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Recharge!

Your Creativity, Your Library, Your Career 2014 CLA Conference

The 123rd Annual Conference was held April 28 & 29, 2014, at the Crowne-Plaza Hartford—Cromwell. A total of 753 people attended over the course of two days. Many thanks to Jason Neely and Christine Angeli, Conference Co-chairs, and also to Exhibits Chair David Boudinot. In addition to the many sessions, the conference featured Siva Vaidyanathan, cultural historian and media scholar, as keynote speaker on Monday. And on Tuesday, Professor and Founding Director of the Harrington School of Communications and Media at the University of Rhode Island, Renee Hobbs was the keynote speaker.

CULS Report on Keynote Speaker Siva Vaidyanathan by Kyle Lynes

Is the web dead? Well, not exactly. According to Siva Vaidyanathan, the web as we know it is not dying, but evolving. There has been a drop-off in “classic” internet usage: that is, less of an emphasis on static web pages. Instead, users are flocking to rich data streams that incorporate apps and streaming media. Unfortunately, there is a change in habits that accompanies this evolution. Vaidyanathan says that the dramatization of information and pandering for “likes” inhibits our ability to have rational conversations and make informed decisions. He emphasizes the need for information professionals to take a step back from the drama and make calm assessments, as we are directly responsible for ensuring that our patrons have a meaningful information experience. There is a silver lining to this evolution. As we become embedded in these flows of data, internet usage becomes less about exiting real space and entering “cyberspace” and more about incorporating snapshots of “the web” into your existence. This allows us to debunk the mass illusion that the internet is a physical place. However, while the internet may not be a place we can physically visit, the effects on our lives are very real, and its power is in its ability to make us think and act in a certain way. To take this a step further, Vaidyanathan goes on to identify key points attached to this mass illusion. Some of the characteristics that he identified for the illusion that the internet is a “physical place” are that the internet is global, an open network, a level playing field, that it is democratic, and is more dangerous than real life.

He then went on to combat each of those illusions. For example, we cannot expect each user to have the same unified, global experience. The internet is altered in different countries by politics and policy, poverty levels, and regulations imposed by private companies. Consider certain European countries where hate sites are blocked, compared to the United States where there are no restrictions. Furthermore, the internet has never been a level playing field. In fact, profit-making ventures are attached to many open source projects. We tend to think of Silicon Valley as a place where creative start-up projects become overnight successes with little to no funding. The reality is that companies started on shoestring budgets, such as Wikipedia and Facebook, are anomalies. Vaidyanathan then talked about three recent factors that further dispel the illusion of physicality.



Siva Vaidyanathan

Conference Reports



Welcome to the conference review edition of CLA Today. Many thanks those who submitted the reports.

Your Library

Two Birds, One Stone: ePortfolios as Professional Development and Patron Programming

Sponsored by the College and University Libraries Section

Presented by Danielle Apfelbaum, New York Institute of Technology and Derek Stadler, Borough of Manhattan Community College

Ms. Apfelbaum and Mr. Stadler focused in on how librarians can use the electronic portfolio to market themselves – and/or their patrons - online when seeking a job, tenure, promotion, or acceptance to a college; and all with a low-tech, high visibility tool. The software that they recommended included WordPress, Weebly and Google for those who are either technologically or time-challenged.

Among the top reasons for creating one's own eportfolio that this dynamic duo included was the fact that when one creates an electronic portfolio, that website is listed first on an Internet search results page. When one has a common name, this is particular advantageous as the eportfolio will establish one's professional identity via the use of professional headshots and search engine ranking systems before a prospective employer or college recruiter finds someone else's less savory Internet identity and thinks that it belongs to the prospective employee!

Maintaining a technological expertise, taking a professional inventory and developing or redeveloping one's professional image are among countless other reasons to use this tool personally and teach others how to use it professionally. Key development tips included the organization of the portfolio, specific information and materials to highlight,

and the use of multiple portfolios – for different purposes (e.g., different job searches, college applications, and professional publication opportunities) were covered as topics. Attendees left this presentation positively inspired to create an eportfolio workshop at their libraries for their students and patrons. Here is a copy of the PowerPoint presentation from the session: <http://eportfoliotoolkit.weebly.com/cla-2014.html>

Reporter *Marthy Kruy*

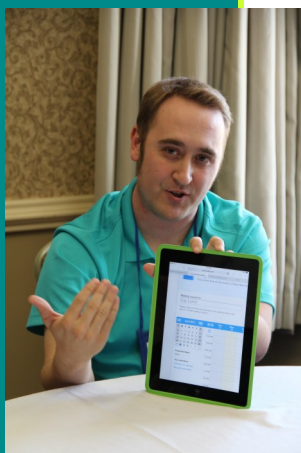
Adult & Academic

The Future of the Book: Author Jon Katz

Jon Katz, bestselling author of 27 books, non-fiction, fiction, short stories and even two children's books, spoke to a SRO crowd. He came from his Bedlam Farm in upstate New York, with his wife, Maria Wulf and his border collie, Red. He spoke for no charge, because he loves libraries and feels they deserve the support of writers and anyone who cares about the written word or the story in any form.

Jon spoke about the future of books, blog and e-book publishing and his life at Bedlam Farm. As well as being a writer he is also an amateur photographer and as he spoke some of his photographs were flashed on a screen behind him. He spoke about his blog, Bedlam Farm.com, as the new memoir which includes posts about his life and issues he is concerned about and also posts photographs that he takes each day. He said it was important that writers drop their array of struggle stories and get busy using new technologies to get their stories out to their readers and the world. "It is not the end of books," he said, "it is the Golden Age of Storytelling". Jon stated that more people are reading more books in different forms for less money than ever before in human histo-

CONTINUED ON P. 8



Annual Meeting Highlights

CLA President Richard Conroy called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. He welcomed the attendees and thanked all, especially Conference Co-Chairs, Jason Neely and Chris Angeli, and Exhibits Chair, David Boudinot.

Richard said they had made an intensified effort to bring in new members. The Legislative Committee advocates for membership participation at the State level. Thanks to lobbyist Bobby Shea, Bill 5614 has passed. Ken Wiggin negotiated for a statewide eBook platform throughout the State. Connecticut will be a national leader in eBook markets for libraries, as a result of Bill 5614. Richard said it was an honor to serve as CLA President. It has been a rewarding experience and he plans to stay abreast of the profession.

Treasurer's Report

CLA Treasurer, Christina Baum said the CLA budget is healthy and will have the monthly report soon. Conferences figures will be out next month.

New Business

David Boudinot will be moving out of state and will not be able to serve his term as President of CLA 2014-2015.

Karen Jensen, Procedures Chair – Amendment to CLA Bylaws, New Section IV-9. The Association President and Vice President/President-Elect must be elected by the general membership. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice President/President-Elect will become President and a new Vice President/President Elect will be elected by the general membership at a Special Election (if more than half of the President's terms remains) or at the next regular election (if less than half of the term remains). The Special Election will follow the same timeline regarding selection of candidates and notice to members as a regular election. During the time before such an election is completed, the Past President will perform the duties of the Vice President/President-Elect. If we come across this situation we will have a procedure in place. Peter Ciparelli moved to approve the amendment, Carl DeMilia seconded.

Presentation of Candidates for CLA Office

Carl DeMilia, CLA Past-President Nominations Chair presented the slate of candidates.

President Elect:

Dawn LaValle, Connecticut State Library

Vice President/President-Elect:

Beth Crowley, Scranton Memorial Library

Region 2 Rep:

Marjorie Ruschau, Meridan Public Library

Lisa Karim, Simsbury Public Library

Region 3 Rep:

Peter Ciparelli, Kilingly Public Library

Janice Wilson, J. Eugene Smith Library

Region 6 Rep:

Kate Byroade, Cragin Memorial Library



J. Drusilla Carter, Director of the Willimantic Public Library, staffs the CLA table in the Conference Exhibit Hall



2014 Conference co-chairs Jason Neely and Chris Angeli (l-r)



Connecticut's professional organization librarians, library staff, friends, and trustees working together: to improve library service to Connecticut, to advance the interests of librarians, library staff, and librarianship, and to increase public awareness of libraries and library services.

CLA Today is the newsletter of the Connecticut Library Association. Published every other month, it is posted to the CLA website. Please send submissions for future issues to editor Jennifer Datum at editor@ctlibrarians.org.

www.ctlibraryassociation.org

Annual Awards Ceremony



EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE AWARD (Population >15,000)
Groton Public Library, “How-To Festival”

CLA SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
Bill Derry, Westport Library

FAITH HEKTOEN OUTSTANDING PROJECT AWARD
“Take Your Child to the Library Day”
Caitlin Augusta, Stratford Library Association
Nadine Lipman, Waterford Public Library (retired)

FAITH HEKTOEN CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
Janet Pagano Murphy, West Hartford Public Library (Bishops Corner Branch)

ADELINE MIX AWARD
Jennifer-Rose Hebert, Hilton C. Buley Library, SCSU

CLA/ACLB MLS SCHOLARSHIPS
Jessica Franco, University of Rhode Island
Allison Murphy, San Jose State University

FAIRFIELD COUNTY LIBRARY ADMINISTRATOR’S GROUP SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Stephanie Holcomb Anderson of the Darien Library
Syracuse University

Kymberlee Powe of the West Haven Public Library
Kent State University

CLA SUPPORTER OF SUPPORT STAFF AWARD
Sandy Rosado, J. Eugene Smith Library, ECSU

CLA SUPPORT STAFF OF THE YEAR AWARD
Dawn Kravarik, Norwalk Public Library

EDITH B. NETTLETON VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD
Edith B. Nettleton, Guilford Free Library

CLA OUTSTANDING LIBRARIAN AWARDS
Laurel Goodgion, Wethersfield Public Library
Vincent Juliano, Russell Library, Middletown



Mark Your Calendars!

Save the Dates!

April 26-28, 2015

CLA will be returning to the Mystic Marriott Hotel and Spa in Groton for the 124th Annual Conference,

"Libraries by Design."



Scenes from Conference

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

The first is the mass surveillance being conducted by democratically elected governments. He used the Edward Snowden scandal as a prime example. The classified documents released to the press by Snowden in 2013 revealed an intricate global surveillance program involving the NSA, Five Eyes, telecommunications companies, and several European governments. Vaidyanathan argues that these types of activities cause fractured internet experiences, further dispelling the myth that the internet is global. The second factor is the melt-down of security, illustrated most recently by the Heartbleed security bug, which exploits vulnerable portions of the OpenSSL software library.

Vaidyanathan's third factor is the end of net neutrality in the United States. He cited the new set of rules put forth by the FCC in April which allows Internet Service Providers to build special "fast lanes". Companies would then pay these ISPs a fee in exchange for faster connection speeds. This further illustrates that the internet is not a level playing field, as many of the smaller companies will not be able to afford to pay these fees. Vaidyanathan argues that because there is no new infrastructure

being built to accommodate these "fast lanes," smaller companies will actually suffer. The bandwidth to power the "fast lanes" will be taken from the "slow lanes," causing slower connection speeds for those lacking the capital to pay the fees.

So where does that leave us? With the shift in user habits, Vaidyanathan points out that tech companies will no longer be battling over the next big operating system, even where mobile technology is concerned. The race now is to become the one company that will monitor and monetize the "data flows of our lives." Vaidyanathan argues that data is being incorporated into everything from glasses and cars, to household items, yet we are nowhere close to being able to make decisions about the flow of information. We as citizens, consumers, and information professionals need to gain a real understanding of the vocabulary, issues, and consequences before we allow these companies to make decisions about our lives. Being literate is the only way to protect our interests and ensure that the flow of information is being used to our benefits." ♦





2014 CLA Publicity Awards



Winners of the 2014 CLA Publicity Awards were present on Monday, April 28, at the 123rd Annual CLA Conference to accept their award and share their prize winning entries and design process with the audience. Awards were presented to the following libraries/designers in the respective category:

Electronic Media – Video, In House

Westport Library

Designers: Julie Bonington, Marcia Logan

Electronic Media – Website/Blog, In House

Pomfret Public Library

Designer: Laurie Bell

Electronic Media – E-newsletter, In House

The Ferguson Library

Designer: Margaret McIntire

Electronic Media – Other, In House

DiMenna-Nyselius Library,

Fairfield University

Designers: Hayley Battaglia, Jackie Kremer

Electronic Media – Other, Professional

Greenwich Library

Designers: John Ferris (Kern Design), Kate Petrov

Print Media – Bookmark, In House

Richmond Memorial Library

Designer: Kirsten Canfield

Print Media – Other, In House

Kent Memorial Library

Designer: Lucy C. Pierpont

Honorable Mention: Wilton Library,

Designer: Shelley Lindstrom

Print Media – Other (Annual Report), In House

Westport Library

Designers: Julie Bonington, Marcia Logan

Print Media – Other, Professional

Fairfield Public Library

Designer: Joanne Hus and Library Staff

Print Media – Program Flyer, In House

Wilton Library

Designer: Janet Crystal

Honorable Mention: Brainerd Memorial Library,

Designer: Nancy Hunter

Print Media – Poster, In House

Russell Library

Designers: Susan Honer, Ann Smith

Print Media – Library Logo, In House

Mitchell College Library

Designer: Stephanie Johnson

Print Media – Library Logo, Professional

Pomfret Public Library

Designer: Rusty Kinunnen of Rusty & Ingrid Creative Company

Thematic Project – In House

Berlin-Peck Memorial Library

Designer: Emily Gontarz

Thematic Project – Professional

Greenwich Library

Designer: John Ferris (Kern Design), Kate Petrov, Stephen Schmidt, Will Gray

Congratulations!

Groton Public Library's "How-To Festival"

Modeled after a successful event sponsored by the Louisville, KY library, (<http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/features/10302012/barbecue-flamenco-dancing-learning-gets-interactive-louisville>)

1,000 attendees enjoyed the Groton Public Library's first-ever How-To Festival on Saturday, June 22, 2013. The day of family fun co-sponsored by the Library, the Senior Center and the Parks & Recreation Department with the help of the Groton Town Police, Public Works Department, volunteers, community organizations and local businesses offered 50 "how-to" sessions in 4 hours for free. Sessions included face painting, doodling with a purpose, fly fishing lessons, calligraphy, publishing on Amazon, rock collecting and installing car seats. Participants also learned how to give a massage, practice karate moves and juggle soccer balls. The day's activities served as the kickoff to the summer reading program. ♦



Staff members of the Groton Public Library accept the Award from CLA President, Richard Conroy.

**Winner of
the
Excellence
in Public
Library
Service
Award**

**(population
>15,000)**



Renee Hobbs

Dr. Renee Hobbs, Professor and Founding Director of the Harrington School of Communication and Media at the University of Rhode Island, was the keynote speaker on Tuesday, April 29th. Her speech was co-sponsored by the CLA Conference Committee and the Association of CT Library Boards. Professor Hobbs is one of the nation's leading authorities on media literacy education. ♦



ry. This is not bad for writers, “Amazon did not change publishing; the future changed publishing, and our choice as writers is whether to embrace the future, grouse about it or run from it.” Jon intends to stay a writer and a storyteller. He also talked about his current project of writing about the Carriage Horse Industry in New York City; where the Mayor has promised to ban them from Central Park. He plans to publish his writings about this in an e-book. Another future project, is putting together 15 years of study and living with animals for a book and e-book: “Talking To Animals,” a new paradigm for communicating with animals on his farm; which includes, dogs, donkeys, goats, cows, barn cats, chickens and sheep.

He was very well received and took questions following his talk. Red, his border collie was a crowd pleaser as well.

Reporter by Gail Thompson-Allen

Young Adult

Teens & Technology: Using the Tools They Love to Deliver Innovative Programming

Presented by Chris Shoemaker, Young Adult Programming Specialist, New York Public Library and YALSA President-Elect.



Teens everywhere have incorporated various technologies into their everyday lives. Their online usage habits are expanding and, in many ways, they are increasingly technologically savvy. However, teens do not automatically have a wide range of digital skills. Teens need mentors to show them new devices, new apps, teach them new skills, and help them translate all of that into their regular lives. Librarians, with community partners, can fill the role of mentor for these teens and offer programs that improve their digital literacy – their ability to assign meaning at the base level. Chris Shoemaker, President-Elect

of YALSA and Young Adult Programming Specialist at the New York Public Library, shared some programming ideas with the audience in his presentation “Teens & Technology: Using the Tools They Love to Deliver Innovative Programming.”

For years, teens have been adopting technology at a rapid pace. But, according to charts Shoemaker shared, there are noticeable plateaus in certain websites and applications. Teen use of Facebook has fallen, but their adoption of and interactions with Twitter and Tumblr have grown dramatically. In whichever social media outlet they use, teens are sharing more personal information than ever. However, they are choosy about which apps they allow to access this personal data. Teens are familiar with app settings and will disable, delete and avoid some apps that require personal data. Librarians should shift their focus from teaching online safety awareness to teaching the ethics of online behaviors (copyright issues, Torrent downloads, hacking, etc.).

Programs that librarians offer to teens should integrate technology as appropriate to the program; do not try to force it. Adopting a “Maker” philosophy will enhance the Connected Learning style that is growing in favor. Programs should be structured around these ideas, and encourage HOMAGO: Hanging Out, Messing Around, and Geeking Out. Programs should offer increased motivation through prototyping and play; interest-driven learning opportunities where teens can explore a variety of tools and media; opportunities to combine their interests with a social element; and provide a forward outlook to make them a more engaged citizen. Shoemaker highlighted some library spaces that are successful in these program offerings: IdeaBox at the Oak Park Library in Illinois, 4th Floor at the Chattanooga Public Library in Tennessee, Fab Lab at Fayetteville Free Library in New York, and HYPE at the Detroit Public Library in Michigan.

Simple tech programs for teens can start with inexpensive and basic projects. These can include programs using SnapCircuits (simple projects to introduce circuitry), Lily Pad Arduino (wearable simple circuit projects), and sticky lights (combine watch batteries, LED lights, and tape to make lights that

stick to objects). More involved programs build on skills introduced in the early programs, involving more complex pieces of equipment. Shoemaker suggests getting a popup green screen and lighting kit that will allow for teens to record shows and skits, a 3D Doodle Pen which is a handheld 3D printer, and providing access to computers with Photoshop, iPhoto, and/or Gimp photo-editing software. Programs can then build up from there to include using a 3D Scanner, 3D Printer, and Large Format Printer. Teens can be introduced to analog-to-digital processing by converting LP albums to digital music files, and programs can be held that incorporate the use of more involved tools, such as a soldering gun. Computer coding and hacking can be great teen programs, with websites and software available that allow teens to edit and manipulate existing web pages, which opens the doors for discussions on hacking ethics.

There are many different options available to librarians for teen tech programming that will help teens improve their digital literacy, widen their scope of digital discovery, and make connections between the tech devices, websites and apps they love, and the real world. Whatever type of program you are planning, Shoemaker underscored a few ideas that will help make it as successful as possible. Community partners are key. Turn to local experts and ask for their help in providing programs and sharing their knowledge. To help get teens excited about participating, Shoemaker suggests creating and handing out badges. They can help develop meaning and help teens shape and share their own identity, plus - they’re fun! Finally, to embrace the Connected Learning concept, programs should enable teens to create things that are shareable – whether physically displayed in the library or digitally displayed online.

Reporter Katy Dillman

Not Your Mother’s RA

Presented by Kelly Jensen

Kelly Jensen is a librarian and blogger, you may know her from Stacked and Book Riot. At the 2014 Connecticut Library Association conference, she offered a terrific hour full of

great ideas to get inspired for doing teen readers advisory. All of Kelly's presentation is available on her website at <http://www.stackedbooks.org/2014/04/readers-advisory-and-contemporary-ya.html>

Kelly spoke about where teens are online, and how librarians can reach them with fun and memorable readers advisory ideas. Facebook is in decline for teens, while Twitter and Tumblr are on the rise. YA authors and publishers use social media to reach teens and market their books. Teens find out about books this way, but also from magazines, MTV, and special interest websites, as well as from other teens, either online or in person. Kelly offered a great list of websites to examine to find book recommendations, both for new books as well as old favorites. She listed many sites to check so that you can stay ahead of the publishing curve and ahead of your patrons.

She encouraged us to look at Edelweiss and NetGalley, both to get early copies of books, as well as to see marketing plans the publishers make – these can tip you off if a particular title will be really hot.

If you get onto Twitter and Tumblr, make good use of the hashtags Kelly mentioned. They will help you filter through the thousands of posts to find just the ones you want.

Beyond just finding out about books, Kelly also gave some good ideas for book displays: endcap posters, blind dates with books, DIY displays where you ask the patrons for input, infographics, monthly celebrations, screensavers, and even music mixes.

Kelly acknowledged that there are thousands of books published each year and it can be hard to keep up, but she offered encouragement and ideas, including listening to your teen patrons, watching what other librarians do and adapting it to meet your needs, and most of all to read, even if you just read reviews, read all you can.

At the end of the hour, she took questions and reminded the attendees again that all this information is available on her website at: <http://www.stackedbooks.org/2014/04/readers-advisory-and-contemporary-ya.html>

Reporter Geri Diorio

Keeping It Real with Contemporary Realistic YA Fiction

Presenter Kelly Jensen, librarian and blogger at stackedbooks.org, and author of the upcoming VOYA Press book *It Happens: A Guide to Contemporary Realistic Fiction for the YA Reader*.

Kelly began this engaging presentation by defining contemporary realistic fiction, then proceeded to introduce a panoply of recent and upcoming 2014 YA titles. Her aptitude for booktalking and her deep, broad knowledge of YA literature was extremely impressive. She organized the titles she discussed into 'big idea' categories featured in the books – the arts, diversity, family life, friends & peers, grief & loss, health & well-being, journeys, relationships, and sports – while acknowledging that contemporary realistic fiction can't be neatly categorized, just as life can't be neatly compartmentalized. She stressed the importance of carrying titles that feature diverse characters, even if (and perhaps especially when) your library's population might not be that diverse. A lively q&a followed, during which some practical questions and publishing trends were covered. Kelly's presentation can be viewed at prezi.com/qnb42jttljip/contemporary-ya/#

Reporter Cheryl Capitani

YA Literature and Fan Created Work

Presented by Robin Brenner

Teen librarian and fangirl Robin Brenner explored the impact participatory fan culture has had and will continue to have on teen literature. Fandom can be anything that you are passionate about. If you like a specific character in a book, movie, or tv show; you can change what happens in the story in your own writing. The book *Fangirl* by Rainbow Rowell introduces fan fiction. The idea of fan fiction is not new, it is just more prevalent now because of easy access to the Internet. There is a lot of fandom, or retellings, being published for adult and young adults, such as Marissa Meyer's *Cinder*. In general, fan fiction is legal as long as it is transformative, meaning it builds on original ideas, as long as it adds something. Fan works can be shared through writing, audio, videos, illustrations, playlists, costumes, crafts, etc. Fandom is a form of

escapism, promotes creativity, provides some good quality works, is inclusive, is speculative and fills in the gaps or what ifs, and is mostly focused on relationships. Most discover fandom at 12-14 years old, 93 % are female, 40% describe themselves as straight, 22% mostly straight. The highest appeal for fans is to find friends who they can feel comfortable with and accepted – what ALL teens want! For more information, visit: <http://noflyingnights.com/classes-workshops/workshops-for-libraries/fandom-and-ya-literature/>

Reporter Sara Ray

Keeping the Culture: Empowering the Voice of the Black Male in Children's and Teen Lit

YA author B.A. Binns discussed fiction that will attract more boys to reading, why the black male voice is necessary, and strategies to promote writing in young males. Only a small number of ethnic authors are signed by publishers. Only 7% of books published are ethnic authors. Publishers promote the 93% as "universal." There is a scarcity of ethnic editors and agents, this causes a difficulty in discovering those who exist. This is not just an African American issue but many ethnicities. ALL teens want to find themselves represented on the pages in any number of narratives on shelves. Exploring fiction means you can try things out. Reading with diverse characters provides an opportunity to view concepts, events, and issues from multiple perspectives as well as views are broadened and can gain insight into their own behavior. Without diversity you have a limited view of the world. What do your shelf displays say? Will a diverse group of teens find themselves represented in your displays? For her full presentation, including suggested authors, visit: <http://babinns.com/classes/Empowering-CLA.pdf>

Reporter Sara Ray

Teen Book Buzz

The Connecticut Library Association 2014 Conference was the place

to get the scoop on the hottest new teen reads. Representatives from Macmillan, FirstSecond Books, Quirk, Soho previewed the most anticipated titles that teens will be reading this year. The most exciting non-fiction publication for in 2014 is the teen adaptation of *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand due in November 2014. *Unbroken* tells the story of Olympic runner Louie Zamperini's breathtaking survival story during World War II. A major motion picture based on the book is set for release on Christmas Day 2014.

In the Science Fiction genre the most lusted after book may be *The Rule of Thoughts* by James Dashner due in August 2014. This is the second book in the Mortality Doctrine series the sequel to *The Eyes of Minds*. Fans of *Divergent* and *The Hunger Games* will love this story set in a world of hyper-advanced technology. James Dashner is the author of the uber-popular *MazeRunner* Series which is slated for movie release in September 2014. Perfect timing!

Reporter Cathleen Cole

Children

Children's Book Buzz

Six publishers presented their highlights for the coming year, in both children's and middle school literature. The first representative was from New York Media Works. Julie Gribble handed out copies of her book, *Bubblegum Princess* and mentioned that, although it is a picture book, it features big words and the use of math formulas within the story. New York Media Works is going to feature a KidLit TV feature as well. Quirk Books is known for its humorous literature. *Who's on first* is their title for younger readers and *Tales from Lovecraft Middle School* is a series for reluctant readers, with a light touch on a scary theme. Their Nick & Tesla series are mysteries that include gadgets that the readers can build themselves. Workman Publishers has a new board book - Boynton's *The Bunny Rabbit*

Show. A new nonfiction book is Joshua Jay's *Big Magic for Little Hands*. Random House has a huge selection of new books. Two that stood out are *Miss Brooks' Story Nook* (a picture book) and *The Fourteenth Goldfish* by Jennifer Holm (for older readers). Sourcebooks Jabberwocky was our fifth publisher there. The Ninja Librarians chapter book series looks like it will be a huge hit and has scavenger hunts to go with each book - a possible fun library activity. *The Demon Notebook* by Erika McGann looks good as well but is also a bit scary. The final publisher represented was Tor Books. The series by Elizabeth Haydon looks intriguing and *Copper Magic*, a historical fantasy looks like a good read as well.

Reporter Kathy Cherniavsky

Instrument Making Workshop

Enthnomusicologist and educator Dr. Dennis Waring treated an audience of nearly 35 CLA attendees to an hour of wonderful ideas, music and entertainment introducing us all to a conference-ready version of his popular Trash-To-Tunes program. He transformed many every day trash items into wonderful instruments, which he enthusiastically played as he regaled us with a catalog of folksongs and folktales. Dr. Waring also shared a number of interesting anecdotes about where he finds the inspiration to create instruments from trash. His enthusiasm was contagious. Some of the instruments Dr. Waring previewed for us included a box banjo, a Flying V cardboard guitar and a flute. All were simple to make and all actually produced music! Here's a link to his website for those who are interested in learning more about Dr. Waring and his programs: www.waringmusic.com

Reporter Mary Beth Rassulo ♦



Conference Thank You

We hope that you all had an enjoyable and informative conference experience. There are so many people whose time and energy go into presenting a conference that goes by all too fast! So that we don't forget to name anyone, we would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to:

- All our wonderful presenters, especially our CT library colleagues, for taking the time to share your knowledge and experience.
- Our section chairs who organized and arranged the details of the programs.
- Our volunteers who manned the registration desk, handling all issues with a smile.
- The CLC staff for doing an amazing job with the registration details.
- Our CLA Newsletter Editor, and photographer, for pitching in with whatever needed to be done.
- Our wonderful Exhibitors and Sponsors, and Exhibits Chair, without whom the conference would not be possible.
- All those who promoted the conference by blogging, tweeting or sharing their conference experience.
- The Library Directors, Boards and Friends groups that showed the importance of supporting their staffs continuing education by paying for attendance and re-arranging schedules.
- And last, but not least, our dedicated co-workers who stayed behind keeping our libraries open so others could attend.

THANK YOU!

Chris Angeli & Jason Neely
2014 CLA Conference Co-Chairs

New CLA President

With the resignation of David Boudinot (see below), Dawn LaValle becomes President of CLA. In the photo to the right, she receives the gavel from outgoing President, Richard Conroy.

Beth Crowley was elected Vice President/President Elect. Congratulations to them, and best wishes to David and his family.



Farewell, David Boudinot

David Boudinot, Vice-President/President Elect writes:



I am officially resigning from my position as Vice President/President Elect with the Connecticut Library Association. My last Board Meeting was June, 12, 2014.

It has been a pleasure being on the Board of the Connecticut Library Association, a tremendous organization which builds community and collaboration among librarians in the state. While my departure has not been under the most ideal conditions, I appreciate the kindness and support of my colleagues, and the flexibility of the organization is to be admired. I am looking forward to the job opportunities for my wife and my family in British Columbia, but I will definitely miss the Connecticut Library community.

Connecticut is a unique State to be a librarian in, and I have deep gratitude to the many librarians and library supporters who bring so much passion and meaning to our profession here. I owe thanks to so many, but especially Maribeth Breen & Lynn Hidek (Henry Carter Hull Library, Clinton) who supported my professional development 100%, Jaime Hammond (Naugatuck Valley Community College) & Debbie Herman (Manchester Community College) for collaborating on fun and important projects, Deb Zulick (formerly of the Connecticut Library Consortium) for connecting me to some great librarians, Ken Wiggin (Connecticut State Library) for keeping the pulse of Hartford, Ben Shum (Bibliomation) for being a gentleman and a good guy, Sandy Ruoff (Guilford Free Library) & Alice Knapp (Ferguson Library, Stamford) for helping with Conference Exhibits, Jennifer Keohane (Connecticut Library Consortium) for advice and wisdom, Randi Ashton-Pritting (University of Hartford Libraries) for her drive and good taste in Scotch, Katie Fargo (E. C. Scranton Memorial Library, Madison) for being there to bounce ideas off of, and

Caitlin Augusta for sending me postcards and being the best Conference Co-Chair you could ask for. Thanks also to Dawn LaValle (Connecticut State Library), Beth Crowley (E. C. Scranton Memorial Library), Carl DeMelia (Bibliomation), and Richard Conroy (Essex Library Association) for leading the Connecticut Library Association, an organization I am proud of. ♦

Complete Election Results

Dawn LaValle

Connecticut State Library
President Elect

Beth Crowley

E.C. Scranton Library, Madison
Vice President/President Elect

Marjorie Ruschau

Meriden Public Library
Region 2 Representative

Janice Wilson

J. Eugene Smith Library, ECSU
Region 3 Representative

Kate Byroade

Cragin Memorial Library
Region 6 Representative

Libraries Unite to Promote Library Week

by Marjorie Ruschau

A library can be a place to hear how you can lose weight. Or it can be a place where an expert lets you sample great chocolate.

A library can be where former South Vietnamese tell you what they went through during the Vietnam War. Or it can be where you or your child earns a prize for summer reading.



About a dozen libraries and library organizations gathered at the State Capitol recently for National Library Week to celebrate the variety of ways “Libraries Change Lives.”

“These exhibits show how libraries help maintain vibrant communities by meeting the needs of all kinds of people and helping them achieve their dreams,” said Richard Conroy, director of the Essex Library and president of the Connecticut Library Association, which organized the event.

Each library and group showed how they embody one or more of the 10 principles of the Declaration for the Right to Libraries. These are that libraries:

1. Empower the individual.
2. Support literacy and lifelong learning.
3. Strengthen families.
4. Are the great equalizer
5. Build communities.
6. Protect our right to know.
7. Strengthen our nation.
8. Advance research and scholarship.
9. Help us to better understand each other.
10. Preserve our nation’s cultural heritage.

The Avon Public Library showed how it preserves our country's cultural heritage and help us better understand each other with its One Book program on "The

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Message from the President

By Richard Conroy, CLA President
2013-2014

Although it may seem alike a cliché for me to say so, it truly has been an honor and privilege to serve as President of the Connecticut Library Association this past year. What an amazing organization CLA is! Dozens of people who work for or support libraries not only pay a fee to be a part of it, but then volunteer many hours of their time to make it such an important and effective resource for its members. As is usually the case we faced a variety of challenges this year. Our highly successful Annual Conference, and the continued progress we made with getting legislation related to eBooks passed, are just two examples of how we demonstrated our abilities to meet those challenges. In addition to the Conference, our sections and committees also worked diligently to sponsor a variety of relevant and informative programs and mini-conferences that helped our members keep current with their professional development. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for entrusting me with a key CLA leadership role. I have every confidence that the new members of our Executive Committee will do an outstanding job of ensuring that, as has been the case since 1891, CLA becomes stronger with each passing year! ♦

Richard Conroy
is Director of the
Essex Library
Association



Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks," which included relatives of Lacks speaking at the library. Library director Glenn Grube and librarian Tina Panik also showed how the library commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War with a series of programs.

The Friends of Connecticut Libraries showed ways that Friends groups throughout the state raise money to support their libraries including buying prizes for children's summer reading programs and sponsoring Big Band concerts for senior citizens.

The Meriden Public Library showed how it is the great equalizer with programs, books, DVDs, CDs and facilities for people of all ages, income levels, ethnicities and physical abilities. Library director Karen Roesler is proud that the library owns a special computer for the sight-impaired.

The Otis Library in Norwich showed how its display on brownfields -- areas often contaminated by factory waste -- empower the individual. Later the governor announced Norwich would get \$200,000 to study five brownfield sites.

The State of Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Library showed how the 13 law libraries can help people research legal questions.

Other libraries and groups participating included the Connecticut State Library, the Cora J. Belden Library in Rocky Hill, Scranton Library in Madison, the Elihu Burritt Library at Central Connecticut State University, the Connecticut Library Consortium and the Association of Connecticut Library Boards. ♦



Beth Crowley signs the Declaration for the Right to Libraries



Dawn LaValle (l) and Mary Engels staff the Connecticut State Library table

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