We look forward to this year’s ULA Annual Conference. Many people have made outstanding contributions with preconference programs, workshops, poster sessions, and other events in support of this year’s theme: “Aim for the Future: On Target with Vision and Advocacy.”

Join us May 1-3 at the new Utah Valley Convention Center in Provo, an eco-friendly LEED Silver Certified Building with a rooftop garden that offers breathtaking views of the Wasatch Mountains. Be sure to stop by and visit our vendors in the state-of-the-art ballrooms to see what they have to offer to make your library a success.

Our keynote speaker is Marci Merola, the Director of the Office for Library Advocacy at the American Library Association’s newest office in Chicago. Her position focuses on providing advocacy resources and tools to librarians at the state and local levels. She works to educate members and citizens on current issues and the importance of libraries, as well as integrating advocacy efforts throughout the association.

Enjoy our Thursday luncheon as author and Salt Lake City librarian, Josh Hanagarne, talks about his debut book *The World’s Strongest Librarian*, which chronicles his life from the age of six as he deals with Tourette Syndrome and how, with the help of an eccentric, autistic strongman, he learned to control his symptoms. Generously, the Provo City Library has offered to host a Networking Social that Thursday evening at 5:00 PM, complete with refreshments and the opportunity to meet a number of Utah authors.

Early registration ends April 5. Lunch is included with your registration, including the awards luncheon. Michael Whitchurch, on behalf of the Awards

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Committee, will honor a number of individuals who have made significant contributions to Utah libraries. If you haven’t yet, be sure to renew your membership. We are looking for help on several committees and roundtables, so make sure you update your records to indicate which groups you would be interested in joining.

Many thanks to our Conference Chair, Leslie Schow, and the fantastic Conference Committee for pulling everything together. Kudos to Holly Okuhara for her leadership as Program Board Chair and to everyone who helped her put many pieces into place. Appreciation goes out to Pia Jones, our ULA Conference Planner, for her outstanding organization of the event, and for the constant support of the Executive Board. The success of our conference is only possible due to many dedicated and visionary advocates for libraries. Thanks to all, and to those who plan to attend.

Announcements

Registration Open for ULA Annual Conference

Early registration for ULA’s annual conference (to be held May 1-3 at the Utah Valley Convention Center in Provo) has begun. This year’s theme is “Aim for the Future: On Target with Vision and Advocacy” and we have some great programs planned. We’re also excited about the Thursday evening reception, hosted by Provo City Library, featuring many Utah authors. The conference program is now available on ULA’s website: http://conference.ula.org/2013programs.

Register today to save some cash! Early registration ends April 5.

- Early full registration (ULA member): $155
- Regular full registration (ULA member): $180
- Early full registration (non-member): $220
- Regular full registration (non-member): $245
- Student full registration: $100
- One-day student registration: $75
- One day-registration: $105

February is Library Lover’s Month

One of the ways ULA is celebrating our love of libraries is by participating in the Utah Nonprofits Association (https://utahnonprofits.org/) annual day on the Hill. For the past two years ULA has set up a booth in the Capital Rotunda and met with legislators to talk about the wonderful work Utah librarians and libraries have been doing. We are sending our largest group yet in 2013. The event also gives us an opportunity to network with a variety of other non-profit associations from across the state.

Visit www.librarysupport.net/librarylovers/ for more information.
In Our Mothers’ House Returned to Davis County School District Shelves

By Wanda Huffaker, Chair of ULA’s Intellectual Freedom Committee

I was so excited to have Patricia Polacco’s In Our Mother’s House placed back on the library shelves in Davis School District that I called and texted everyone I knew. My children were among the first that I contacted, having lived the whole situation with me for months.

While I raised my daughters, I worked full time and went to school full-time for a number of years. Their father was out of town most of the time. After I graduated, I got divorced and needed to work part-time as well. I was not home to monitor what they read, watched, or looked at on the computer. We talked about how they needed to decide for themselves whether it was something that would help them make good or bad choices. When others questioned what they chose, I defended their right to choose it. They all developed the ability to choose the good and reject the bad (Freedom to Read statement) and also gained an appreciation for their First Amendment rights.

When making our “50 State Salute to Banned Books” video last year, we needed to cast a couple of different families to fit the script. I asked my oldest daughter for several reasons, besides the fact that I thought my grandkids were amazing. I knew she was a great supporter of the Freedom to Read. She and the kids had a great relationship with her uncles, so the subject of the book would be comfortable. I was trying to have input from several Utah counties.

When I told her about Sweater Vest Sunday, she thought it was a great (fashion) statement. We offered a Kindle Fire for those who sent in in their picture. It was an easy contest, and the five year old winner was pretty excited. You might recognize him from the video; he is the shy one. My daughter said maybe now he will be interested in learning to read. Maybe the older siblings will read to him, just to use it. It’s my hope that my grandchildren always feel free to read what they choose. Whether it’s only Star Wars books or Stephen King, whether they are in Utah County or Davis County, whether they go to a library in Salt Lake City or Salt Lake County, I am going to fight to make sure that they have the rights that they believe they have. I will also never stop trying making sure everyone understands what they are.

New Member Round Table Elections

The New Member’s Round Table will hold elections in the Spring. Video bios will be available on NMRT’s YouTube page sometime in February.
Harry Potter Yule Ball at Viridian Center

By Carrie Rogers-Whitehead, Salt Lake County Library

Harry Potter is alive and well in Utah! The Salt Lake County Library had its first ever Harry Potter Yule Ball at the new Viridian Center on Friday, January 18. When the winter ball started at 7:00 PM, the staff was greeted by a flood of teens dressed up in formal gowns and Harry Potter costumes.

After three hours of dancing, pictures, psychics, a live band, DJ and the Rocky Mountain Muggles costume troupe, the staff was exhausted, but the teens were still ready to party. Attendance was beyond all expectations, with nearly 700 teenagers coming to celebrate their love of everything Potter.

The Salt Lake County Library system looks forward to making this an annual event. So if any library out there thinks that Harry Potter mania is going away, they should think twice!
CVLA Formed in Cache Valley

By Pamela N. Martin, Utah State University

A small, new library organization has been created in northern Utah! The Cache Valley Library Association (CVLA) is an organization dedicated to connecting librarians and promoting professional development in the Cache Valley area. It’s the brainchild of Puanani Mateaki (Stevens-Henager College), and for roughly a year we’ve had meetings that bring together the librarians of Cache Valley. These gatherings have taken place at libraries throughout the valley and have included a visit from State Librarian Donna Morris, discussions of intellectual freedom and digital libraries, and an authors’ panel.

Just recently, an executive board was elected:

President – Robert Shupe (Logan Library)
Vice President – Joseph Anderson (Logan Library)
Past President – Anne Hedrich (USU Libraries)
Secretary – Liz Woolcott (USU Libraries)
Member-at-Large (School) - Julie Barlow (Mount Logan Middle School and Logan City School District)
Member-at-Large (Public) - Shawn Bliss (Cache/Rich Mobile Library)
Member-at-Large (Academic) - Pamela Martin (USU Libraries)

We are very excited about our new organization. We hope that CVLA will foster greater communication between Cache Valley librarians, as well as professional relationships and friendships. We’ve already learned a lot from each other, and we hope to continue this as the organization grows.

For more information on CVLA, please contact Liz Woolcott at Liz.Woolcott@usu.edu.

Staffing Changes at USU

By Flora Shrode, Utah State University

The Utah State University Libraries have made some changes in personnel effective January 1, 2013. I have moved from the Reference and Instruction Services department to Government Documents, where I will succeed John Walters, Regional Depository Librarian, when he retires at the end of the year. I will continue to serve as subject librarian for biology, chemistry, geology, and nursing.

Britt Fagerheim was appointed as Head of Reference and Instruction Services, and she will continue to serve as subject librarian for economics.

Erin Davis has assumed the role of Library Coordinator for Regional Campuses and Distance Education, the position that Britt formerly held. Erin has subject liaison duties for USU’s departments of English, Journalism and Communication, and the Intensive English Language Institute.

Susanne Clement has moved from the Quinney Natural Resources Library to the Merrill-Cazier Library, where she fills the role of Assessment Librarian. Susanne will continue to serve as liaison to the departments in the USU College of Natural Resources and the Applied Economics Department.
Blanding Library Completes Renovation

By Dustin Fife, San Juan County Library

The San Juan County Library System has just completed a $500,000 renovation on the Blanding branch library. The Blanding Library was built in 1962. With very little work being done on the library over the last fifty years the library now looks sleeker and is greener. The library received a new roof, heating and cooling system, windows, electrical and lighting, carpet, and removed an interior wall to expand the usable library space. The reaction from the community has been overwhelmingly positive.

San Juan County Library paid for this renovation with a USDA Rural Development grant of $200,000 and a budget surplus that the library has managed and saved carefully over the last ten years. The library has used the space to add more computers, tables, and more shelves for books. It is a wonderful facelift for the library and allows the library to better serve the community.
New Utah Chapter of Room to Read

By Brooke Corbin

We are excited to announce the new Utah Chapter of Room to Read! From their website, Room to Read is an organization that “focuses on two areas where we believe we can have the greatest impact: literacy and gender equality in education. We work in collaboration with communities and local governments across Asia and Africa to develop literacy skills and a habit of reading among primary school children, and support girls to complete secondary school with the life skills they’ll need to succeed in school and beyond.”

The Utah chapter will be focusing on fundraising for these efforts and will be having fun events to help with this important cause.

There are still officer positions and room for anyone who wishes to volunteer their time. If you are interested in participating, please contact Brooke Corbin or Adriane Juarez via e-mail: brooke.corbin@yahoo.com or ajuarez@slcpl.org. Also, you can read more about Room to Read on their website: www.roomtoread.org.

Marriott Library to Host Lecture Series

By Jessica Breiman

The J. Willard Marriott Library is having an Information Visualization lecture series. The lectures will be held in the Gould Auditorium and begin at 12:00 PM. This lecture series is free and open to the public. Parking is available near the library’s west entrance. Please join us!

February 26 “The Psychology of Information Visualization,” by Dr. Frank A. Drews

March 19 “Beyond Information Visualization: Information Interactions,” by James Agutter

March 26 “Computational Information Design,” by Dr. Ben Fry

ULA Award Nominations

Do you know someone who has contributed in a significant way to the library profession or the ULA organization? Please submit a nomination using the form on http://ula.org/awards.

Nominations need to be submitted by February 15, 2013 to be considered.
TEi Joins Utah Library Association

By Alona McGregor, TEi-Library Services

TEi-Library Services is proud to announce that it has joined the Utah Library Association.

With this new membership, TEi-Library Services hopes to become a valuable source of information for Utah companies and entrepreneurs that need to review standards before committing limited funds to the cost of purchasing them. By making these standards available, companies and individuals can determine which industry standard, such as an ASME, ANSI, AWS, UL, or even foreign standards such as BSI, CSA, ISO, EN, etc., are applicable to their products before designing, prototyping and manufacturing.

TEi-Library Services maintains:

- Technical documents by industry sources such as ASME, IAPMO, CSA and others.
- Books on subjects such as quality control system establishment, and others.

Material checked-out from TEi-Library Services must be returned. The loan period is one month from the date of check-out. The loan period may be extended once for an additional two weeks. Loan extensions are accomplished by sending a request via fax, mail or e-mail, and must be received one week prior to the due date.

TEi-Library Services is a for fee library. Terms and conditions apply to checking out a standard. Contact TEi-Library Services for details.

TEi-Library Services is owned by Testing Engineers International, Inc. TEi-Library Services (SAN 316-9189) can be found listed in the American Library Directory.