stewart Library's federal government documents collection is like stumbling upon a fantastic, uncensored view of history. For instance, I was unaware that southern Utah had been one of the areas studied as a possible repository for the nation's nuclear waste. I also didn't realize the extent of uranium mining in Utah. Did you know that Denver faced challenges with air pollution and developed solutions that have dramatically improved that area's air quality?

And that was just the Environmental Protection Agency. Don't get me started on the Department of Defense.

In a familiar balancing act, the Stewart Library is reducing the size of its government documents collection to make space for resources that see more use. Because of its reputation for being difficult to navigate and its low circulation, the documents collection is often the first and heaviest hit target for weeding.

And why not? According to the US Government Printing Office, about 97% of materials produced by the federal government since 1997 have an online equivalent. Since the transition from print to electronic formats began in 1997, 119 libraries (about 10% of designated federal depositories) have opted out of the depository program (*Federal Depository Library Program Strategic Plan, 2009-2014*).

The Stewart Library is not alone in looking to reduce the size of its government documents collection. The Marriott Library at the University of Utah is embarking on an evaluation of its government documents. The Sherratt Library at Southern Utah



University Library recently completed a significant weeding project

"We probably removed close to 70% of our hard copy government document items, mainly microfiche," said Loralyn Felix, the librarian responsible for the Sherratt Library's documents collection. Removing these documents allowed the library to create space for resources "more frequently used" by the library's patrons. Felix said, "Since so many of the government documents are now available online, we thought the best way to 'establish a balance' of providing access to government research materials and recapturing much needed space was to provide access to the online version of the government documents."

This is similar to the approach taken by the Stewart Library. But advocates for a strong government documents collection caution that the electronic versions of many government documents can be hard to locate and may be inferior to the printed copy.

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James Jacobs, a documents librarian at Stanford University and one of the co-founders of [Free Government Information](#), said government documents “are a special case that are not used in the same way as a regular book. Some docs (like hearings) are heavily circulated, while others are used more like reference materials, and many others are not of interest until many years later as researchers explore the historical record.”

There is also the issue of maps and other graphic material included in government documents that are not included in the digital copy or are almost unreadable when digitized. Jacobs offered several important questions to ask before discarding a government document:

- Are there statistical tables, maps, or other fold-outs in the document?

- Is the item part of a series?
- Is the document in an area of particular interest to the university?
- Does the document have a digital surrogate? Is that surrogate complete, readable, and usable?

### Online Resources for Government Documents

- [Hathi Trust](#)
- [Google Books](#)
- [Government Printing Office](#)
- [Digitization Projects Registry](#)



Photo Credit: [www.flickr.com/photos/binglib](http://www.flickr.com/photos/binglib)

## How Smelly is Too Smelly?

By Stacy Vincent, Public Libraries Section Editor

Soiled diapers. Bad breath. Cheap perfume. Cigarette smoke. “Funny” cigarette smoke. *Body odor*. If you work in a public library, then you’ve experienced unsavory odors. But how smelly is too smelly? It can’t be measured in inches or pounds. It can’t be captured on security camera. But, to paraphrase Justice Potter Stewart, you just know it when you see smell it.

A library in Sugar House is currently being sued by a man who was quite unhappy with being asked to leave the library due to his offensive body odor (<http://ow.ly/twvf3>). I don’t pretend to know the particulars of the case, but it did strike a chord with me. I’m generally not shy about approaching a disruptive patron, but approaching someone about body odor is not the same. It’s easy to walk up to someone and ask them to please put the Cheetos away or to stop saying “fudge” (I don’t mean fudge). It’s much harder to walk up to someone and ask them to please stop reeking. It doesn’t help matters that those who stink also tend to have the most desperate problems: homelessness, mental illness, substance abuse, poor health, etc. Broaching the topic is embarrassing for all involved, and I dread making someone feel angry or humiliated. I *really* dread getting close enough for a discreet chat with a pungent patron.

The sticky issue of body odor and library policy is not a new one. In 1991, [\*Kreimer v. Morristown\*](#) made it all the way to the federal Court of Appeals. In that case, a patron sued after being ejected from a Morristown, New Jersey public library for his offensive odor. Initially, the court sided with him, stating that the library’s use pol-

icy violated his First Amendment rights. The decision was overturned on appeal, though by that time the library’s insurer had settled with Kreimer out of court and against the library’s wishes. During the struggle, debate about library use policies and right to access raged within the American Library Association and among human rights groups. No great solution ever came of it, as evidenced by the controversy stirred up again in 2006 by a Dallas, Texas public library rule banning visitors from “emitting odors...which interfere with use of services by other users or the work staff” (<http://ow.ly/tww0VW>).

So how smelly is too smelly? The world may never know.

### NEW SECTION EDITOR

We would like to welcome Dona Christensen-Guinn as our new Special Libraries Section Editor. Dona will be taking over for former section editor, Pat Huff.

## ABOUT THE UTAH LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The mission of the Utah Library Association is to serve the professional development and educational needs of its members and to provide leadership and direction in developing and improving library and information services in the state. In order to accomplish these goals, ULA supports and provides continuing education programs for Utah librarians and library employees, especially at its annual spring conference. ULA also offers members a number of opportunities for library leadership, professional growth, networking, and community service. We hope you find the Utah Library Association to be an organization that makes a difference for you, for Utah librarians, for Utah Libraries, and for the citizens of Utah.



Utah Library  
Association

[www.ula.org](http://www.ula.org)

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